



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +27 86 625 1042

Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Enquiries: Mr. Karabo Rakgotho

Telephone: 012 399 9626 **Email:** KRakgotho@dffe.gov.za

Mr. Andrew Pearson
Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
21st Floor, Portside
5 Buitengracht Street
CAPE TOWN
8801

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365

Per Email: francois@cape-eaprac.co.za

Dear Sir/Madam

POSSIBLE APPEALS AGAINST REFUSED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION, ISSUED 02 MARCH 2026, FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE UP TO 240MWac BETHEL SOLAR PV FACILITY ON FARM 431 AND THE REMAINDER FARM 466 AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE ON FARM 431, REMAINDER OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 2 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 424, PORTION 2 OF FARM 470, FARM 1211, REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 2 OF FARM 472, FARM 1209 AND PORTION 1 OF FARM 473 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

I refer to your query dated 02 April 2026 in the abovementioned regard.

It is hereby confirmed that no appeals have been lodged with the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation for the project mentioned in the heading hereof.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Heloise Van Schalkwyk

Director: Appeals and Legal Review

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Date: 10/04/2026



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Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Enquiries: Mr. Karabo Rakgotho

Telephone: 012 399 9626 **Email:** KRakgotho@dffe.gov.za

Mr. Andrew Pearson
Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
21st Floor, Portside
5 Buitengracht Street
CAPE TOWN
0001

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365

Per Email: francois@cape-eaprac.co.za

Dear Sir/Madam

POSSIBLE APPEALS AGAINST REFUSED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION, ISSUED 02 MARCH 2026, FOR PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 240MW DRAAIOOP SOLAR PGOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, VHEMBE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE

I refer to your query dated 02 April 2026 in the abovementioned regard.

It is hereby confirmed that no appeals have been lodged with the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation for the project mentioned in the heading hereof.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Heloise Van Schalkwyk
Director: Appeals and Legal Review
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 10/04/2026



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Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Enquiries: Mr. Karabo Rakgotho

Telephone: 012 399 9626 **Email:** KRakgotho@dffe.gov.za

Mr. Andrew Pearson
Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
21st Floor, Portside
5 Buitengracht Street
CAPE TOWN
8001

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365

Per Email: francois@cape-eaprac.co.za

Dear Sir/Madam

POSSIBLE APPEALS AGAINST REFUSED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION, ISSUED 27 FEBRUARY 2026, FOR THE 240 MEGAWATT (M) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR PV ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 AS WELL AS ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE LOCATED ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466, REMAINDER OF FARM 466, PORTION 2 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 424, PORTION 2 OF FARM 470, FARM 1211, REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 2 OF FARM 472, FARM 1209 AND PORTION 1 OF FARM 473 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

I refer to your query dated 02 April 2026 in the abovementioned regard.

It is hereby confirmed that no appeals have been lodged with the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation for the project mentioned in the heading hereof.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Heloise Van Schalkwyk

Director: Appeals and Legal Review

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Date: 10/04/2026



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Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Enquiries: Mr. Karabo Rakgotho

Telephone: 012 399 9626 **Email:** KRakgotho@dffe.gov.za

Mr. Andrew Pearson
Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
21st Floor, Portside
5 Buitengracht Street
CAPE TOWN
8001

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365

Per Email: francois@cape-eaprac.co.za

Dear Sir/Madam

POSSIBLE APPEALS AGAINST REFUSED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION, ISSUED 02 MARCH 2026, FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UP TO 74 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 465 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

I refer to your query dated 02 April 2026 in the abovementioned regard.

It is hereby confirmed that no appeals have been lodged with the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation for the project mentioned in the heading hereof.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Heloise Van Schalkwyk
Director: Appeals and Legal Review
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 10/04/2026



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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Enquiries: Ms Zamalanga Langa

Telephone: (012) 399 9389 **E-mail:** zlanga@dfpe.gov.za

Mr Andrew Pearson
Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
21st Floor, Portside
5 Buitengracht Street
CAPE TOWN
8001

Telephone Number: 082 521 6898

Email Address:

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Pearson

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UP TO 240MW_{AC} BETHEL SOLAR PV FACILITY ON FARM 431 AND THE REMAINDER FARM 466 AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE ON FARM 431, REMAINDER OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 2 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 424, PORTION 2 OF FARM 470, FARM 1211, REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 2 OF FARM 472, FARM 1209 AND PORTION 1 OF FARM 473 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Competent Authority has decided to refuse the application for Environmental Authorisation. The reasons for this refusal are contained in the Record of Refusal, of which a copy is attached hereto.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within fourteen (14) days of the date of the decision as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, Act No. 3 of 2000, you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, Act No. 4 of 2013 which stipulate that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing, and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998 National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R 5985 in Government Gazette No. 52269 dated 13 March 2025 (National Appeal Regulations, 2025), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be



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APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UP TO 240MW_{ac} BETHEL SOLAR PV FACILITY ON FARM 431 AND THE REMAINDER FARM 466 AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE ON FARM 431, REMAINDER OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 2 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 424, PORTION 2 OF FARM 470, FARM 1211, REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 2 OF FARM 472, FARM 1209 AND PORTION 1 OF FARM 473 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2025) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dffe.gov.za

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083

or

By post: Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za

Yours faithfully


Dr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 02/03/2026

cc:	Dale Holder	Cape EAPrac	Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za
	Matodzi Rathumbu	DEDET	Email: RathumbuM@dedet.gov.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Record of Refusal

In terms of Regulation 24(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended

The development of the Bethel Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure on Farm 431 and the Remainder of Farm 466 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Limpopo Province

Vhembe District Municipality

Application Register Number:	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	<i>Farm 431, Remainder of Farm 466, Portion 1 of Farm 466, Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 2 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 424, Portion 2 of Farm 470, Farm 1211, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472, Farm 1209 and Portion 1 of Farm 473</i> <i>Located Within Ward 20 of the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District Municipality, LIMPOPO PROVINCE</i>

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Decision

The Competent Authority is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it that the applicant should not be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Details regarding the basis on which the Competent Authority reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1 to this Record of Refusal.

Activities refused

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Competent Authority hereby refuses the application for Environmental Authorisation to –

Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd

with the following contact details –

Mr. Andrew Pearson
Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
1st Floor, Portside
5 Buitengracht Street,
CAPE TOWN
8001

Telephone Number: 021 685 3240
Cell phone Number: 084 722 4855
Email Address: andrew@mulilo.com

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Not to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in of GN R. 982, GN R. 983, GN R. 984 and GN R. 985 of 08 December 2014 (as amended):

Activity number	Activity description
<u>LN 1, Item 11:</u> <i>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity</i> <i>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts.</i>	The proposed development will include electrical grid infrastructure to connect the solar PV facility to the Tabor substation. This Electrical Grid Infrastructure, inclusive of Powerline and Substation Infrastructure will be up to 132 KV.
<u>LN 1, Item 12:</u> The development of – <i>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more;</i> Where such development occurs – <i>(a) within a watercourse;</i> <i>(c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.</i>	Portions of the proposed development will be located within 32 metres of a watercourse exceeding 100 square metres.
<u>LN 1, Item 19:</u> The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse.	Portions of the proposed development (internal access roads) will entail the movement of more than 10 cubic metres of soil within a watercourse.
<u>LN 1, Item 24:</u> <i>The development of a road</i> <i>(ii) with reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 meters.</i>	The proposed development will entail the construction of access roads wider than 8m. These access roads will not have a road reserve.
<u>LN 1, Item 28:</u> <i>Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture or afforestation on or after 1998 and where such development</i> <i>(ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare".</i>	The proposed development will be located on land that was used for game farming outside an urban area. The total footprint of the facility will exceed 1ha. The facility will have a permanent footprint of up to 492ha and the Temporary Laydown area will be up to 4ha.
<u>LN 1, Item 56:</u>	

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<i>The widening of a road by more than 6 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre</i> <i>(ii) where no reserve exists, where the existing road is wider than 8 metres...</i>"	The intersection between site access roads and provincial roads will require widening by more than 6 metres.
<u>LN 2, Item 01:</u> <i>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more.</i>	The proposed project entails the development of an up to 240-Megawatt PV Facility.
<u>LN 2, Item 15:</u> <i>The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation.</i>	The proposed development will entail the clearance of an area exceeding 20 hectares in size of indigenous vegetation. The facility will have a permanent footprint of up to 492ha and the Temporary Laydown area will be up to 4ha.
<u>LN 3, Item 04:</u> <i>The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres within</i> <i>(e) Limpopo,</i> <i>(i) Outside urban areas</i> <i>(gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas of a biosphere reserve, excluding disturbed areas.</i>	The proposed development will entail the development of roads wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13.5 metres. The nearest protected area is the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site.
<u>LN 3, Item 10:</u> <i>The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 30 but not exceeding 80 cubic metres</i> <i>(e) Limpopo,</i> <i>(i) All areas</i>	The temporary storage of fuels during construction will exceed 30 cubic metres but less than 80 cubic metres. During operations the storage of dangerous goods will be below the threshold of this listed activity (i.e., less than 30 cubic metres).
<u>LN 3, Item 14:</u> <i>The development of –</i>	The proposed development will entail the development of infrastructures or structures with

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(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more; Where such development occurs – (a) within a watercourse; (b) in front of a development setback; or (c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse; excluding the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour. Limpopo i. Outside urban areas: (hh) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve; identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve;	a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more that may be within 32 metres of a watercourse. The nearest protected area is the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site.
<u>LN 3. Item 18:</u> The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre (e) Limpopo, (i) Outside urban areas (gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve.	The proposed development will entail the widening of a road by more than 4 metres and/or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre. The nearest protected area is the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site.

as described in the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated December 2025:

Farm names and portion numbers for the PV & Associated Infrastructure:

- Farm 431
- Remainder of Farm 466.

Preferred Alternative for Electrical Grid Connection Infrastructure Alternatives:

- Remainder of Farm 466.

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- Portion 1 of Farm 466
- Portion 1 of Farm 425
- Portion 2 of Farm 425
- Remainder of Farm 424
- Portion 2 of Farm 470
- Farm 1211
- Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472
- Farm 1209
- Portion 1 of Farm 473

Project Coordinates

Point ID	Infrastructure	Type	Latitude	Longitude
APPref	Gate	Access Point	-23° 22.680'	29° 41.421'
BHPref	Additional Infrastructure	Borehole	-23° 22.766'	29° 41.264'
CT	Additional Infrastructure	Conservancy Tank	-23° 22.76 4'	29° 41.291'
BESS	BESS Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 22.865'	29° 41.303'
ESS	ESS Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 22.735'	29° 41.347'
GH	Guard Houses	Access Point	-23° 22.659'	29° 41.385'
GH	Guard Houses	Access Point	-23° 22.696'	29° 41.386'
GH	Guard Houses	Access Point	-23° 21.886'	29° 40.549'
IPP	IPP substation Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 22.788'	29° 41.343'
LD	Laydown Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 22.751'	29° 41.193'
O&M	O&M Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 22.786'	29° 41.284'
A	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.895'	29° 39.999'
B	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.865'	29° 40.338'
C	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.726'	29° 41.059'
D	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.710'	29° 41.202'
E	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.678'	29° 41.505'
F	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 22.681'	29° 41.421'
G	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 22.716'	29° 41.422'
H	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 22.774'	29° 41.429'
I	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 22.826'	29° 41.447'
J	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 23.297'	29° 41.695'
K	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 23.329'	29° 41.702'

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L	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 23.359'	29° 41.704'
M	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 23.388'	29° 41.700'
N	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 23.030'	29° 40.346'
O	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 22.611'	29° 39.972'
A	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.643'	29° 41.392'
B	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.752'	29° 41.389'
C	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.909'	29° 46.001'
D	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.783'	29° 46.050'
E	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.785'	29° 46.141'
F	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.850'	29° 46.661'
G	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.926'	29° 47.265'
H	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.483'	29° 47.245'
I	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.170'	29° 47.194'
J	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.165'	29° 46.640'
K	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.509'	29° 46.634'
L	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.643'	29° 46.122'
M	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.535'	29° 41.395'
N	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.643'	29° 41.392'

- For the development of the up to 240MW_{AC} Bethel Solar PV Facility on Farm 431 and the remainder Farm 466 and associated electrical grid connection infrastructure on Farm 431, Remainder of Farm 466, Portion 1 of Farm 466, Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 2 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 424, Portion 2 of Farm 470, Farm 1211, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472, Farm 1209 and Portion 1 of Farm 473 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province, hereafter referred to as "the property". (coordinates as described above).

The proposed Bethel Solar PV Project will include the following components:

- Solar Field
- Solar Arrays: PV modules
- Single axis tracking technology maximum height of 5m (aligned north-south);
- Solar module mounting structures comprised of galvanised steel and aluminium;
- Foundations which will likely be drilled and concreted into the ground; and
- Solar measurement and weather stations.
- Central/string Inverters and MV transformers in in field

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- DC coupled Battery Energy Storage system (BESS) containers distributed through PV field located adjacent to inverters
 - Lithium Ion battery Cells, Modules, Racks and containers
 - Power Conversion Equipment
 - Battery Management System
 - Energy Management System
- **Associated Infrastructure**
 - Medium Voltage (MV =22/33 kV) overhead powerlines and underground cables;
 - MV Collector stations
 - Access road;
 - Internal gravel roads;
 - Fencing;
 - General maintenance area;
 - Storm water channels and berms;
 - Water storage tanks and pipelines;
 - Temporary work area during the construction phase (i.e. laydown area).
 - O&M buildings, store
- **Project IPP Substation;**
 - 132kV substation 200m x 200m
 - HV transformer
 - Substation Control Building
 - HV metering, Scada and protection building
 - MV collector switchgear buildings
 - Compensation equipment (Filters capacitors reactors statcoms)
- **AC coupled BESS installation at project substation and laydown area:**
 - Solid State Battery technology - either Lithium-Ion or Sodium Sulphide (NaS)
 - Battery Cells, Modules, Racks and containers
 - Power Conversion Equipment
 - Battery Management System
 - Energy Management System
 - MV transformers
 - MV cabling and collector stations
 - Fencing
 - Offices, workshop
 - Fire Protection systems

This environmental application process includes Electrical Grid Connection Infrastructure required to connect the Bethel Solar PV to the National Grid via the existing Tabor Main Transmission Substation (MTS). This Electrical Grid Infrastructure includes:

- Onsite Switching Station (SS), adjacent to the IPP Substation.
- 132kV Overhead Power Line (OHPL) – 30m height from the switching station to the existing Eskom Tabor Substation.
- Access Road to Switching Station
- Maintenance access road below or adjacent to the power line.

Project Technical Details:

Component	Description / dimension
Size in ha of initial study area.	PV Site: 625 ha Grid Connection Alternatives: Each, approximately 13km long within a 500m wide assessment area.
This includes the total footprint of PV panels, BESS auxiliary buildings, On-site Substation, Mini-substations, inverter stations and internal roads.	Up to 492ha
PV Technology Details	
Capacity of the PV facility (in MW)	Net generation capacity of up to 240MW _{AC} .
Type of technology	Solar photovoltaic (PV) with single-axis tracking structures.
Structure height	Up to 5m
Surface area to be covered (including associated infrastructure such as roads)	Up to 492ha
Up to 492ha	Single-axis (panels tracking east-west).
Laydown area dimensions	Up to 4ha
BESS Technology Details	
Capacity of BESS facility (in MWh)	3840MWh
Type of technology (preferred)	Solid state Lithium-Ion or Sodium-Ion.
Type of technology (alternatives)	No alternative BESS technology is under consideration as part of this environmental process.
Structure height	Containerized types, including all solid-state types = maximum of 4m from ground level (may have vent pipes and lightning conductors exceeding 4m above ground level).

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Surface area to be covered (including associated infrastructure such as roads)	Up to 6ha
Structure locations	DC Coupled BESS within the PV field and AC coupled BESS adjacent to the project substation.

Legislative Requirements

Refusal of the application

1. The application for the development of the up to 240MW_{AC} Bethel Solar PV Facility on Farm 431 and the remainder Farm 466 and associated electrical grid connection infrastructure on Farm 431, Remainder of Farm 466, Portion 1 of Farm 466, Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 2 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 424, Portion 2 of Farm 470, Farm 1211, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472, Farm 1209 and Portion 1 of Farm 473 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province here after referred to as "the property" (coordinates as described above) is hereby refused.

Notification of refusal and right to appeal

2. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this record of refusal.
3. The notification referred to must –
 - 3.1. specify the date on which the record of refusal was issued,
 - 3.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2025,
 - 3.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the record of refusal will be furnished on request; and
 - 3.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

Date of refusal of the application for Environmental Authorisation: 02/03/2026



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment



Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the application form received on 24 April 2025 and amended application form received on 11 December 2025.
- b) The information contained in the final EIAr dated 11 December 2025 specifically Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025.
- c) The comments received from all interested and affected parties as included in the final EIAr dated 11 December 2025.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the final EIAr and the EMPr for the facility and the generic EMPr dated 11 December 2025.
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the final EIAr.
- f) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislations, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was considered in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) The final EIAr dated 11 December 2025 failed to meet the requirement of Regulation 40(2) (a)(b)(c)(d), 41(6)(a) & (b) and 43(1) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations, as amended. Therefore, the information was inadequate for this Department to formulate a decision. As such, **a negative environmental authorisation is recommended.**

- Regulation 40(2)(a)(b)(c)(d) and (3) requires that

(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

(a) the competent authority,

(b) every State department that administer a law relating to a matter affecting the environment relevant to an application for an environmental authorisation,

(c) all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates, and

(d) all potential, or, where relevant, registered interested and affected parties".

(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 sub-regulation (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.

- Regulation 41(6) (a) and (b) requires that “when complying with this regulation, the person conducting the public participation process must ensure that-
(a) information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application or proposed application is made available to potential interested and affected parties; and
(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”.
- Regulation 43(1) requires that “registered interested and affected parties are entitled to comment, in writing, on all reports ... 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”.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Competent Authority made the following findings –

- a) The final EIAR which was submitted on 11 December 2025 for review and decision making, included the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025. The revised HIA introduces new and materially significant information arising from the community engagement session held on 25 November 2025, including additional mitigation measures linked to the Heritage Agreement and the Conservation Management Plan to be developed post authorisation. This constitutes a material update to the specialist report, which must be re-circulated to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) for 30 days comment.
- b) Considering that the amended draft EIAR circulated on 07 October 2025 to 08 December 2025 included the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in July 2025, the EAP on behalf of the Applicant failed to circulate the further updated HIA, dated December 2025, to potential interested and affected parties; and ensure that potential or registered interested and affected parties are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the HIA specialist report. In addition, it is important to note that the registered interested and affected party including this Department, did not provide a comment, in writing, on the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025, to bring to the attention of the proponent or applicant any issues that party believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application.

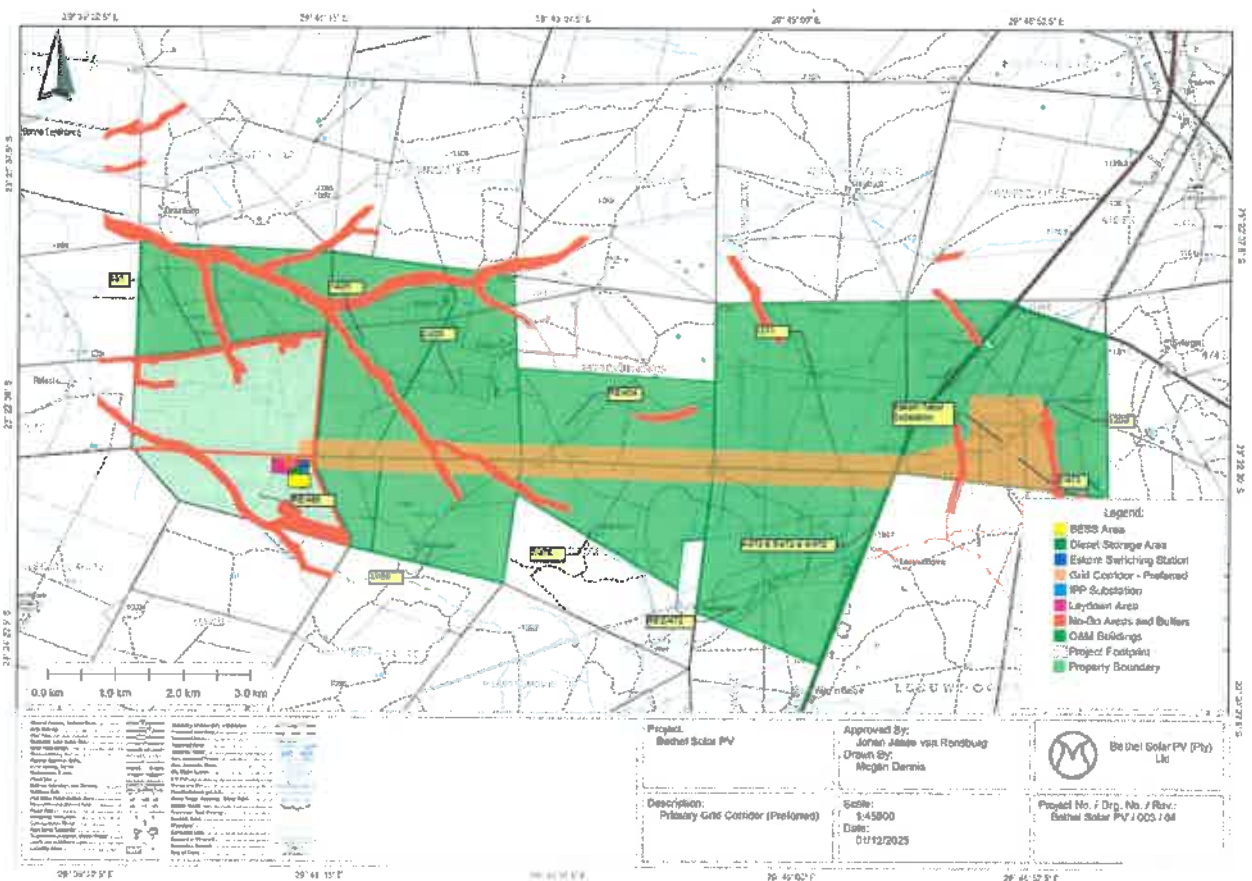


- c) It has been noted that the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025 was also not circulated to the Communal Property Association (CPA) despite an indication in the comments and response report (page 104) that "a revised HIA has been prepared and will be provided to the CPA for consideration." The EIAr does not contain any evidence demonstrating that the amended HIA was provided to the CPA for review and comment, notwithstanding that the revisions to the HIA were based on issues, comments, and inputs received from the CPA. This omission constitutes a material procedural defect and renders the EIAr non-compliant with the requirements of the public participation process as per the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- d) Furthermore, the Competent Authority has noted that the amended draft EIAr was not circulated to all required stakeholders during the public participation process. The proof of notification included in the EIAr demonstrates that the DFFE Biosphere Reserves Unit was only afforded an opportunity on 03 December 2025 to provide comments on the amended draft EIAr by 08 December 2025, despite the final EIAr being submitted to the CA on 11 December 2025. The omission of affected stakeholders and the insufficient timeframe to comment demonstrate non-compliance with Regulation 43 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
- e) The review of the comments and response report submitted with the final EIAr raised concerns in relation to the response of the social impact assessment report, which highlighted the social benefits for the broader community. In response to the issue raised, the EAP indicated that *"if the project is granted Environmental Authorisation (EA) and the land claims are successful, the proponent will engage with the successful land claimants to discuss in more detail how local communities can benefit from the project"*. The Department submits that the EAP failed to address the concerns raised by the CPA during the Public Participation Process.

In view of the above, the Competent Authority is of the opinion that the proposed listed activities will conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management stipulated in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998). Consequently, there is no sufficient, adequate and reliable basis upon which the statutory discretion of the Competent Authority can be exercised in favour of the applicant and therefore the application for Environmental Authorisation is refused.

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Annexure 1: Layout Plan Map



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forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +27 86 625 1042

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Enquiries: Ms. Masina Morudu

Telephone: (012) 399 9375 **E-mail:** MEMorudu@dfpe.gov.za

Mr Andrew Pearson
Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
21st Floor, Portside, 5 Buitengracht Street,
CAPE TOWN
0001

Telephone Number: (021) 685 3240
Cellphone Number: (084) 722 4855
Email Address: andrew@mulilo.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Pearson

REFUSAL OF APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 240-MEGAWATT (MW) DRAAIOOP SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, VHEMBE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Competent Authority has decided to refuse the application for Environmental Authorisation. The reasons for this refusal are contained in the Record of Refusal, of which a copy is attached hereto.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within fourteen (14) days of the date of the Record of Refusal, of the Competent Authority's decision as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the EIA Regulations.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful, and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further, your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013) which stipulates that the Competent Authority should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing, and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Competent Authority accountable should the Competent Authority abuse or compromise your personal information in any way

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated



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08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below-mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dffe.gov.za

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation, or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully


Dr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 02/03/2016

cc:	Dale Holder	Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners	Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za
	Matodzi Rathumbu	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment & Tourism	Email: RathumbulM@ledet.gov.za
	MK Nemaname	Makhado Local Municipality	Email: municipal.manager@makhado.gov.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Record of Refusal

In terms of Regulation 24(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014,
as amended

**THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 240-MEGAWATT (MW) DRAA LOOP SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV)
ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, IN THE
LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

VHEMBE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Application Register Number:	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Last Amended	First Issue
Applicant:	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430 and Farm 431 as well as associated electrical grid connection infrastructure on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430, Farm 431, Remainder of Farm 466, Portion 1 of Farm 466, Portion 2 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 424, Portion 2 of Farm 470, Farm 1211, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472, Farm 1209 and Portion 1 of Farm 473 within Makhado Local Municipality, in the Limpopo Province

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Decision

The Competent Authority is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it that the applicant should not be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Details regarding the basis on which the Competent Authority reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1 to this Record of Refusal.

Activities Refused

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Competent Authority hereby refuses the application for Environmental Authorisation to –

DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV (PTY) LTD

with the following contact details –

Mr Andrew Pearson

Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd

21st Floor, Portside, 5 Buitengracht Street,

CAPE TOWN

0001

Cellphone Number: (084) 722 4855

Email Address: Andrew@mulilo.com

not to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in Listing Notice 1, Listing Notice 2 and Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended:

Activity number	Activity description
<u>Listing Notice 1, Item 11:</u> <i>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity–</i> <i>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts.</i>	The proposed development will include electrical grid infrastructure to connect the solar PV facility to the Tabor substation. This Electrical Grid Infrastructure, inclusive of Powerline and Substation Infrastructure will be up to 132 KV.
<u>Listing Notice 1, Item 12:</u> <i>The development of–</i> <i>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square meters or more; where such development occurs</i> <i>(a) within a watercourse or</i> <i>(c) within 32 meters of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.</i>	Portions of the proposed development will be located within 32 metres of a watercourse exceeding 100 square metres.
<u>Listing Notice 1, Item 19:</u> <i>The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse</i>	Portions of the proposed development (internal access roads) will entail the movement of more than 10 cubic metres of soil within a watercourse.
<u>Listing Notice 1, Item 24:</u> <i>The development of –</i> <i>(ii) a road with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres.</i>	The proposed development will entail the construction of access roads wider than 8m. These access roads will not have a road reserve.
<u>Listing Notice 1, Item 28:</u> <i>Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development:</i>	The proposed development will be located on land that was used for game farming outside an urban area. The total footprint of the facility will exceed 1ha. The total permanent footprint of the Facility will be 562Ha (excluding a temporary laydown area of 5ha).

<i>will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.</i>	
<u>Listing Notice 1, Item 56:</u> <i>The widening of a road by more than 6 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre-</i> <i>(ii) where no reserve exists, where the existing road is wider than 8 metres</i>	The intersection between site access roads and provincial roads will require widening by more than 6 metres.
<u>Listing Notice 2, Item 1:</u> <i>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more.</i>	The proposed project entails the development of an up to 240-Megawatt PV Facility.
<u>Listing Notice 2, Item 15:</u> <i>The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation.</i>	The proposed development will entail the clearance of an area exceeding 20 hectares in size of indigenous vegetation. The total permanent footprint of the Facility will be 562Ha (excluding a temporary laydown area of 5ha).
<u>Listing Notice 3, Item 4:</u> <i>The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13.5 metres.</i> <i>(e) Limpopo</i> <i>i. Outside urban areas:</i> <i>(gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas</i>	The proposed development will entail the development of roads wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13.5 metres. The nearest protected area is the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site.
<u>Listing Notice 3, Item 10:</u> <i>The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 30 but not exceeding 80 cubic metres.</i>	The temporary storage of fuels during construction will exceed 30 cubic metres but less than 80 cubic metres. During operations the storage of dangerous goods will be below the threshold of this listed activity (i.e., less than 30 cubic metres).

(e) Limpopo (i) All areas	
<u>Listing Notice 3, Item 14:</u> The development of – (ii) <i>Infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more;</i> Where such development occurs- (a) <i>Within a watercourse;</i> (c) <i>If no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.</i> (e) Limpopo (i) <i>Outside urban areas:</i> (hh) <i>Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve</i>	The proposed development will entail the development of infrastructures or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more that may be within 32 metres of a watercourse. The nearest protected area is the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site.
<u>Listing Notice 3, Item 18:</u> The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre- (e) Limpopo (i) <i>Outside urban areas:</i> (gg) <i>Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve; or</i> (hh) <i>Areas within a watercourse; or within 100 metres from the edge of a watercourse.</i>	The proposed development will entail the widening of a road by more than 4 metres and/or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre. The nearest protected area is the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site.

as described in the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated 11 December 2025:

21 Digit SG Codes

Farm Description	21 Digit Surveyor General Code
Draailoop Solar PV	
Portion 1 of Farm 425	TOLS00000000042500001
Remainder of Farm 430	TOLS00000000043000000
Farm 431	TOLS00000000043100000
Grid Connection Infrastructure	
Remainder of Farm 466	TOLS00000000046600000
Portion 1 of Farm 466	TOLS00000000046600001
Portion 2 of Farm 425	TOLS00000000042500002
Remainder of Farm 424	TOLS00000000042400000
Portion 2 of Farm 470	TOLS00000000047000002
Farm 1211	TOLS000000000121100000
Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472	TOLS00000000047200002
Farm 1209	TOLS000000000120900000
Portion 1 of Farm 473	TOLS00000000047300001

Coordinates

POINT ID	Project Name	Comments	Type	Latitude	Longitude
APPref	Draailoop Solar PV	Gate	Access Point	-23° 21.707'	29° 41.169'
BHPref	Draailoop Solar PV	Additional Infrastructure	Borehole	-23° 21.529'	29° 41.308'
CT	Draailoop Solar PV	Additional Infrastructure	Conservancy Tank	-23° 21.571'	29° 41.334'
BESS	Draailoop Solar PV	BESS Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 21.480'	29° 41.208'
ESS	Draailoop Solar PV	ESS Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 21.596'	29° 41.402'
GHPref	Draailoop Solar PV	Guard houses	Access Point	-23° 21.651'	29° 41.125'
IPP	Draailoop Solar PV	IPP Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 21.541'	29° 41.395'
LD	Draailoop Solar PV	Laydown Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 21.588'	29° 41.241'
O&M	Draailoop Solar PV	O&M Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 21.547'	29° 41.336'
A	Draailoop Solar PV	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 19.589'	29° 40.070'
B	Draailoop Solar PV	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.053'	29° 41.563'
C	Draailoop Solar PV	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.166'	29° 42.434'
D	Draailoop Solar PV	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.429'	29° 42.547'

E	Draailoop Solar PV	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.573'	29° 42.470'
F	Draailoop Solar PV	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.667'	29° 41.516'
G	Draailoop Solar PV	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.709'	29° 41.086'
H	Draailoop Solar PV	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.856'	29° 40.328'
I	Draailoop Solar PV	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 21.886'	29° 40.000'
J	Draailoop Solar PV	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 20.980'	29° 40.034'
K	Draailoop Solar PV	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 20.131'	29° 40.030'

Grid Connection

A	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 21.374'	29° 41.660'
B	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 21.375'	29° 40.943'
C	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 21.718'	29° 41.002'
D	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 21.701'	29° 41.093'
E	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 21.676'	29° 41.387'
F	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.930'	29° 41.251'
G	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.985'	29° 41.921'
H	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.793'	29° 41.940'
I	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.909'	29° 46.001'
J	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.783'	29° 46.050'
K	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.785'	29° 46.141'
L	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.850'	29° 46.661'
M	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.926'	29° 47.265'
N	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.483'	29° 47.245'
O	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.170'	29° 47.194'
P	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.165'	29° 46.640'
Q	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.509'	29° 46.634'
R	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.643'	29° 46.122'
S	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.537'	29° 41.536'
T	Draailoop Solar PV	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 21.374'	29° 41.660'

- for the development of the Draailoop Solar PV on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430 and Farm 431 as well as associated electrical grid connection infrastructure on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430, Farm 431, Remainder of Farm 466, Portion 1 of Farm 466, Portion 2 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 424, Portion 2 of Farm 470, Farm 1211, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472, Farm 1209 and Portion 1 of Farm 473 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District Municipality, in the Limpopo Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

The proposed Draailoop Solar PV Project will include the following components:

- Solar Field
 - ❖ Solar Arrays: PV modules
 - ❖ Single axis tracking technology maximum height of 5m (aligned north-south);
 - ❖ Solar module mounting structures comprised of galvanised steel and aluminium;
 - ❖ Foundations which will likely be drilled and concreted into the ground; and
 - ❖ Solar measurement and weather stations.
 - ❖ Central/string Inverters and MV transformers in in field
 - ❖ DC coupled Battery Energy Storage system (BESS) containers distributed through PV field located adjacent to inverters
 - Lithium-Ion battery Cells, Modules, Racks and containers
 - Power Conversion Equipment
 - Battery Management System
 - Energy Management System
- Associated Infrastructure
 - ❖ Medium Voltage (MV =22/33 kV) overhead powerlines and underground cables;
 - ❖ MV Collector stations
 - ❖ Access road;
 - ❖ Internal gravel roads;
 - ❖ Fencing;
 - ❖ General maintenance area;
 - ❖ Storm water channels and berms;
 - ❖ Water storage tanks and pipelines;
 - ❖ Temporary work area during the construction phase (i.e. laydown area).
 - ❖ O&M buildings, store
- Project IPP Substation;

- ❖ 132kV substation 200m x 200m
- ❖ HV transformer
- ❖ Substation Control Building
- ❖ HV metering, Scada and protection building
- ❖ MV collector switchgear buildings
- ❖ Compensation equipment (Filters capacitors reactors statcoms)
- AC coupled BESS installation at project substation and laydown area:
 - ❖ Solid State Battery technology - either Lithium-Ion or Sodium Sulphide (NaS)
 - Battery Cells, Modules, Racks and containers
 - Power Conversion Equipment
 - Battery Management System
 - Energy Management System
 - MV transformers
 - MV cabling and collector stations
 - Fencing
 - Offices, workshop
 - Fire Protection systems
- Electrical Grid Infrastructure
 - ❖ Onsite Switching Station (SS), adjacent to the IPP Substation.
 - ❖ 132kV Overhead Power Line (OHPL) – 30m height from the switching station to the existing Eskom Tabor Substation.
 - ❖ Access Road to Switching Station
 - ❖ Maintenance access road below or adjacent to the power line.

The temporary storage of fuels during construction will exceed 30 cubic metres but less than 80 cubic metres. During operations the storage of dangerous goods will be below the threshold of this listed activity (i.e., less than 30 cubic metres).

Technical details of the proposed facility:

Component	Description/Dimensions
Size of the study area in ha of initial study area.	PV Site: 857 ha ³ Grid Connection Alternatives: Each, approximately 13km long, within a 500m wide assessment area.
Development Footprint: This includes the total footprint of PV panels, BESS auxiliary buildings, On-site Substation, Mini-substations, inverter stations and internal roads.	Up to 562ha
PV Technology Details	
Capacity of the PV facility (in MW)	Net generation capacity of up to 240MWAC.
Type of technology	Solar photovoltaic (PV) with single axis tracking structures.
Structure height	Up to 5m
Structure orientation	Single-axis (panels tracking east-west).
Laydown area dimensions	Up to 5ha
BESS Technology Details	
Capacity of BESS facility (in MWh)	3840MWh
Type of technology (preferred)	Pre-Assembled Solid-state Lithium-Ion or Sodium-Ion
Type of technology (alternatives)	No alternative BESS technology is under consideration as part of this environmental process.
Structure height	Containerized types, including all solid-state types = maximum of 4m from ground level (may have vent pipes and lightning conductors exceeding 4m above ground level).
Structure locations	DC Coupled BESS within the PV field and AC coupled BESS adjacent to the project substation.

Legislative Requirements

Refusal of the application

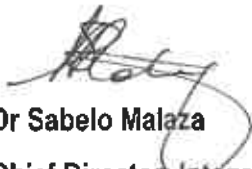
1. The application for Environmental Authorisation is refused for the development of the Draailoop Solar PV on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430 and Farm 431 as well as associated electrical grid

connection infrastructure on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430, Farm 431, Remainder of Farm 466, Portion 1 of Farm 466, Portion 2 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 424, Portion 2 of Farm 470, Farm 1211, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472, Farm 1209 and Portion 1 of Farm 473 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District Municipality, in the Limpopo Province, as described above.

Notification of refusal and right to appeal

2. The applicant must notify every registered interested and affected party, of the Competent Authority's decision, in writing and within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of this record of refusal.
3. The notification referred to must –
 - 3.1. specify the date on which the record of refusal was issued;
 - 3.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014;
 - 3.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the record of refusal will be furnished on request; and,
 - 3.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

Date of refusal of the application for Environmental Authorisation: 02/03/2026



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director, Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision.

In reaching its decision, the Competent Authority took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the application form received on 24 April 2025 and the amended application form received on 11 December 2025.
- b) The information contained in the final EIAr dated 11 December 2025.
- c) The comments received from all interested and affected parties as included in the final EIAr dated 11 December 2025.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the EIAr and the EMPr for the facility and the generic EMPr dated 11 December 2025.
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the final EIAr.
- f) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislations, policies, and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).

2. Key factors considered in making the decision.

All information presented to the Competent Authority was taken into account in the Competent Authority's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Competent Authority's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) The final EIAr dated 11 December 2025 does not comply with the requirements of Section 2(2) of *NEMA (Act 107 of 1998)* and the EIA Regulations (2014 as amended) and was inadequate for this Department to formulate a decision.
 - *Section 2(2) of NEMA (Act 107 of 1998) requires that "environmental management must place people and their needs at the forefront of its concern, and serve their physical, psychological, developmental, cultural and social interests equitably – this principle was not complied with.*
 - Regulation 23 (1) (b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations requires that "the applicant must, within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report, submit to the competent authority –
 - (b) a notification in writing that the documents contemplated in sub-regulation 1(a) will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the competent authority or where regulation 21(2) applies, within 156 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 documents, which changes or information was not contained in the original documents consulted on during the initial

public participation process contemplated in sub-regulation (1) (a), and that the revised documents contemplated in sub-regulation 1(a) will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days”.

- Regulation 40(2)(a)(b)(c)(d) requires that *“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*
 - (a) the competent authority,*
 - (b) every State department that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment relevant to an application for an environmental authorisation,*
 - (c) all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates, and*
 - (d) all potential, or, where relevant, registered interested and affected parties”.*
- Regulation 41(2)(e) requires that *“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 –*
 - (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”.*
- Regulation 41 (5) (b) requires that *“where public participation is conducted in terms of this regulation for an application or proposed application, sub-regulation (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d) need not be complied with again during the additional public participation process contemplated 23(1)(b) or the public participation process contemplated in regulation 21(2)(d), on condition that-*
 - (b) written notice is given to registered interested and affected parties regarding where the-*
 - (ii) **revised documents as contemplated in regulation 23(1)(b)”.***
- Regulation 43(1) requires that *“registered interested and affected parties are entitled to comment, in writing, on all reports ... 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”.*

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Competent Authority made the following findings -

- a) The final EIAr, which was submitted on 11 December 2025 for review and decision-making, included the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025. The revised HIA introduces new and materially significant information arising from the community engagement session held on 25 November 2025, including additional mitigation measures linked to the Heritage Agreement and the Conservation Management Plan to be developed **post-authorization**. This constitutes a material update to the specialist report, which must be re-circulated to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) for 30 days' comment.
- b) Considering that the amended draft EIAr circulated on 07 October 2025 to 08 December 2025 included the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in July 2025, the EAP on behalf of the Applicant failed to circulate the further updated HIA, dated December 2025, to potential interested and affected parties; and ensure that potential or registered interested and affected parties are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the HIA specialist report. In addition, it is important to note that the registered interested and affected party, including this Department, did not provide a comment, in writing, on the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025, to bring to the attention of the proponent or applicant any issues that party believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application.
- c) It has been noted that the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025 was also not circulated to the Communal Property Association (CPA) despite an indication in the comments and response report (page 104) that "a revised HIA has been prepared and will be provided to the CPA for consideration." The EIAr does not contain any evidence demonstrating that the amended HIA was provided to the CPA for review and comment, notwithstanding that the revisions to the HIA were based on issues, comments, and inputs received from the CPA. This omission constitutes a material procedural defect and renders the EIAr non-compliant with the requirements of the public participation process as per the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- d) Furthermore, the Competent Authority has noted that the amended draft EIAr was not circulated to all required stakeholders during the public participation process. The proof of notification included in the EIAr demonstrates that the DFFE Biosphere Reserves Unit was only afforded an opportunity on 03 December 2025 to provide comments on the amended draft EIAr by 08 December 2025, despite the final EIAr being submitted to the CA on 11 December 2025. The omission of affected stakeholders and

the insufficient timeframe to comment demonstrate non-compliance with Regulation 43 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

- e) The review of the comments and response report submitted with the final EIAR raised concerns in relation to the response of the social impact assessment report, which highlighted the social benefits for the broader community. In response to the issue raised, the EAP indicated that *"if the project is granted Environmental Authorisation (EA) and the land claims are successful, the proponent will engage with the successful land claimants to discuss in more detail how local communities can benefit from the project"*. The Department submits that the EAP failed to accordingly address the concerns raised by the CPA during the Public Participation Process.

In view of the above, the Competent Authority is of the opinion that the proposed listed activities will conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management stipulated in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998). Consequently, there is no sufficient, adequate and reliable basis upon which the statutory discretion of the Competent Authority can be exercised in favour of the applicant and therefore the application for Environmental Authorisation is refused.



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +27 86 625 1042

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Enquiries: Ms Makhosazane Yeni
Telephone: (012) 399 9400 E-mail: MYeni@dffe.gov.za

Mr. Andrew Pearson
Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
21st Floor, Portside, 5 Buitengracht Street
CAPE TOWN
8001

Telephone Number: 021 685 3240
Cellphone Number: 084 722 4855
Email Address: andrew@mulilo.com

PER E-MAIL

Dear Mr Pearson

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED FOR THE 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR PV ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 AS WELL AS ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE LOCATED ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466, REMAINDER OF FARM 466, PORTION 2 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 424, PORTION 2 OF FARM 470, FARM 1211, REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 2 OF FARM 472, FARM 1209 AND PORTION 1 OF FARM 473 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Competent Authority has decided to refuse the application for Environmental Authorisation. The reasons for this refusal are contained in the Record of Refusal, of which a copy is attached hereto.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within fourteen (14) days of the date of the decision, of the decision, as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, Act No. 3 of 2000, you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, Act No. 4 of 2013 which stipulate that the Department should conduct itself in a



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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and/or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

MS

Project title: Environmental Authorisation for the 240 Megawatt (MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility known as Kippit Solar PV on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 1 of Farm 466 and the Remainder of Farm 466 as well as associated electrical grid connection infrastructure located on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 1 of Farm 466, Remainder of Farm 466, Portion 2 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 424, Portion 2 of Farm 470, Farm 1211, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472, Farm 1209 and Portion 1 of Farm 473 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province.

responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998 National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R 5985 in Government Gazette No. 52269 dated 13 March 2025 (National Appeal Regulations, 2025), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2025) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dffe.gov.za

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road
Arcadia
PRETORIA
0083, or

By post: Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Project title: Environmental Authorisation for the 240 Megawatt (MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility known as Klipput Solar PV on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 1 of Farm 466 and the Remainder of Farm 466 as well as associated electrical grid connection infrastructure located on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 1 of Farm 466, Remainder of Farm 466, Portion 2 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 424, Portion 2 of Farm 470, Farm 1211, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472, Farm 1209 and Portion 1 of Farm 473 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Dr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 27/02/2026

cc:	Mr Dale Holder	Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners	Tel: 044 874 0365 Cell: 082 4489225	Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za / francois@cape-eaprac.co.za
	Matodzi Rathumbu	Limpopo: Department of Economic Development, Environment & Tourism (DEDET)	Tel: 015 293 8648 Cell: 079 3410018	Email: RathumbulM@ledet.gov.za / hamses@ledet.gov.za
	MK Nemaname	Makhado Local Municipality	Tel: 015 519 3003	Email: municipal.manager@makhado.gov.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Record of Refusal

In terms of Regulation 24(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended

The development of the 240-Megawatt (MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility and associated electrical grid connection infrastructure, known as Klipput Solar PV on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 1 of Farm 466 and the Remainder of Farm 466 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Limpopo Province

Vhembe District Municipality

Application Register Number:	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 1 of Farm 466 and the Remainder of Farm 466 and EGI located on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 1 of Farm 466, Remainder of Farm 466, Portion 2 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 424, Portion 2 of Farm 470, Farm 1211, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472, Farm 1209 and Portion 1 of Farm 473 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province.

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Decision

The Competent Authority is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it that the applicant should not be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Details regarding the basis on which the Competent Authority reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1 to this Record of Refusal.

Activities refused

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Competent Authority hereby refuses the application for Environmental Authorisation to –

Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd

with the following contact details –

Mr. Andrew Pearson
Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
1st Floor, Portside, 5 Buitengracht Street,
CAPE TOWN
8001

Telephone Number: 021 685 3240
Cellphone Number: 084 722 4855
Email Address: andrew@mulilo.com

Not to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in of GN R. 982, GN R. 983, GN R. 984 and GN R. 985 of 08 December 2014 (as amended):

Activity number	Activity description
<u>Listing Notice 1, Activity 11(i):</u> <i>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity—</i> <i>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts; or</i>	The proposed development will include electrical grid infrastructure to connect the solar PV facility to the Tabor substation. This Electrical Grid Infrastructure, inclusive of Powerline and Substation Infrastructure will be up to 132kV.
<u>Listing Notice 1, Activity 12(ii):</u> <i>The development of –</i> <i>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square meters or more, where such development occurs-</i> <i>(a) within a watercourse.</i>	Portions of the proposed development will be located within 32 metres of a watercourse exceeding 100 square metres.
<u>Listing Notice 1, Activity 19:</u> <i>The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 m³ into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 m³ from a watercourse.</i>	Portions of the proposed development (internal access roads) will entail the movement of more than 10 cubic metres of soil within a watercourse
<u>Listing Notice 1, Activity 24(ii):</u> <i>The development of a road –</i> <i>(ii) with a reserve wider than 13.5m, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8m.</i> <i>but excluding a road—</i> <i>(a) [roads] which [are] is identified and included in activity 27 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014,</i> <i>(b) [roads] where the entire road falls within an urban area;</i> <i>or</i> <i>(c) which is 1 kilometre or shorter.</i>	The proposed development will entail the construction of access roads wider than 8m. These access roads will not have a road reserve.
<u>Listing Notice 1, Activity 28(ii):</u> <i>Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial, or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes, or</i>	The proposed development will be located on land that was used for game farming outside an urban area. The total footprint of the facility will exceed 1ha. The facility will have a permanent

<i>afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development:</i> <i>(ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.</i>	footprint of up to 497ha and the Temporary Laydown area will be up to 6ha.
<u>Listing Notice 1, Activity 56:</u> <i>The widening of a road by more than 6 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre –</i> <i>(i) where the existing reserve is wider than 13.5 metres; or</i> <i>(ii) where no reserve exists, where the existing road is wider than 8 metres.</i>	The intersection between site access roads and provincial roads will require widening by more than 6 metres.
<u>Listing Notice 2, Activity 1:</u> <i>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 MW or more, excluding where such development of facilities or infrastructure is for photovoltaic installations and occurs,</i> <i>(a) within an urban area; or</i> <i>(b) on existing infrastructure.</i>	The proposed project entails the development of an up to 240 Megawatt PV Facility.
<u>Listing Notice 2, Activity 15:</u> <i>The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13.5 metres.</i> <i>Limpopo</i> <i>i. Outside urban areas:</i> <i>(gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas of a biosphere reserve, excluding disturbed areas.</i>	The proposed development will entail the clearance of an area exceeding 20 hectares in size of indigenous vegetation. The facility will have a permanent footprint of up to 497ha and the Temporary Laydown area will be up to 6ha.
<u>Listing Notice 3, Activity 4(e) i(gg):</u> <i>The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13.5 metres.</i> <i>Limpopo</i> <i>i. Outside urban areas:</i> <i>(gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the</i>	The proposed development will entail the development of roads wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13.5 metres. The nearest protected area is the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site.

core areas of a biosphere reserve, excluding disturbed areas.	
<u>Listing Notice 3, Activity 10(e)(i):</u> <i>The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of more than 30 but less than 80 e. Limpopo</i> <i>i. All areas.</i>	The temporary storage of fuels during construction will exceed 30 cubic metres but less than 80 cubic metres. During operations the storage of dangerous goods will be below the threshold of this listed activity (i.e., less than 30 cubic metres).
<u>Listing Notice 3, Activity 14(ii)(a)(b)(c):</u> <i>The development of</i> <i>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more, where such development occurs—</i> <i>(a) within a watercourse.</i> <i>(b) in front of a development setback; or</i> <i>(c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse,</i> <i>e. Limpopo</i> <i>i. Outside urban areas:</i> <i>(hh) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve.</i>	The proposed development will entail the development of infrastructures or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more that may be within 32 metres of a watercourse. The nearest protected area is the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site
<u>Listing Notice 3, Activity 18(i)(gg)(hh):</u> <i>The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road buy more than 1 kilometre.</i> <i>Limpopo</i> <i>i. Outside urban areas:</i> <i>(gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve; or</i> <i>(hh) Areas within a watercourse; or within 100 metres from the edge of a watercourse.</i>	The proposed development will entail the widening of a road by more than 4 metres and/or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre. The nearest protected area is the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site.

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as described in the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated 11 December 2025:

Farm names and portion numbers for the PV & Associated Infrastructure:

- Portion 1 of Farm 425,
- Portion 1 of Farm 466
- Remainder of Farm 466.

Preferred Alternative for Electrical Grid Connection Infrastructure Alternatives:

- Remainder of Farm 466.
- Portion 1 of Farm 466.
- Portion 1 of Farm 425.
- Portion 2 of Farm 425.
- Remainder of Farm 424.
- Portion 2 of Farm 470.
- Farm 1211.
- Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472.
- Farm 1209.
- Portion 1 of Farm 473.

Surveyor General (SG) 21 Digit Codes for the proposed Klippit Solar PV development

T	0	L	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	5	0	0	0	0	1
T	0	L	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	6	0	0	0	0	0
T	0	L	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	6	0	0	0	0	1
T	0	L	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	5	0	0	0	0	2
T	0	L	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	4	0	0	0	0	0
T	0	L	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	7	0	0	0	0	0	2
T	0	L	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
T	0	L	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	7	2	0	0	0	0	2
T	0	L	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	9	0	0	0	0	0
T	0	L	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	7	3	0	0	0	0	1

Coordinates for the Klipput Solar PV development

Point	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
Gate		
APP ref	-23° 22.680'	23° 22.680'
Additional Infrastructure		
BH	-23° 22.156'	29° 42.079'
BH	-23° 22.782'	29° 41.638'
CT	-23° 22.828'	29° 41.612'
BESS Center Point		
BESS	-23° 22.887'	29° 41.642'
BESS	-23° 22.747'	29° 41.556
Guard Houses		
GH	-23° 22.668'	29° 41.861'
GH	-23° 22.698'	29° 41.518'
IPP Substation Centerpoint	-23° 22.802'	29° 41.553
Laydown Centerpoint	-23° 22.780'	29° 41.714'
O&M Centerpoint	-23° 22.805'	29° 41.612'
Klipput Solar PV Corner Points		
A	-23° 21.677'	29° 41.516'
B	23° 21.584'	29° 42.464
C	-23° 22.686'	29° 41.866
D	-23° 22.697'	29° 43.073'
E	-23° 23.674'	29° 42.931'
F	-23° 23.390'	29° 41.708'
G	-23° 23.342'	29° 41.713'
H	-23° 23.298'	29° 41.703
I	-23° 22.803'	29° 41.447
J	-23° 22.743'	29° 41.432
K	-23° 22.682'	29° 41.428'
L	-23° 22.682'	29° 41.436'
Preferred Grid Corridor Corner Points		
A	-23° 22.529'	29° 41.300'
B	-23° 22.540'	29° 41.299'
C	-23° 22.677'	29° 41.285'
D	-23° 22.939'	29° 41.382

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E	-23° 22.983'	29° 41.923'
F	-23° 22.793'	29° 41.940'
G	-23° 22.909'	29° 46.001'
H	-23° 22.783'	29° 46.050
I	-23° 22.785'	29° 46.141
J	-23° 22.850'	29° 46.661'
K	-23° 22.926'	29° 47.265
L	-23° 22.483'	29° 47.245'
M	-23° 22.170'	29° 47.194'
N	-23° 22.165'	29° 46.640'
O	-23° 22.509'	29° 46.634'
P	-23° 22.643'	29° 46.122'
Q	-23° 22.535'	29° 41.395
R	-23° 22.529'	29° 41.300'

- for the development of the 240 Megawatt (MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility known as Klipput Solar PV on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 1 of Farm 466 and the Remainder of Farm 466 as well as associated electrical grid connection infrastructure located on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 1 of Farm 466, Remainder of Farm 466, Portion 2 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 424, Portion 2 of Farm 470, Farm 1211, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472, Farm 1209 and Portion 1 of Farm 473 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province.

The temporary storage of fuels during construction will exceed 30 cubic metres but less than 80 cubic metres. During operations the storage of dangerous goods will be below the threshold of this listed activity (i.e., less than 30 cubic metres).

The proposed Klipput Solar PV Project will include the following components:

Solar Field

- ✓ Solar Arrays: PV modules;
- ✓ Single axis tracking technology maximum height of 5m (aligned north-south);
- ✓ Solar module mounting structures comprised of galvanised steel and aluminium;
- ✓ Foundations which will likely be drilled and concreted into the ground;
- ✓ Solar measurement and weather stations;
- ✓ Central/string Inverters and MV transformers in in field;
- ✓ DC coupled Battery Energy Storage system (BESS) containers distributed through PV field located adjacent to inverters;

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- Lithium Ion battery Cells, Modules, Racks and containers;
- Power Conversion Equipment;
- Battery Management System;
- Energy Management System.

Associated Infrastructure

- ✓ Medium Voltage (MV =22/33 kV) overhead powerlines and underground cables.
- ✓ MV Collector stations.
- ✓ Access road.
- ✓ Internal gravel roads.
- ✓ Fencing.
- ✓ General maintenance area.
- ✓ Storm water channels and berms.
- ✓ Water storage tanks and pipelines.
- ✓ Temporary work area during the construction phase (i.e. laydown area).
- ✓ O&M buildings, store.

Project IPP Substation

- ✓ 132kV substation 200m x 200m.
- ✓ HV transformer.
- ✓ Substation Control Building.
- ✓ HV metering, Scada and protection building.
- ✓ MV collector switchgear buildings.
- ✓ Compensation equipment (Filters capacitors reactors statcoms).

AC coupled BESS installation at project substation and laydown area

- ✓ Solid State Battery technology - either Lithium-Ion or Sodium Sulphide (NaS):
 - Battery Cells, Modules, Racks and containers.
 - Power Conversion Equipment.
 - Battery Management System.
 - Energy Management System.
 - MV transformers.
 - MV cabling and collector stations.
 - Fencing.
 - Offices, workshop.
 - Fire Protection system.

This environmental application process includes Electrical Grid Connection Infrastructure required to connect the Bethel Solar PV to the National Grid via the existing Tabor Main Transmission Substation (MTS). This Electrical Grid Infrastructure includes:

- ✓ Onsite Switching Station (SS), adjacent to the IPP Substation.
- ✓ 132kV Overhead Power Line (OHPL) – 30m height from the switching station to the existing Eskom Tabor Substation.
- ✓ Access Road to Switching Station.
- ✓ Maintenance access road below or adjacent to the power line.

Technical details for the proposed development:

Component	Description/Dimensions
Size of the study area in ha of initial study area.	PV Site: 601 ha Grid Connection Alternatives: Each, Approximately 13km long within a 500m wide assessment area.
Development Footprint: This includes the total footprint of PV panels, BESS auxiliary buildings, On-site Substation, Mini-substations, inverter stations and internal roads.	Up to 497ha
PV Technology Details	
Capacity of the PV facility (in MW)	Net generation capacity of up to 240MWAC.
<u>Solar. Technology selection</u>	
Type of technology	Solar photovoltaic (PV) with single-axis tracking structures.)
Structure height	Up to 5m
Surface area to be covered (including associated infrastructure such as roads).	Up to 497ha
Structure orientation	Single-axis (panels tracking east-west).
BESS Technology Details	
Capacity of BESS facility (in MWh)	3840MWh
Type of technology (preferred)	Pre Assembled Solid state Lithium-Ion or Sodium-Ion
Type of technology (alternatives)	No alternative BESS technology is under consideration as part of this environmental process.
Structure height	Containerized types, including all solid-state types = maximum of 4m from ground level (may have vent pipes and lightning conductors exceeding 4m above ground level).

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Structure locations	DC Coupled BESS within the PV field and AC coupled BESS adjacent to the project substation.
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Legislative Requirements

Refusal of the application

1. The application for Environmental Authorisation is refused for the development of the 240 Megawatt (MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility known as Klippot Solar PV on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 1 of Farm 466 and the Remainder of Farm 466 as well as associated electrical grid connection infrastructure located on Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 1 of Farm 466, Remainder of Farm 466, Portion 2 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 424, Portion 2 of Farm 470, Farm 1211, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472, Farm 1209 and Portion 1 of Farm 473 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province, as described above.

Notification of refusal and right to appeal

2. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this record of refusal.
3. The notification referred to must –
 - 3.1. specify the date on which the record of refusal was issued,
 - 3.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2025,
 - 3.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the record of refusal will be furnished on request; and
 - 3.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

Date of refusal of the application for Environmental Authorisation: 27/02/2026


Dr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment



Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration –

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the application form received on 24 April 2025 and amended application form received on 11 December 2025.
- b) The information contained in the final EIAr dated 11 December 2025 specifically Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025.
- c) The comments received from all interested and affected parties as included in the final EIAr dated 11 December 2025.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the final EIAr and the EMPr for the facility and the generic EMPr dated 11 December 2025.
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the final EIAr.
- f) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislations, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was considered in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) The final EIAr dated 11 December 2025 failed to meet the requirement of Regulation 40(2) (a)(b)(c)(d), 41(6)(a) & (b) and 43(1) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations, as amended. Therefore, the information was inadequate for this Department to formulate a decision. As such, **a negative environmental authorisation is recommended.**

- Regulation 40(2)(a)(b)(c)(d) and (3) requires that

(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*

- (a) *the competent authority,*
- (b) *every State department that administer a law relating to a matter affecting the environment relevant to an application for an environmental authorisation,*
- (c) *all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates, and*
- (d) *all potential, or, where relevant, registered interested and affected parties".*



(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 sub-regulation (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.

- Regulation 41(6) (a) and (b) requires that *"when complying with this regulation, the person conducting the public participation process must ensure that-*
 - (a) information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application or proposed application is made available to potential interested and affected parties; and*
 - (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".*
- Regulation 43(1) requires that *"registered interested and affected parties are entitled to comment, in writing, on all reports ... 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".*

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Competent Authority made the following findings –

- a) The final EIAr which was submitted on 11 December 2025 for review and decision making included the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025. The revised HIA introduces new and materially significant information arising from the community engagement session held on 25 November 2025, including additional mitigation measures linked to the Heritage Agreement and the Conservation Management Plan to be developed post-authorization. This constitutes a material update to the specialist report, which must be re-circulated to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) for 30-day comments.
- b) Considering that the amended draft EIAr circulated on 07 October 2025 to 08 December 2025 included the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in July 2025, the EAP on behalf of the Applicant failed to circulate the updated HIA to potential interested and affected parties; and ensure that potential or registered interested and affected parties are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the HIA specialist report. In addition, it is important to note that the registered interested and affected party, including this Department, did not provide a comment, in writing, on the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025, to bring to the attention of the proponent or applicant any issues that the party believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application.

- c) It has been noted that the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025 was also not circulated to Communal Property Association (CPA) despite an indication in the comments and response report (page 104) that *"a revised HIA has been prepared and will be provided to the CPA for consideration."* The EIAr does not contain any evidence demonstrating that the amended HIA was provided to the CPA for review and comment, notwithstanding that the revisions to the HIA were based on issues, comments, and inputs received from the CPA. This omission constitutes a material procedural defect and renders the EIAr non-compliant with the requirements of the public participation process as per the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- d) Furthermore, the Competent Authority has noted that the amended draft EIAr was not circulated to all required stakeholders during the public participation process. The proof of notification included in the EIAr demonstrates that the DFFE Biosphere Reserves Unit was only afforded an opportunity on 03 December 2025 to provide comments on the amended draft EIAr by 08 December 2025, despite the final EIAr being submitted to the CA on 11 December 2025. The omission of affected stakeholders and the insufficient timeframe to comment demonstrate non-compliance with Regulation 43 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- e) The review of the comments and response report submitted with the final EIAr raised concerns in relation to the response of the social impact assessment report, which highlighted the social benefits for the broader community. In response to the issue raised, the EAP indicated that *"if the project is granted Environmental Authorisation (EA) and the land claims are successful, the proponent will engage with the successful land claimants to discuss in more detail how local communities can benefit from the project"*. The Department submits that the EAP failed to address the concerns raised by the CPA during the Public Participation Process.

In view of the above, the Competent Authority is of the opinion that the proposed listed activities will conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management stipulated in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998). Consequently, there is no sufficient, adequate and reliable basis upon which the statutory discretion of the Competent Authority can be exercised in favour of the applicant and therefore the application for Environmental Authorisation is refused.

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forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +27 86 625 1042

Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2/2701

Enquiries: Ms Thulisile Nyalunga

Tel: 012 399 9405 Email: TNyalunga@dfpe.gov.za

Mr Andrew Pearson
Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
21st Floor, Portside,
5 Buitengracht Street
CAPE TOWN
8001

Telephone Number: 0216853240
Cellphone Number: 0847224855
E-mail Address: Andrew@mulilo.com

Dear Mr Pearson

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UP TO 74 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 465 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Competent Authority has decided to refuse the application for Environmental Authorisation. The reasons for this refusal are contained in the Record of Refusal, of which a copy is attached hereto.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within fourteen (14) days of the date of the decision, of the decision, as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, Act No. 3 of 2000, you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, Act No. 4 of 2013 which stipulate that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.



Batho pele – putting people first

Departement van Bosbou, Visserie en die Omgewing • Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment • UmNyango wezamaHlathi, zokuThiya neBhoduluko • iSebe lezamaHlathi, azokuLoba noKusingqongileyo • Umnyango WezamaHlathi, Ezokudoba Nezamvelo • Kgoro ya Diithokgwa, BoraHlapi le Tikologo • Lefapha la Meru, Botshwari ba diithapi le Tikologo • Lefapha la Dikgwa, Diithapi le Tikologo • Litiko Letemahlatsi, Tinkhlandi Netendzawo • Muhasho wa zwa Vtusima-majaka, Vhuresakhovhe na Mupo • Ndzawulo ya Swihlahla, Vunjereri na Mbango. The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessively for the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act, and/or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.



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Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998 National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R.5985 in Government Gazette No. 52269 dated 12 March 2025 (National Appeal Regulations, 2025), which prescribe the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2025) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within twenty (20) days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dffe.gov.za

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road
Arcadia
PRETORIA
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully


Dr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 02/03/2025

cc:	Dale Holder	Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners	Email: roschel@bcrane.co.za
	Matodzi Rathumbu	Department of Economic Development, Environment & Tourism (DEDET)	Email: RathumbuM@ledet.gov.za
	MK Nemaname	Makhado Local Municipality	Email: munman@madibeng.gov.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Record of Refusal

In terms of Regulation 24(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended

The development of the up to 74 Megawatt (MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility and associated electrical grid connection infrastructure, known as Makoppa Solar PV, on Portion 1 of Farm 465 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Limpopo Province

Vhembe District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation:	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	<u>Makoppa Solar PV</u> Portion 1 of Farm 465 <u>Associated electrical grid connection infrastructure</u> Portion 1 of Farm 465, Remainder of Farm 466, Portion 1 of Farm 466, Portion 1 of Farm 425, Portion 2 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 424, Portion 2 of Farm 470, Farm 1211, Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472, Farm 1209 and Portion 1 of Farm 473, Makhado Local Municipality, Ward 20 and 26, Limpopo Province

Decision

The Competent Authority is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it that the applicant should not be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Details regarding the basis on which the Competent Authority reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1 to this Record of Refusal.

Activities refused

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Competent Authority hereby refuses the application for Environmental Authorisation to –

MAKOPPA SOLAR PV (PTY) LTD

with the following contact details –

Mr Andrew Pearson
Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
21st Floor, Portside
5 Buitengracht Street
CAPE TOWN
8001

Telephone Number: 0216853240
Cellphone Number 0847224855
Email Address: Andrew@mulilo.com

Not to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in of GN R. 982, GN R. 983, GN R. 984 and GN R. 985 of 08 December 2014 (as amended):

Activity number	Activity description
<u>Listing Notice 1, Item 11</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where—</i> <i>(i) the electricity output is more than 10 megawatts but less than 20 megawatts."</i>	The proposed development will include electrical grid infrastructure to connect the solar PV facility to the Tabor substation. This Electrical Grid Infrastructure, inclusive of Powerline and Substation Infrastructure will be up to 132 KV.
<u>Listing Notice 1, Item 12</u> <i>"The development of –</i> <i>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more;</i> <i>Where such development occurs –</i> <i>(a) within a watercourse;</i> <i>(c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse from the edge of a watercourse."</i>	Portions of the proposed development will be located within 32 metres of a watercourse exceeding 100 square metres.
<u>Listing Notice 1, Item 19</u> <i>"The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from</i> <i>(i) a watercourse."</i>	Portions of the proposed development (internal access roads) will entail the movement of more than 10 cubic metres of soil within a watercourse.
<u>Listing Notice 1 item 24</u> <i>"The development of a road –</i> <i>(ii) with a reserve wider than 13.5 metres, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres."</i>	The proposed development will entail the construction of access roads wider than 8m. These access roads will not have a road reserve.
<u>Listing Notice 1, Item 28</u> <i>"Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture or afforestation on or after 1998 and where such development</i>	The proposed development will be located on land that was used for game farming outside an urban area. The total footprint of the facility will exceed 1ha. The facility will have a permanent footprint of

<i>(ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare."</i>	up to 233ha and a Temporary Laydown area of up to 6ha.
<u>Listing Notice 1, Item 56</u> <i>"The widening of a road by more than 6 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre –</i> <i>(i) where the existing reserve is wider than 13.5 metres; or</i> <i>(ii) where no reserve exists, where the existing road is wider than 8 metres."</i>	The intersection between site access roads and provincial roads will require widening by more than 6 metres.
<u>Listing Notice 2, Item 1</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more."</i>	The proposed project entails the development of an up to 75 Megawatt PV Facility
<u>Listing Notice 2, Item 15</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation."</i>	The proposed development will entail the clearance of an area exceeding 20 hectares in size of indigenous vegetation. The facility will have a permanent footprint of up to 233ha and a Temporary Laydown area of up to 6ha.
<u>Listing Notice 3, Item 4</u> <i>"The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13.5 metres.</i> Limpopo <i>i. Outside urban areas:</i> <i>(gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas of a biosphere reserve, excluding disturbed areas."</i>	The proposed development will entail the development of roads wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13.5 metres. The nearest protected area is the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site.
<u>Listing Notice 3, Item 10</u> <i>"The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in</i>	The temporary storage of fuels during construction will exceed 30 cubic metres but less than 80 cubic metres. During operations the storage of dangerous

containers with a combined capacity of more than 30 but less than 80 e. Limpopo i. All areas.”	goods will be below the threshold of this listed activity (i.e., less than 30 cubic metres).
<u>Listing Notice 3, Item 14</u> “The development of – (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more; Where such development occurs – (a) within a watercourse; (b) in front of a development setback; or (c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse; excluding the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour. Limpopo i. Outside urban areas: (hh) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve.”	The proposed development will entail the development of infrastructures or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more that may be within 32 metres of a watercourse. The nearest protected area is the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site.
<u>Listing Notice 3, Item 18</u> “The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre. Limpopo i. Outside urban areas (gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve; or	The proposed development will entail the widening of a road by more than 4 metres and/or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre. The nearest protected area is the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site.

(hh) Areas within a watercourse; or within 100 metres from the edge of a watercourse."

as described in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated December 2025:

The co-ordinates of the preferred alternatives: Co-ordinates of Layout Alternative 4 and Grid Connection Alternative 1

POINT ID	Comments	Type	Latitude	Longitude
APPref	Gate	Access Point	-23° 23.821'	29° 41.436'
BHPref	Additional Infrastructure	Borehole	-23° 23.777'	29° 41.258'
CT	Additional Infrastructure	Conservancy Tank	-23° 23.828'	29° 41.259'
BESS	BESS Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 23.886'	29° 41.251'
ESS	ESS Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 23.775'	29° 41.348'
GHPref	Guard Houses	Access Point	-23° 23.251'	29° 40.996'
IPP	IPP Substation Centerpoint	Center Point	-23° 23.823'	29° 41.329'
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C	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 23.400'	29° 41.698'
D	Project Footprint	Corner Point	-23° 23.423'	29° 41.686'
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I	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.979'	29° 41.923'
J	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.793'	29° 41.940'
K	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.909'	29° 46.001'
L	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.783'	29° 46.050'
M	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.785'	29° 46.141'
N	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.850'	29° 46.661'
O	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.926'	29° 47.265'
P	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.483'	29° 47.245'
Q	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.170'	29° 47.194'
R	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.165'	29° 46.640'
S	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.509'	29° 46.634'
T	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.643'	29° 46.122'
U	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.535'	29° 41.395'
V	Preferred Grid Corridor	Corner Point	-23° 22.525'	29° 41.301'

Affected farm portions and 21 Digit Surveyor General codes

Description of affected farm portions and 21 Digit Surveyor General codes	
Portion 1 of Farm 465:	TOLS00000000046500001
Remainder of Farm 466	TOLS00000000046600000
Portion 1 of Farm 466	TOLS00000000046600001
Portion 1 of Farm 425	TOLS00000000042500001
Portion 2 of Farm 425	TOLS00000000042500002
Remainder of Farm 424	TOLS00000000042400000
Portion 2 of Farm 470	TOLS00000000047000002
Farm 1211	TOLS00000000121100000
Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472	TOLS00000000047200002
Farm 1209	TOLS00000000120900000
Portion 1 of Farm 473	TOLS00000000047300001

Technical details for the proposed Makoppa Solar PV

Component	Description / dimensions
Size of the property	<u>PV & Associated Infrastructure.</u> Portion 1 of Farm 465 <u>Electrical Grid Connection Infrastructure Alternatives.</u> ALTERNATIVE 1 – Preferred Alternative Remainder of Farm 466 Portion 1 of Farm 466 Portion 1 of Farm 425 Portion 2 of Farm 425 Remainder of Farm 424 Portion 2 of Farm 470 Farm 1211 Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 Farm 1209 Portion 1 of Farm 473
Size of the study area	PV Site: 341 ha³ Grid Connection Alternatives: Each, Approximately 13km long within a 500m wide assessment area.
Development Footprint This includes the total footprint of PV panels, BESS auxiliary buildings, On-site Substation, Mini-substations, inverter stations and internal roads.	Up to 233ha
PV Technology Details	
Capacity of the facility	Net generation capacity of up to 75 MWAC.
Type of technology	Solar photovoltaic (PV) with single-axis tracking
Structure height	Up to 5m
Surface area to be covered (including associated infrastructure such as roads)	Up to 233ha

Structure orientation	Single-axis (panels tracking east-west).
BESS Technology Details	
Capacity of BESS facility (in MWh)	1200MWh
Type of technology (preferred)	Solid state Lithium-Ion or Sodium-Ion.
Type of technology (alternatives)	No alternative BESS technology
Structure height	Containerized types, including all solid-state types = maximum of 4m from ground level (may have vent pipes and lightning conductors exceeding 4m above ground level).
Surface area to be covered (including associated infrastructure such as roads)	Up to 6ha.
Structure locations	DC Coupled BESS within the PV field and AC coupled BESS adjacent to the project substation.

Component	Description / dimensions
Height of PV structures	Up to 5m
Capacity of the PV facility	Up to 75MW
Surface area to be covered by the facility (i.e., the area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas, including PV array area and associated infrastructure such as roads)	Up to 341Ha
Proximity to grid connection	Up to 18.5km
Number of overhead power lines required and voltage of overhead power lines	One 132kV Powerline required, double circuit.
Height of the Power Line	Up to 32m
Number of substations required and voltage of substations	One IPP Substation next to an Eskom Switching station, 132kV.
Area occupied by inverter/transformer stations/substations	Up to 2Ha
Area occupied by buildings	Up to 9Ha

Number of access roads, including length and width	One access road, there are two options for this road, a preferred route and an alternative route. 8m wide servitude and Up to 4km.
Length and width of internal roads	6m wide servitude and variable lengths between the rows of solar panels.
Additional Infrastructure	Laydown area, guard house, fuel storage area, borehole, conservancy tank, LV and MV cabling.

-for the development of the up to 74 Megawatt (MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility and associated electrical grid connection infrastructure, known as Makoppa Solar PV, on Portion 1 of Farm 465 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

The proposed development will entail:

Solar Field

- Solar Arrays: PV modules
- Single axis tracking technology (aligned north-south);
- Solar module mounting structures comprised of galvanised steel and aluminium;
- Foundations which will likely be drilled and concreted into the ground; and
- Solar measurement and weather stations.
- Central/string Inverters and MV transformers in in field
- DC coupled Battery Energy Storage system (BESS) containers distributed through PV field located adjacent to inverters
 - Lithium Ion battery Cells, Modules, Racks and containers
 - Power Conversion Equipment
 - Battery Management System
 - Energy Management System

Associated Infrastructure

- Medium Voltage (MV =22/33 kV) overhead powerlines and/or underground cables;
- MV Collector stations
- Access road;
- Internal gravel roads;
- Fencing;

- General maintenance area;
- Storm water channels and berms;
- Water storage tanks and pipelines;
- Temporary work area during the construction phase (i.e. laydown area).
- O&M buildings, store

Project IPP Substation:

- 132kV substation 200m x 200m
- HV transformer
- Substation Control Building
- HV metering, Scada and protection building
- MV collector switchgear buildings
- Compensation equipment (Filters capacitors reactors statcoms)

AC coupled BESS installation (400m x 400m) at project substation and laydown area:

- Solid State Battery technology - either Lithium-Ion or Sodium Sulphide (NaS)
- Battery Cells, Modules, Racks and containers
- Power Conversion Equipment
- Battery Management System
- Energy Management System
- MV transformers
- MV cabling and collector stations
- Fencing
- Offices, workshop
- Fire Protection systems

The grid connection infrastructure include:

- Onsite Switching Station (SS), adjacent to the IPP Substation.
- 132kV Overhead Power Line (OHPL) – up to 32m height from the switching station to the existing Eskom Tabor Substation.
- Access Road to Switching Station
- Maintenance access road below or adjacent to the power line.

Legislative Requirements

Refusal of the application

1. The application for Environmental Authorisation is refused for the development of the up to 74 Megawatt (MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility and associated electrical grid connection infrastructure, known as Makoppa Solar PV, on Portion 1 of Farm 465 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province as described above.

Notification of refusal and right to appeal

2. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this record of refusal.
3. The notification referred to must –
 - 3.1. specify the date on which the record of refusal was issued,
 - 3.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2025,
 - 3.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the record of refusal will be furnished on request; and
 - 3.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

Date of Environmental Authorisation: 02/03/2026



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the application form received on 24 April 2025 and amended application form received on 11 December 2025.
- b) The information contained in the final EIAr dated 11 December 2025 specifically the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025.
- c) The comments received from Interested and Affected Parties and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) as included in the EIAr dated 11 December 2025.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the final EIAr and the EMPr for the facility and the generic EMPr dated 11 December 2025.
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the EIAr dated December 2025 and as appears below:
- f) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislations, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).

Name of Specialist Study	Title of specialist reports	Date issued of Report
Tarryn martin	Terrestrial biodiversity, plant and animal species	09 July 2025
Sam van Zwielen	Avifauna impact assessment	08 July 2025
Charles de Beer	Aquatic biodiversity specialist assessment	02/10/2025
Jenna Lavin	Heritage impact assessment	June 2024
Mariné Pienaar	Agricultural Assessment Report	9 July 2025
Tony Barbour and Schalk van der Merwe	Social impact assessment	July 2025

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was considered in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) The EIA dated 11 December 2025 failed to meet the requirements of Regulation 40(2) (a)(b)(c)(d), 41(6)(a) & (b) and 43(1) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations, as amended. Therefore, the information was inadequate for this Department to formulate a decision. As such, **a negative environmental authorisation is recommended.**

- Regulation 40(2)(a)(b)(c)(d) and (3) requires that-
 - (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*
 - (a) the competent authority,*
 - (b) every State department that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment relevant to an application for an environmental authorisation,*
 - (c) all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates, and*
 - (d) all potential, or, where relevant, registered interested and affected parties".*
 - (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 sub-regulation (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.*
- Regulation 41(6) (a) and (b) requires that *"when complying with this regulation, the person conducting the public participation process must ensure that-*
 - (a) information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application or proposed application is made available to potential interested and affected parties; and*
 - (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".*

- Regulation 43(1) requires that *"registered interested and affected parties are entitled to comment, in writing, on all reports ... 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"*.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The final EIAr, which was submitted on 11 December 2025 for review and decision-making, included the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025. The revised HIA introduces new and materially significant information arising from the community engagement session held on 25 November 2025, including additional mitigation measures linked to the Heritage Agreement and the Conservation Management Plan to be developed post-authorization. This constitutes a material update to the specialist report, which should have been re-circulated to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) for 30 days review and comment period before submission of the final report to the department for review and decision-making.
- b) Considering that the amended draft EIAr circulated from 07 November 2025 to 08 December 2025 included the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in July 2025, the EAP, on behalf of the Applicant, failed to circulate the HIA as further updated in December 2025 to potential interested and affected parties and to ensure that potential or registered interested and affected parties were afforded a reasonable opportunity to comment on the application.
- c) Furthermore, it is important to note that registered interested and affected parties, including this Department, did not have sight of nor submit written comments on the HIA dated June 2024 and subsequently updated in December 2025, to bring to the attention of the proponent or applicant any issues believed to be of significance to the consideration of the application.
- d) It has been noted that the HIA dated June 2024 and updated in December 2025 was not circulated to the Communal Property Association (CPA) despite the indication in the comments and response report (page 104) that "a revised HIA has been prepared and will be provided to the CPA for consideration." The EIAr does not contain any evidence demonstrating that the amended HIA was provided to the CPA for review and comment, notwithstanding that the revisions to the HIA were based on issues, comments, and inputs received from the CPA. This omission constitutes a material procedural defect and renders the EIAr non-compliant with the requirements of the public participation process as per the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

- e) Furthermore, the competent authority has noted, with concern, that the amended draft EIAr was not circulated to all required stakeholders as part of the public participation process. The proof of notification included in the EIAr indicates that the DFFE Biosphere Reserves Unit was only notified on 03 December 2025 and afforded an opportunity to submit comments on the amended draft EIAr by 08 December 2025, notwithstanding that the final EIAr was submitted to the CA on 11 December 2025. The omission of affected stakeholders, together with the insufficient timeframe provided for comment, constitutes non-compliance with Regulation 43 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).
- f) The review of the comments and response report submitted with the final EIAr raised concerns in relation to the response of the social impact assessment report, which highlighted the social benefits for the broader community. In response to the issue raised, the EAP indicated that *"if the project is granted Environmental Authorisation (EA) and the land claims are successful, the proponent will engage with the successful land claimants to discuss in more detail how local communities can benefit from the project"*. The Department submits that the EAP failed to accordingly address the concerns raised by the CPA during Public Participation Process.

In view of the above, the Competent Authority is of the opinion that the proposed listed activities will conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management stipulated in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998). Consequently, there is no sufficient, adequate, and reliable basis upon which the statutory discretion of the Competent Authority can be exercised in favour of the applicant, and therefore the application for Environmental Authorisation is refused.

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 13:14
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Zama Langa; Salome Mambane; ElAadmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Good day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS BETHEL SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 11 December 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998(Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act 1998 (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.

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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 ElAadmin@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. No zip files are to be attached in any email.



Batho pele – putting people first

The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and/or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

Francois Byleveld

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 13:28
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Lunga Dlova; Salome Mambane; ElAadmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Good day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

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Francois Byleveld

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 13:39
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Makhosi Yeni; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Good day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 11 December 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended

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

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Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 13:49
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Good day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 74-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 11 December 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended

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

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Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 12:26
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Final Environmental Impact Report and Revised Application form for the proposed Bethel Solar PV Facility and associated Grid Connection Infrastructure near Louis Trichardt in the Limpopo Province.
Attachments: Document control form Bethel Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications.

Kindly find the attached screenshot and document control form for the submission of the Final Environmental Impact Report and Revised Application form for the proposed Bethel Solar PV Facility and associated Grid connection infrastructure.

- Digital copies of the revised reports and all associated specialist studies are available on the Cape EAPrac Website and via DropBox direct download at the links provided in the Notification Letters (in English and Tshivenda).
- Hard copies of the reports inclusive of non-technical summaries in Tshivenda and Sepedi were available at:
 - o Viva Bandelierkop – N1 Main Road, Bandelierkop
 - o Munzhedzi Post Office – Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt.
 - o Vleifontein Municipal Office / SAPS – Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt

Public Open Day / Information Session.

- A Public Open Day / Meeting was held at the Vleifontein Community Hall in Louis Trichardt on 25 November 2025.
- This Open Day included a meeting with community members and members of some CPA's which was facilitated by the Ward Councillor.

Additional Steps for Enhanced Inclusivity and Transparency.

We would like to highlight several measures undertaken during this follow-up public participation period:

- The DEIR was updated and an additional 30-day comment period provided in line with the Regulations.
- A background information document was compiled and circulated in English and Tshivenda.
- Information Pamphlets were compiled and made available at the open-day in English, Tshivenda and Sepedi.
- Follow-up newspaper adverts were placed in English and Tshivenda.
- Additional site notices were erected in English and Tshivenda.
- Hard copies of reports were available at local venues for those without digital access.
- A translator was present at the open day to assist Tshivenda-speaking as well as Sepedi-speaking individuals and to capture comments from those unable to submit in writing.
- The project team was available at the open day to ensure direct engagement on issues such as land claims, socio-economic impacts, and mitigation responsibilities.

We confirm receipt of the numerous objections received via email from the Chatleka CPA, (some of which were copied to the Department)

All issues raised by the CPA have been considered in detail and responded to in the Comments and Responses Report in Appendix F2. Where necessary, additional specialist input was been obtained and the project proposal and impact management outcomes adapted accordingly in order to address the concerns raised.

Kind Regards,

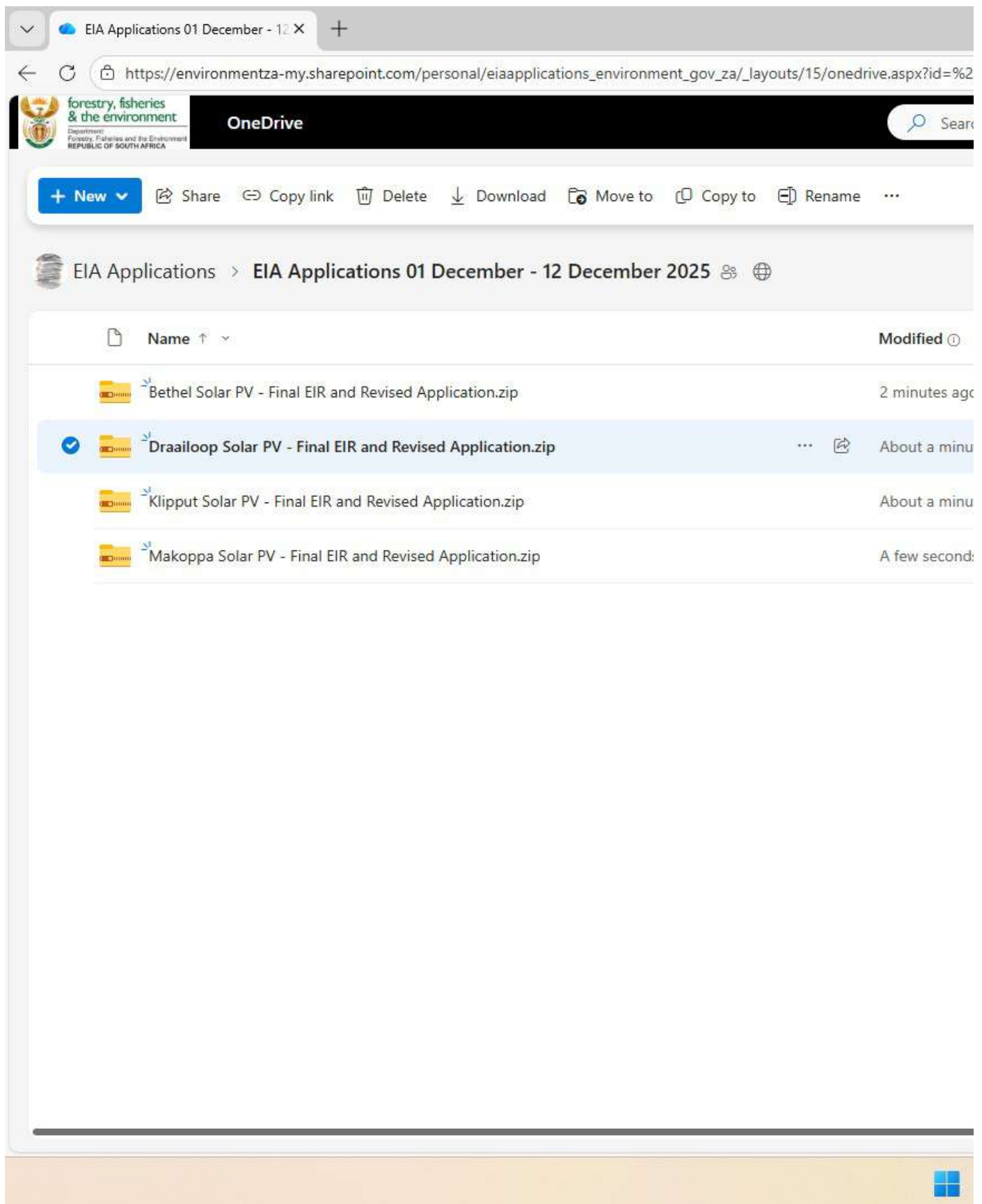
Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
 Cape EAPrac
 NDip Nat.Con
 EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 12:26
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Final Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility and associated grid connection infrastructure near Louis Trichardt in the Limpopo Province.
Attachments: Document control form Draailoop Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications.

Kindly find the attached screenshot and document control form for the submission of the Final Environmental Impact Report and Revised Application form for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility and associated Grid connection infrastructure.



Please note that this Final Environmental Impact Report is submitted following an additional stakeholder engagement process was undertaken following a Regulation 23(1)(b) notification. The additional stakeholder engagement that was undertaken is summarised as follows:

[Access to Reports and Specialist Studies.](#)

- Digital copies of the revised reports and all associated specialist studies are available on the Cape EAPrac Website and via DropBox direct download at the links provided in the Notification Letters (in English and Tshivenda).
- Hard copies of the reports inclusive of non-technical summaries in Tshivenda and Sepedi were available at:
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 - o Munzhedzi Post Office – Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt.
 - o Vleifontein Municipal Office / SAPS – Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt

Public Open Day / Information Session.

- A Public Open Day / Meeting was held at the Vleifontein Community Hall in Louis Trichardt on 25 November 2025.
- This Open Day included a meeting with community members and members of some CPA's which was facilitated by the Ward Councillor.

Additional Steps for Enhanced Inclusivity and Transparency.

We would like to highlight several measures undertaken during this follow-up public participation period:

- The DEIR was updated and an additional 30-day comment period provided in line with the Regulations.
- A background information document was compiled and circulated in English and Tshivenda.
- Information Pamphlets were compiled and made available at the open-day in English, Tshivenda and Sepedi.
- Follow-up newspaper adverts were placed in English and Tshivenda.
- Additional site notices were erected in English and Tshivenda.
- Hard copies of reports were available at local venues for those without digital access.
- A translator was present at the open day to assist Tshivenda-speaking as well as Sepedi-speaking individuals and to capture comments from those unable to submit in writing.
- The project team was available at the open day to ensure direct engagement on issues such as land claims, socio-economic impacts, and mitigation responsibilities.

We confirm receipt of the numerous objections received via email from the Chatleka CPA, (some of which were copied to the Department)

All issues raised by the CPA have been considered in detail and responded to in the Comments and Responses Report in Appendix F2. Where necessary, additional specialist input was been obtained and the project proposal and impact management outcomes adapted accordingly in order to address the concerns raised.

Kind Regards,

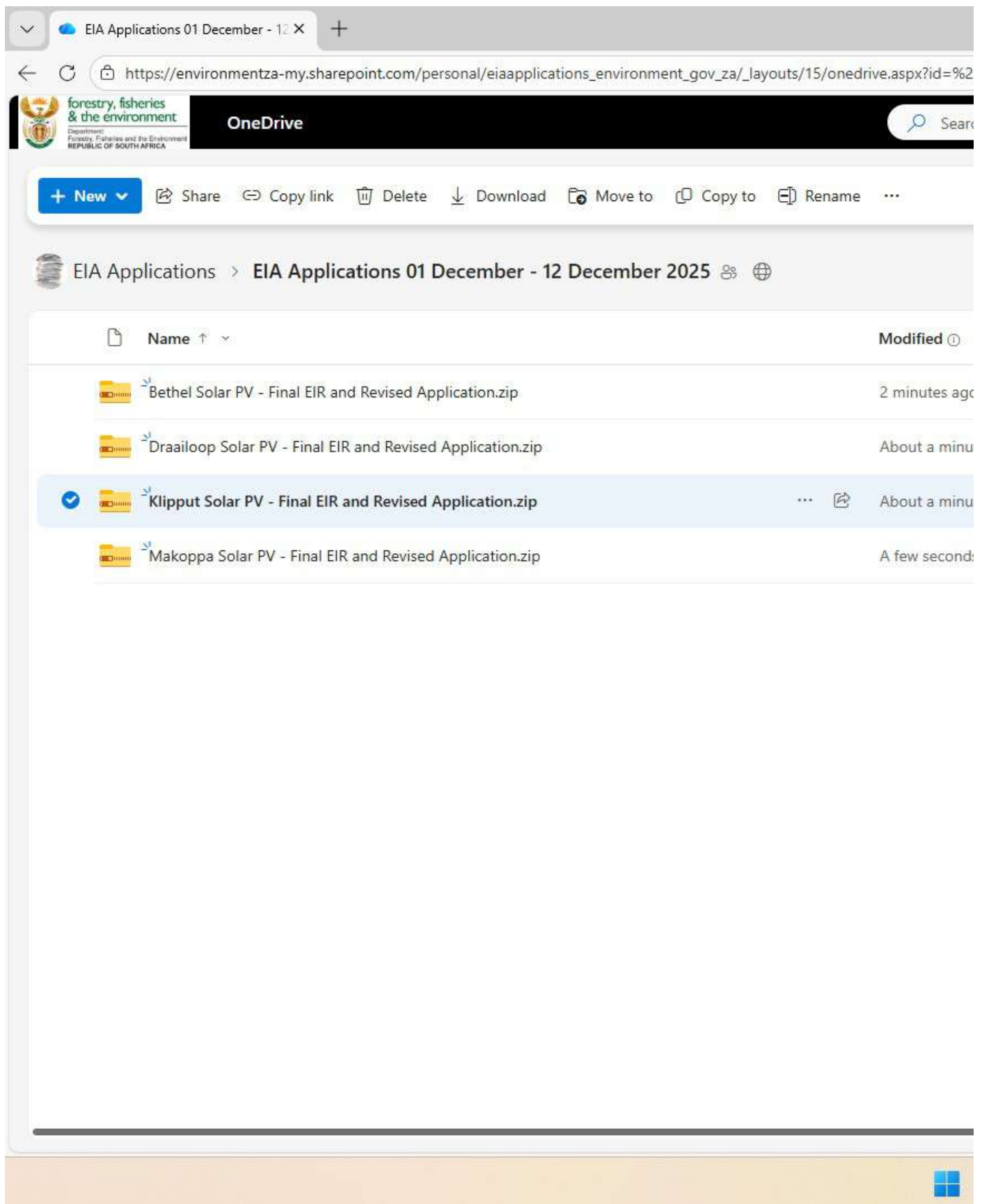
Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
 NDip Nat.Con
 EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 12:26
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Final Environmental Impact Report and Revised Application form for the Proposed Klipput Solar PV Facility and associated Grid Connection Infrastructure near Louis Trichardt in the Limpopo Province.
Attachments: Document control form Klipput Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications.

Kindly find the attached screenshot and document control form for the submission of the Final Environmental Impact Report and Revised Application form for the proposed Klipput Solar PV Facility and associated Grid connection infrastructure.



Please note that this Final Environmental Impact Report is submitted following an additional stakeholder engagement process was undertaken following a Regulation 23(1)(b) notification. The additional stakeholder engagement that was undertaken is summarised as follows:

[Access to Reports and Specialist Studies.](#)

- Digital copies of the revised reports and all associated specialist studies are available on the Cape EAPrac Website and via DropBox direct download at the links provided in the Notification Letters (in English and Tshivenda).
- Hard copies of the reports inclusive of non-technical summaries in Tshivenda and Sepedi were available at:
 - o Viva Bandelierkop – N1 Main Road, Bandelierkop
 - o Munzhedzi Post Office – Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt.
 - o Vleifontein Municipal Office / SAPS – Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt

Public Open Day / Information Session.

- A Public Open Day / Meeting was held at the Vleifontein Community Hall in Louis Trichardt on 25 November 2025.
- This Open Day included a meeting with community members and members of some CPA's which was facilitated by the Ward Councillor.

Additional Steps for Enhanced Inclusivity and Transparency.

We would like to highlight several measures undertaken during this follow-up public participation period:

- The DEIR was updated and an additional 30-day comment period provided in line with the Regulations.
- A background information document was compiled and circulated in English and Tshivenda.
- Information Pamphlets were compiled and made available at the open-day in English, Tshivenda and Sepedi.
- Follow-up newspaper adverts were placed in English and Tshivenda.
- Additional site notices were erected in English and Tshivenda.
- Hard copies of reports were available at local venues for those without digital access.
- A translator was present at the open day to assist Tshivenda-speaking as well as Sepedi-speaking individuals and to capture comments from those unable to submit in writing.
- The project team was available at the open day to ensure direct engagement on issues such as land claims, socio-economic impacts, and mitigation responsibilities.

We confirm receipt of the numerous objections received via email from the Chatleka CPA, (some of which were copied to the Department)

All issues raised by the CPA have been considered in detail and responded to in the Comments and Responses Report in Appendix F2. Where necessary, additional specialist input was been obtained and the project proposal and impact management outcomes adapted accordingly in order to address the concerns raised.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

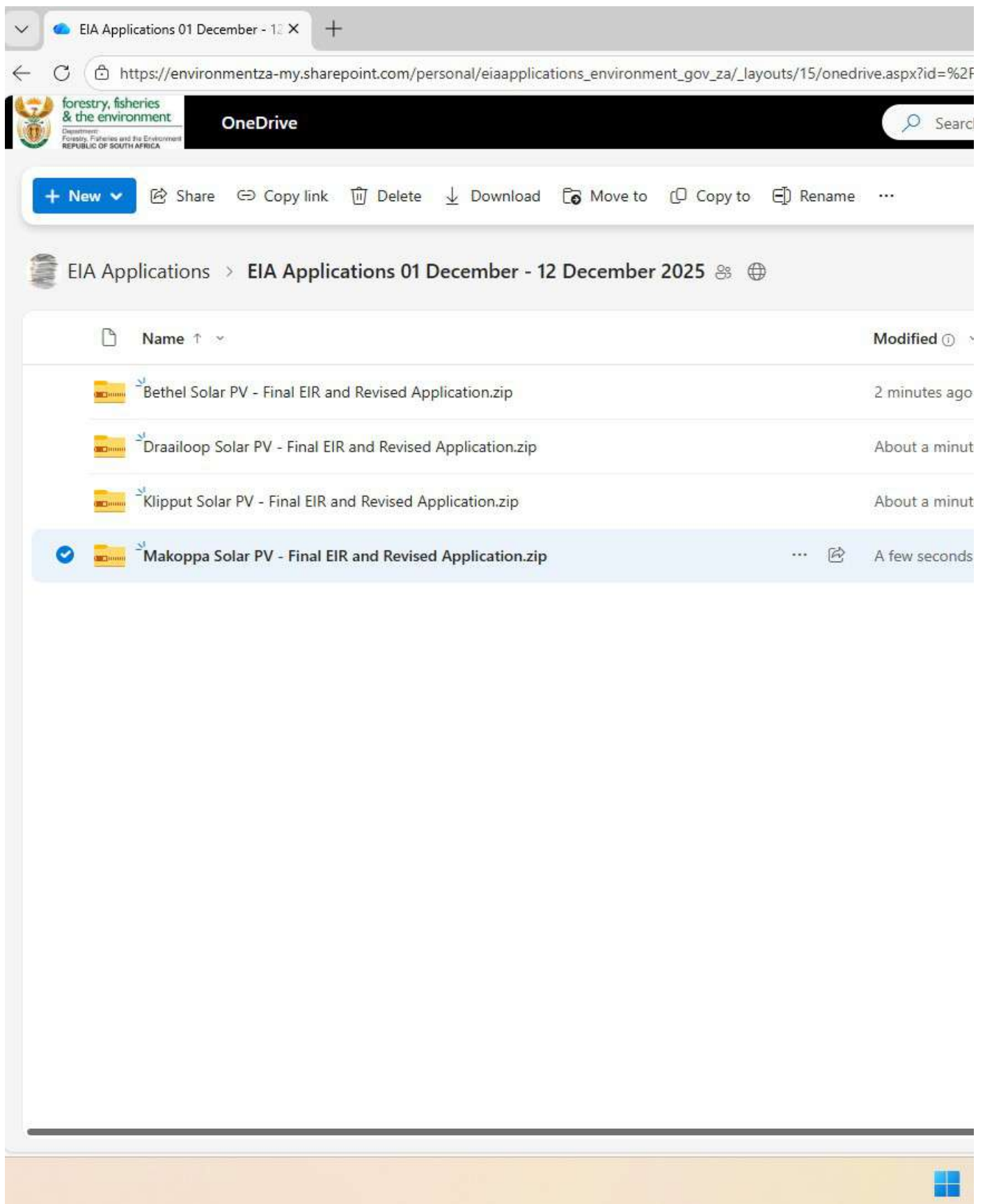
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 12:27
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Final Environmental Impact Report and Revised Application form for the proposed Makoppa Solar PV Facility and associated Grid Connection Infrastructure near Louis Trichardt in the Limpopo Province.
Attachments: Document control form Makoppa Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications.

Kindly find the attached screenshot and document control form for the submission of the Final Environmental Impact Report and Revised Application form for the proposed Makoppa Solar PV Facility and associated Grid connection infrastructure.



Please note that this Final Environmental Impact Report is submitted following an additional stakeholder engagement process was undertaken following a Regulation 23(1)(b) notification. The additional stakeholder engagement that was undertaken is summarised as follows:

[Access to Reports and Specialist Studies.](#)

- Digital copies of the revised reports and all associated specialist studies are available on the Cape EAPrac Website and via DropBox direct download at the links provided in the Notification Letters (in English and Tshivenda).
- Hard copies of the reports inclusive of non-technical summaries in Tshivenda and Sepedi were available at:
 - o Viva Bandelierkop – N1 Main Road, Bandelierkop
 - o Munzhedzi Post Office – Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt.
 - o Vleifontein Municipal Office / SAPS – Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt

Public Open Day / Information Session.

- A Public Open Day / Meeting was held at the Vleifontein Community Hall in Louis Trichardt on 25 November 2025.
- This Open Day included a meeting with community members and members of some CPA's which was facilitated by the Ward Councillor.

Additional Steps for Enhanced Inclusivity and Transparency.

We would like to highlight several measures undertaken during this follow-up public participation period:

- The DEIR was updated and an additional 30-day comment period provided in line with the Regulations.
- A background information document was compiled and circulated in English and Tshivenda.
- Information Pamphlets were compiled and made available at the open-day in English, Tshivenda and Sepedi.
- Follow-up newspaper adverts were placed in English and Tshivenda.
- Additional site notices were erected in English and Tshivenda.
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- The project team was available at the open day to ensure direct engagement on issues such as land claims, socio-economic impacts, and mitigation responsibilities.

We confirm receipt of the numerous objections received via email from the Chatleka CPA, (some of which were copied to the Department)

All issues raised by the CPA have been considered in detail and responded to in the Comments and Responses Report in Appendix F2. Where necessary, additional specialist input was been obtained and the project proposal and impact management outcomes adapted accordingly in order to address the concerns raised.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Enquiries: Ms Zama Langa

Telephone: (012) 399 9389 **E-mail:** Zlanga@dffe.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365
Cell phone Number: 082 448 9225
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE AMENDED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE BETHEL SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON FARM 431 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 21 August 2025, The Department's comments dated 19 September 2025, the notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) received 22 October 2025, the revised draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 06 November 2025 refer.

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

a) Listed Activities

- 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. Also ensure to choose the correct and relevant sub listing. Additionally, note that the onus is on the applicant and the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to ensure that all the applicable listed activities are included in the application. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays in the processing of the application.
- If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR and draft EIAR, 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 [RCSM Forms | Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment](#).



Batho pele- putting people first

The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others

N.N

b) Alternatives

- Alternatives as included in the amended draft EIAr are hereby noted. You are required to provide all the alternatives considered for this development as per Appendix 2 (2) (1) (g) (i) (v) (vi) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended in the final EIAr. Furthermore, the preferred options for all assessed alternatives must be determined and be clear throughout the final EIA report.
- Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2. However, note that no development will be allowed within sensitive areas, mitigation hierarchy should be considered to avoid impacts on sensitive environment.
- The preferred alternative must be aligned with the specialist's recommendations.

c) Locality, Site Layout and Sensitivity Maps

- The Preferred Site Layout Plan attached as Appendix D1 is hereby noted. You are reminded to include the final layout map in the final EIAr that includes the following:
 - The PV development area.
 - Preferred EGI alternative.
 - Position of all associated infrastructure e.g., panels, BESS, on-site substations, powerline route, etc.
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as permanent laydown area and auxiliary buildings including accommodation, dangerous goods facility etc.
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads.
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width).
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines, avifaunal habitat and nests etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure.
 - Buffer areas of all sensitive areas.
 - All "no-go" areas.
 - A north arrow and legend/ key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.
- All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the map and infrastructure must not encroach on highly sensitive areas as far as possible.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments.
- A combined map showing all the Cluster Projects (Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV).
- Ensure that similar colours are not used to differentiate between infrastructure. i.e., items must be easily distinguishable on the legend.
- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

d) Public Participation Process

- Page 51 of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment mentions that "***although the project area is not located within a protected area, it is located within a conservation area – the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR)***". You are reminded to seek input from DFFE's Biosphere Reserve Section (Mr Vongani Maringa- email: vmaringa@environment.gov.za) and the management authority of the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR) NPC - info@vhembecosphere.org as well as Limpopo Protected Areas/Biodiversity Directorate. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and incorporated in the EIAr. Should you not receive comments from these stakeholders, proof of consultation must be submitted with the final EIAr.
- The Department notes that the notification to make use of the additional 50-day period was intended to conduct further consultation and address issues raised by Chatleka CPA. Please note that, following the receipt of the amended draft EIA Report (EIAr), the Department received objections via emails dated 20 and 25 November 2025, which were sent to the EAP and copied to the Department. You are required to address and provide a comprehensive response to the CPA on all issues raised. This must be done prior submission of final EIAr. Proof that responses were sent to the CPA, along with copies of the responses, must be attached to the EIAr to be submitted to the Department. Furthermore, the objections and corresponding responses must be included in the Comments and Response Report and incorporated into the Final EIAr.

- Regarding the letter dated 10 June 2025 from the Office of the Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo, the research report by the Dithakone and Chatleka Community has been gazetted by the Land Claims Commissioner. It further states that the properties in question must not be disposed of, sold, or leased without expressed permission from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo. You are required to submit with the final EIAR, a letter from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo that gives permission to continue with the planned development.
- The letter by the applicant (Appendix G1e) regarding the advice the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo to not engage with the claimants representatives is also noted. However, this letter does not give details of the official that Mulilo engage with and date when the telephonic conversation happened.
- As such, the Department submits that should the final EIAR be submitted without the formal letter from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo, the outcome of consultation and proof that the abovementioned affected parties were consulted, it would be considered as non-compliance with the requirements of this letter and the EIA Regulations, 2024 as amended.
- Please ensure that all comments from the registered interested and affected parties and relevant competent authorities as well as stakeholders have been responded to, addressed and incorporated to the final EIAR. The identified stakeholders must include but are not limited to the **Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR) NPC-info@vhembebiosphere.org**, **Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE): Biosphere Reserves Section and Biodiversity Conservation Directorates (BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za)**, Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District Municipality, **Limpopo: Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET) EIA and Biodiversity Sections**, Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Department of Mineral Resources, Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA), Birdlife South Africa, Vulpro, South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO), Square Kilometer Array (SKA), Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS), Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), Eskom, SA National Defence Force and the relevant heritage authorities.
- It has been noted that the CPA raised the following concerns:
 - *"The method of communications by the EAP was limited to access to electronic communication while it was indicated that "the majority of the CPA beneficiaries are illiterate, reside in rural areas and do not have access to reliable internet, emails or other form of electronic communications."*
 - *Communication was in English, which excluded the majority of affected community members from participation in the EIA process.*
 - *It was highlighted the procedure was deficient, inconsistent with the principles of fair and transparent as contemplated in the NEMA and the EIA Regulations, as amended".*
 - *Considering the above, the CA advise you that based on the constitution of the communities in the area, communication must consider the use of local radio stations, advertisement, site notice and participation in the local languages (as advised in the comments dated 19 September 2025) to allow meaningful participation and approaches to community structures, committees and leaders.*
 - *The EAP is advised to reach illiterate, disabled and any other disadvantages I&APs as per Regulation 41(2)(e).*
 - *The EAP is advised to show an attempt made for the consultation i.e., having meetings with the local communities or their leaders or an investigation of their existence in the area considering the challenges in relation to communication and accessibility of the reports.*
- The PPP must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- A Comments and Responses trail report (C&RR) must be compiled, continuously updated throughout the EIA process for this proposed development starting with the draft SR. The C&RR must be a separate document from the main report and must be in the table format, which reflects the details of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), the date comments were received (actual comments received) and responses provided.
- Comments made by I&APs must be comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the EIAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the CA of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.

- Please ensure that the EIAr indicates when and where the draft SR and EIAr were made available for a 30-day review and comment period.

e) Cumulative Assessment

- Noting that this project is part of the cluster and there may 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:
 - The cumulative impacts assessment must consider the existing, authorised but not yet developed, the proposed similar development and powerline in the area.
 - 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.
 - The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.
 - A cumulative map that shows all the neighbouring PV Developments.

f) Specialists

- The findings of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment, Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment, and Avifaunal Specialist assessment are hereby noted. However, these reports must be submitted to DFFE's Biodiversity Mainstreaming-BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za, LEDET – EIA and Biodiversity Sections, Birdlife SA, Vulpro for comments. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and be incorporated in the final EIAr. You are requested to include in the CR&R on whether these studies were circulated to the abovementioned stakeholders and indicate the date as well as their responses. You are advised not to refer to the content of the specialist study or EIA report, however, provide response in the CR&R on how this was addressed.
- The Heritage Impact Assessment report must be submitted to SAHRA for comments. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and incorporated in the EIAr. You are requested to include in the CR&R on whether this study was circulated to the abovementioned stakeholders and indicate the date as well as their responses. You are advised not to refer to the content of the specialist study or EIA report, however, provide response in the CR&R on how this was addressed.
- You are reminded that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), are in effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.

g) Environmental Management Programme

- Part B: Section 2 of the generic EMPs for the powerline and substation must be completed, and a copy of an originally signed generic EMPs must be submitted with the EIAr. Please ensure that Point 7.1.1 in Part B: Section 2 match the details of the Applicant as contained in the amended application form and EIAr.
- If any specific environmental sensitivities/attributes are present on site which require more specific impact management outcomes and impact management actions, not included in the pre-approved generic EMP template, to manage such impacts, those impact management outcomes and actions must be included in Section C of the generic EMPs.
- The EMP for the facility must comply with the requirements of Appendix 4 in the EIA Regulation, as amended.

General

Where the proposed activity does not include operational aspects, please also ensure that the final EIAr includes the period for which the environmental authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are reminded that the final EIAr to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIAr must contain all information set out into the Regulations or comply with a protocol or minimum information requirements relevant to the application as identified and gazetted by the Minister in a government notice.

Regulation 23(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, states that: *"The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority -(a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, and an EMPr, which must 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 EIAr's 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 23(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *"The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the reports, and an EMPr, will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the competent authority, or where regulation 21(2) applies, within 156 days of receipt of application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the environmental impact assessment report or EMPr, 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 environmental impact assessment report or EMPr 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 23 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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Ms Nyiko Nkosi

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisations Projects

Date: 03/12/2025

cc:	Mr Andrew Pearson	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
	Matodzi Rathumbu	DEDET	Email: RathumbulM@ledet.gov.za

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Wednesday, 03 December 2025 14:29
To: Francois Byleveld
Subject: FW: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Attachments: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2698.pdf; Closure Letter.pdf

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfre.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 03 December 2025 14:28
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dfre.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfre.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfre.gov.za>; Andrew Pearson <andrew@mulilo.com>; rathumbuim@ledet.gov.za
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Good day.

Please find herein the attached letter for the above mentioned.

Please do not respond to this mailbox with any queries related to the decision been issued. All queries on the attached decision must be directed to official whose contact details is listed as enquiries.

I hope you find all in order.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
CD: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Sub-Directorate: IEA Administrations & Reporting
Tel: 012 399 9370
Email: lkutu@dfre.gov.za

Romans 11:36
To God be the Glory!!!



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DDFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Enquiries: Mr Lunga Dlova

Telephone: (012) 399 8524 **E-mail:** LDlova@ddfe.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365
Cell phone Number: 082 448 9225
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAIOOP SOLAR PV, ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 430 AND FARM 431 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 06 November 2025 refer.

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

a) **Public Participation Process**

- (i) The final EIAR must comply with all conditions of the acceptance of the scoping report dated 23 July 2025 and comments on the draft EIAR dated 22 September 2025. Please ensure that the Department's comments are addressed in the report as well as in the comments and response table.
- (ii) Ensure that the final EIAR includes proof that the key stakeholders received written notification of the proposed activity, and the draft EIAR. Comments made by interested and affected parties (I&APs) **(especially those made by Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA))** must be comprehensively captured and responded to clearly and fully in the comments and response report.



Batho pele – putting people first

The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and/or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

MEM

General

Where the proposed activity does not include operational aspects, please also ensure that the final EIAr includes the period for which the environmental authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are reminded that the final EIAr to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIAr must contain all information set out into the Regulations or comply with a protocol or minimum information requirements relevant to the application as identified and gazetted by the Minister in a government notice.

Regulation 23(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, states that: *"The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority -(a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, and an EMPr, which must 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 EIAr's 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 23(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *"The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the reports, and an EMPr, will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the competent authority, or where regulation 21(2) applies, within 156 days of receipt of application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the environmental impact assessment report or EMPr, 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 environmental impact assessment report or EMPr 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 23 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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

Signed by: Ms Masina Morudu

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisation Projects

Date: 04/12/2025.

cc:	Andrew Pearson	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
	Matodzi Rathumbu	Department of Economic Development, Environment & Tourism (DEDET)	Email: RathumbuM@ledet.gov.za

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 04 December 2025 12:13
To: Francois Byleveld
Subject: FW: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Attachments: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2699.pdf; Closure Letter.pdf

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfre.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 04 December 2025 12:05
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfre.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfre.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfre.gov.za>; Andrew Pearson <andrew@mulilo.com>; rathumbuim@ledet.gov.za
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Good day.

Please find herein the attached letter for the above mentioned.

Please do not respond to this mailbox with any queries related to the decision been issued. All queries on the attached decision must be directed to official whose contact details is listed as enquiries.

I hope you find all in order.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
CD: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Sub-Directorate: IEA Administrations & Reporting
Tel: 012 399 9370
Email: lkutu@dfre.gov.za

*Romans 11:36
To God be the Glory!!!*

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Wednesday, 03 December 2025 10:21
To: Lydia Kutu; Francois Byleveld
Cc: Makhosi Yeni; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Andrew Pearson; rathumbuim@ledet.gov.za; harmses@ledet.gov.za; municipal.manager@makhado.gov.za
Subject: RE: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2770

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Lydia

Thank you very much for the comment on the Klipput Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2770).

As a preliminary response to one of the comments (This will also be included formally with the submission of the Final EIR), please see below.

Bullet point 1 on page 2 of the report included the following comment:

- Considering that the amended draft report should be circulated inclusive of a or reports to allow the registered Interested and Affected Parties to provide Regulation 43 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended, the CA put forward the requirements of the aforesaid Regulations and that failure to note such compliance with its obligations under NEMA and the EIA Regulations.

Kindly note that the revised application form did form part of the Final EIR submitted to the CA (which was subsequently withdrawn). The revised application form was however not included in the Revised Draft EIR. Application forms are never included in documentation available to the I&AP's as they contain information protected in terms of POPIA (e.g. Landowner contact details). The relevant information in this revised application form (i.e. the updated descriptions of the relevant listed activities) was included in the Revised Draft EIR (section 3.1.2) that was available to I&AP's for review and comment. The revised application form will again be submitted to the CA along with the submission of the FEIR.

Regards,
Dale

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 03 December 2025 09:06

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfpe.gov.za>; ElAadmin <ElAadmin@dfpe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfpe.gov.za>; Andrew Pearson <andrew@mulilo.com>; rathumbuim@ledet.gov.za; harmses@ledet.gov.za; municipal.manager@makhado.gov.za
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2770

Good day.

Please find herein the attached letter for the above mentioned.

Please do not respond to this mailbox with any queries related to the decision been issued. All queries on the attached decision must be directed to official whose contact details is listed as enquiries.

I hope you find all in order.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
CD: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Sub-Directorate: IEA Administrations & Reporting
Tel: 012 399 9370
Email: lkutu@dfpe.gov.za

*Romans 11:36
To God be the Glory!!!*



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Enquiries: Ms Makhosazane Yeni

Telephone: (012) 399 9400 **E-mail:** MYeni@dffe.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
P.O Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365
Cellphone Number: 082 448 9225
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za / francois@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE AMENDED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) KLIPPUT SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The application for Environmental Authorisation, the 50 day notification received 22 October 2025 and the amended draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 06 November 2025 refer.

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

a) Project description and Listed Activities

- The review of the amended draft EIAR has revealed the following in response to the comments dated 19 September 2025:
 - “A revised application form will be submitted with the final EIAR to reflect the updated descriptions” and activity 24 of LN1, activity 14 and 18 of LN3. It is further mentioned that a revised application form is included in Appendix J, however, there is no Appendix J.
 - In response to our comments regarding activity 14 of Listing Notice (LN) 1 applied for, it is mentioned that a revised application form is included in Appendix H, however, there is no application form in Appendix H”.



OL

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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

- Considering that the amended draft report should be circulated inclusive of all the relevant information or reports to allow the registered Interested and Affected Parties to provide comments as per the Regulation 43 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended, the CA put forward the non-compliance with the requirements of the aforesaid Regulations and that failure to note such advice constitutes non-compliance with its obligations under NEMA and the EIA Regulations.
- You are reminded to ensure that all the dimensions/sizes of associated infrastructure (i.e. roads, pipelines, etc) as detailed in the amended draft EIAr are included in the amended application form to be submitted with the final EIAr.
- Please ensure that all relevant activities listed are applied for are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. In addition, the onus is on the applicant and the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to ensure that all the applicable listed activities are included in the application form and the EIAr. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays in the processing of the application.
- If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the EIAr an amended application form must be submitted with the EIAr. 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>.

b) Alternatives

- Alternatives as included in the amended draft EIAr are hereby noted. You are required to provide all the alternatives considered for this development as per Appendix 2 (2) (1) (g) (i) (v) (vi) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended in the final EIAr. Furthermore, the preferred options for all assessed alternatives must be determined and be clear throughout the final EIA report.
- Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2. However, note that no development will be allowed within sensitive areas, mitigation hierarchy should be considered to avoid impacts on sensitive environment.
- The preferred alternative must be aligned with the specialist's recommendations.

c) Layout and Sensitivity Maps

- The Preferred Site Layout Plan attached as Appendix D1 is hereby noted. You are reminded to include the final layout map in the final EIAr that includes the following:
 - The PV development area.
 - Preferred EGI alternative.
 - Position of all associated infrastructure e.g., panels, BESS, on-site substations, powerline route, etc.
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as permanent laydown area and auxiliary buildings including accommodation, dangerous goods facility etc.
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads.
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width).
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines, avifaunal habitat and nests etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure.
 - Buffer areas of all sensitive areas.
 - All "no-go" areas.
 - A north arrow and legend/ key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.
- All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the map and infrastructure must not encroach on highly sensitive areas as far as possible.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments.
- A combined map showing all the Cluster Projects (Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV).
- Ensure that similar colours are not used to differentiate between infrastructure. i.e., items must be easily distinguishable on the legend.

- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

d) **Public Participation Process (PPP)**

- Page 53 of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment mentions that ***“although the project area is not located within a protected area, it is located within a conservation area – the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR)”***. You are reminded to seek input from DFFE’s Protected Areas Section and Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR) NPC - info@vhembecosphere.org as well as Limpopo Protected Areas/Biodiversity Directorate. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and incorporated in the EIAR. **Should it be that Section 50(5) in terms of NEM: PAA is required, you are advised to obtain such and include it in the final EIAR.**
- The response to our comments regarding *“the issue raised on 06 May 2025 by Motz Ntmo regarding land claims affecting multiple farms identified, including Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 466, and Portion 1 of Farm 466”* that needed to be addressed, is hereby noted. However, the objections in the form of emails dated 20 and 25 November 2025 where the Department was copied must be addressed, responded to and incorporated into the final EIAR.
- Regarding the letter dated 10 June 2025 from the Office of the Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo, the research report by the Dithakone and Chatleka Community has been gazetted by the Land Claims Commissioner. It further states that the properties in question must not be disposed of, sold, or leased without expressed permission from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo. You are required to submit with the final EIAR, a letter from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo that gives permission to continue with the planned development.
- The letter by the applicant (Appendix G1e) regarding the advice the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo to not engage with the claimants representatives is also noted. However, this letter does not give details of the official and date when the telephonic conversation happened.
- As such, the Department submits that should the final EIAR be submitted without the formal letter from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo, the outcome of consultation and proof that the abovementioned affected parties were consulted, it would be considered as non-compliance with the requirements of this letter and the EIA Regulations, 2024 as amended.
- Please ensure that all comments from the registered interested and affected parties and relevant competent authorities as well as stakeholders have been responded to, addressed and incorporated to the final EIAR. The identified stakeholders must include but are not limited to the **Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR) NPC-info@vhembecosphere.org**, **Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE): Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness and Biodiversity Conservation Directorates (BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za)**, Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District Municipality, Limpopo: **Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET) EIA and Biodiversity Sections**, Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Department of Mineral Resources, Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA), Birdlife South Africa, Vulpro, South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO), Square Kilometer Array (SKA), Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS), Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), Eskom, SA National Defence Force and the relevant heritage authorities.
- It has been noted that the CPA raised the following concerns:
 - *“The method of communications by the EAP was limited to access to electronic communication while it was indicated that “the majority of the CPA beneficiaries are illiterate, reside in rural areas and do not have access to reliable internet, emails or other form of electronic communications.”*
 - *Communication was in English, which excluded the majority of affected community members from participation in the EIA process.*
 - *It was highlighted the procedure was deficient, inconsistent with the principles of fair and transparent as contemplated in the NEMA and the EIA Regulations, as amended”.*
 - *Considering the above, the CA advise you that based on the constitution of the communities in the area, communication must consider the use of local radio stations, advertisement, site notice and participation*

in the local languages (as advised in the comments dated 19 September 2025) to allow meaningful participation and approaches to community structures, committees and leaders.

- *The EAP is advised to reach illiterate, disabled and any other disadvantages I&APs as per Regulation 41(2)(e).*
- *The EAP is advised to show an attempt made for the consultation i.e., having meetings with the local communities or their leaders or an investigation of their existence in the area considering the challenges in relation to communication and accessibility of the reports.*
- The PPP must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- A Comments and Responses trail report (C&RR) must be compiled, continuously updated throughout the EIA process for this proposed development starting with the draft SR. The C&RR must be a separate document from the main report and must be in the table format, which reflects the details of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), the date comments were received (actual comments received) and responses provided.
- Comments made by I&APs must be comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as “noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments.
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the EIAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the CA of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- Please ensure that the EIAr indicates when and where the draft SR and EIAr were made available for a 30-day review and comment period.

e) **Specialist Assessments**

- The findings of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment, Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment, and Avifaunal Specialist assessment are hereby noted. However, these reports must be submitted to DFFE’s Biodiversity Mainstreaming-BCAdmin@dfpe.gov.za, LEDET – EIA and Biodiversity Sections, Birdlife SA, Vulpro for comments. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and be incorporated in the final EIAr. **You are requested to include in the CR&R on whether these studies were circulated to the abovementioned stakeholders and indicate the date as well as their responses. You are advised not to refer to the content of the specialist study or EIA report, however, provide response in the CR&R on how this was addressed.**
- The Heritage Impact Assessment report must be submitted to SAHRA for comments. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and incorporated in the EIAr. **You are requested to include in the CR&R on whether this study was circulated to the abovementioned stakeholders and indicate the date as well as their responses. You are advised not to refer to the content of the specialist study or EIA report, however, provide response in the CR&R on how this was addressed.**
- You are reminded that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. “the Protocols”), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), are in effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.

f) **Environmental Management Programme**

- Part B: Section 2 of the generic EMPs for the powerline and substation must be completed, and a copy of an originally signed generic EMPs must be submitted with the EIAr. Please ensure that Point 7.1.1 in Part B: Section 2 match the details of the Applicant as contained in the amended application form and EIAr.
- If any specific environmental sensitivities/attributes are present on site which require more specific impact management outcomes and impact management actions, not included in the pre-approved generic EMP template, to manage such impacts, those impact management outcomes and actions must be included in Section C of the generic EMPs.

- The EMPr for the facility must comply with the requirements of Appendix 4 in the EIA Regulation, as amended.

g) Cumulative Assessment

- Noting that this project is part of the cluster and there may 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:
 - The cumulative impacts assessment must consider the existing, authorised but not yet developed, the proposed similar development and powerline in the area.
 - 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.
 - The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

General

Where the proposed activity does not include operational aspects, please ensure that the final EIAR 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 3(3)(1)(r) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are reminded that the final EIAR to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIAR must contain all information set out into the Regulations or comply with a protocol or minimum information requirements relevant to the application as identified and gazetted by the Minister in a government notice.

Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 23 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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment

Letter signed by: Ms. Olivia Letlalo

Designation: Deputy Director: Prioritised Infrastructure Projects

Date: 02/12/2025

cc:	Mr. Andrew Pearson	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Tel: 021 685 3240 Cell: 084 7224855	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
	Matodzi Rathumbu	DEDET	Tel: 015 293 8648 Cell: 079 3410018	Email: RathumbulM@ledet.gov.za/ harmeses@ledet.gov.za
	Ms Nokwanda Nkosi	Makhado Local Municipality	Tel: 015 519 3003	Email: municipal.manager@makhado.gov.za

Francois Byleveld

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 03 December 2025 09:06
To: Dale Holder; Francois Byleveld
Cc: Makhosi Yeni; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Andrew Pearson;
rathumbuim@ledet.gov.za; harmses@ledet.gov.za;
municipal.manager@makhado.gov.za
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2770
Attachments: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2770.pdf; Closure Letter.pdf

Good day.

Please find herein the attached letter for the above mentioned.

Please do not respond to this mailbox with any queries related to the decision been issued. All queries on the attached decision must be directed to official whose contact details is listed as enquiries.

I hope you find all in order.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
CD: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Sub-Directorate: IEA Administrations & Reporting
Tel: 012 399 9370
Email: lkutu@dffe.gov.za

*Romans 11:36
To God be the Glory!!!*



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Enquiries: Ms Thulisile Nyalunga

Telephone: (012) 399 9405 **E-mail:** TNyalunga@dffe.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365
Cell phone Number: 082 448 9225
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE AMENDED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE UP TO 74 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 465 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and amended Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 06 November 2025 refer.

a) Amended Draft EIAR

- (i) The Department received multiple objections to the revised DEIAR. The Chatleka CPAs expressed concerns about the Heritage Impact Assessment, Agricultural Compliance Statement, Public Participation Process, failure to Recognize Land Claim Rights, Social Impact Assessment (SIA), and Visual Impact Assessment for your application. You are hereby requested to review all concerns submitted by the Chatleka CPAs and provide a comprehensive written response to each issue raised. The final EIAR must clearly demonstrate how each objection or concern has been addressed. Your responses may be supported by any relevant information, evidence, or documentation. Please ensure that all the issues that were raised in this Department's comments on the draft EIAR dated 19 September 2025, are adequately addressed.



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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

b) Public Participation Process

- (i) Please ensure that every concern raised during the public participation process is adequately addressed.
- (ii) The public participation process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- (iii) A Comments and Responses trail report (C&RR) must be compiled and continuously updated throughout the EIA process for this proposed development starting with the draft SR. The C&RR must be a separate document from the main report and must be in the table format, which reflects the details of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), the date comments were received (actual comments received) and responses provided.
- (iv) Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the EIAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the CA of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (v) The final EIAr must comply with all conditions of the acceptance of the scoping report dated 21 July 2025. Please ensure that the Department's comments are addressed in the report as well as in the comments and response table.
- (vi) Please ensure that the final EIAr includes proof that the key stakeholders received written notification of the proposed activity, and the draft EIAr. Comments made by interested and affected parties (I&APs) must be comprehensively captured and responded to clearly and fully in the comments and response report.

General

Please ensure that the final EIAr includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 23(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: "The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report, or, where regulation 21(2) applies, within 106 days of the date of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority – (a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, an EMP, a closure plan in the case of a closure activity and where the application is a mining application, the plans, report and calculations contemplated in the Financial Provisioning Regulations, which must 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 you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 23 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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Ms Sindiswa Dlomo

Designation: Deputy Director: National Integrated Authorisation Projects

Date: 03/12/2025

CC:	Andrew Pearson	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: andrew@mulilo.com
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Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Wednesday, 03 December 2025 12:58
To: Francois Byleveld
Subject: FW: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701
Attachments: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2701.pdf; Closure Letter.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfre.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 03 December 2025 12:15
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfre.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfre.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfre.gov.za>; Andrew Pearson <andrew@mulilo.com>
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Good day.

Please find herein the attached letter for the above mentioned.

Please do not respond to this mailbox with any queries related to the decision been issued. All queries on the attached decision must be directed to official whose contact details is listed as enquiries.

I hope you find all in order.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
CD: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Sub-Directorate: IEA Administrations & Reporting
Tel: 012 399 9370
Email: lkutu@dfre.gov.za

*Romans 11:36
To God be the Glory!!!*

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 01 December 2025 07:53
To: Nyiko Nkosi; Thulisile Nyalunga
Cc: Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa
Subject: RE: Tabor Cluster - Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Nyiko and DFFE Team

This email serves to provide some feedback on the additional consultation that took place for the Tabor projects (Draailoop PV, Bethel BV, Klipput PV and Makoppa PV).

We have completed the public open day / meeting at the community centre within the ward this Tuesday (25 November). This open day / meeting was well attended, with various members of the public, Ward Councillor, Municipal officials and some of the local CPA's in attendance. The outcome of the open day was largely positive and in support of the project. A full synthesis of the discussions and comments from the meeting will be provided to the Department.

We had TsiVenda and Setswana translators available at the meeting and were able to communicate details of the project and capture comments in I&AP's language of choice.

We will provide full details of the additional Public Participation undertaken with the submission of the Final EIR. In summary, the following additional steps were undertaken with as part of the Revised EIR Consultation.

- The Revised EIR's included summaries in both TsiVenda and Setswana.
- An additional advert notifying I&AP's of the Availability of the Revised Draft EIR and details of the public open day was placed in the press in both English and TsiVenda.
- Additional site notices (in English and TsiVenda) detailing the availability of the Revised Draft EIR were placed on site and at the Vleifontein Community Hall.
- Background information brochures in English, TsiVenda and Setswana were placed at the Vleifontein Community Centre and the Municipal Offices.
- Hardcopies of the Revised Draft EIR's were placed at the Vleifontein Community Hall, Viva Bandelierskop Filling Station, Vleifontein Post Office and the Municipal Offices.
- Additional Notices with QR codes to direct download links of the Reports were placed at the Vleifontein Community Hall and the Municipal Offices.

I have also noted that the Chatleka CPA have copied the Department directly in some of the comments that they have submitted. These will be included in the FEIA submission along with the detailed responses. We are in the process of responding in detail to each comment with input from the project applicant and relevant specialists.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dfre.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 12:40
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfre.gov.za>
Cc: Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dfre.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dfre.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dfre.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfre.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dfre.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfre.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dfre.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dfre.gov.za>
Subject: RE: Tabor Cluster - Meeting

Dear Dale

Please send it to the EIA Applications and copy us in the correspondence.

You must first withdraw the submission of the EIAR. Once the Department acknowledges your withdrawal email, you may then proceed to submit in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b).

Regards

Ms Nyiko Nkosi
Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisations Projects
Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Tel No: 012 399 9392
Cell No: 071 607 2145

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Monday, 20 October 2025 15:03
To: Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dfre.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfre.gov.za>
Cc: Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dfre.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dfre.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dfre.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfre.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dfre.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfre.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dfre.gov.za>
Subject: RE: Tabor Cluster - Meeting

Dear Colleagues

Following our meeting on 16 November 2025, the below email of 17 November 2025 as well as discussions with the applicant, I can confirm the following:

1. We will withdraw the submissions of the Final EIR's for all 4 projects making up the Tabor Cluster (i.e. Draailoop, Bethel, Klipput and Makoppa Solar PV).
2. Concurrent to the withdrawal of the Final EIR's, we will notify the Department in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b).

The additional 50 days (i.e. submission of the Final EIR within 156 days from acceptance of the Final Scoping Report) provided under Regulation 23(1)(b) will be sufficient for us to conclude the additional public participation process.

Could you kindly advise whether the withdrawal of the Final EIRs and the Regulation 23(1)(b) notifications be submitted to the respective case officers, or should this be submitted to EIA Applications?

Kind Regards,
Dale

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dfpe.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 17 October 2025 13:26
To: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfpe.gov.za>; Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dfpe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dfpe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dfpe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfpe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dfpe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfpe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dfpe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: Tabor Cluster - Meeting

Dear Dale

With Regards to the second option which entails withdrawing the applications and making use of Regulations 21(2), please take note that you need to withdraw the submission of final EIAR and not the application , then let the application lapse while you are redoing the public participation process. After it lapsed you will then make use of Regulation 21 (2)

With regard to the second option, which entails withdrawing the submission and making use of Regulation 21(2), please take note of the following:

- You must withdraw the submission of the final EIAR, not the application itself. Thereafter, you should allow the application to lapse while you redo the public participation process. Once the application has lapsed, you may then rely on Regulation 21(2).
- if you withdraw the application, Regulation 21(2) will not apply, as the application must either lapse or be refused in order for the regulation to be used.

Regulation 21 (2) which states:

“2. Subject to [regulation 46](#), and if the findings of the scoping report is still valid and the environmental context has not changed, the submission of a scoping report as contemplated in sub-regulation (1) need not be complied with-

- (a) in cases where a scoping report was accepted as part of a previous application for environmental authorisation and the application has **lapsed or was refused** because of insufficient information;*
- (b) on condition that [regulation 16](#) is complied with and that such application is accompanied by proof that registered interested and affected parties, who participated in the public participation process conducted as part of the previous application, have been notified of this intended resubmission of the application prior to submission of such application;*
- (c) if the application contemplated in paragraph (b) is submitted by the same applicant for the same development, as applied for and lapsed or refused as contemplated in paragraph (a); and*

(d) if an environmental impact assessment report and the documents contemplated in [regulation 23\(1\)\(a\)](#), which must 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, is submitted within a period of two years from the date of the acceptance of the scoping report contemplated in paragraph (a).

Alternatively, you may withdraw the submission of the final EIAr and submit a Regulation 23(1)(b)- notification to make use of the additional 50 days. However, I am not sure whether the additional 50 days will be sufficient for you to redo the public participation process.

Please also note that, according to the Department's records, the final EIAr submission was due on 10 November 2025.

I trust this will assist you in your discussions with the applicant.

Regards

Ms Nyiko Nkosi
Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisations Projects
Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Tel No: 012 399 9392
Cell No: 071 607 2145

From: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 15 October 2025 14:03
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dffe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: Tabor Cluster - Meeting

Dear Dale

Kindly send the link for tomorrow's meeting at 12:00.

Regards

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 15 October 2025 13:57
To: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: Tabor Cluster - Meeting

Dear Thulisile

Sorry, I couldn't get through to your extension.

I have discussed the proposed meeting with Louise-Mari, and we are available tomorrow at 12:00.

Can you extend the Teams invite to us and all necessary officials?

Kind Regards,

Dale

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

Francois Byleveld

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 14:00
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Zama Langa; Salome Mambane; ElAadmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Good day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS BETHEL SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the abovementioned project on 06 November 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998(Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act 1998 (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.

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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 ElAadmin@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. No zip files are to be attached in any email.



Batho pele – putting people first

The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and/or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 14:12
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Lunga Dlova; Salome Mambane; ElAadmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Good day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the abovementioned project on 06 November 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998(Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended

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From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 14:28
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Makhosi Yeni; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Good day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the abovementioned project on 06 November 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998(Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended

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Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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Francois Byleveld

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 14:42
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Good day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 74-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the abovementioned project on 06 November 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998(Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended

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

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Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 10:57
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Zama Langa; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin; Ephron Maradwa
Subject: RE: Submission of Revised Draft EIR and EMPr for Bethel Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Attachments: Document control form Bethel Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications.

My apologies, but I forgot to attach the document control form to the below submission.

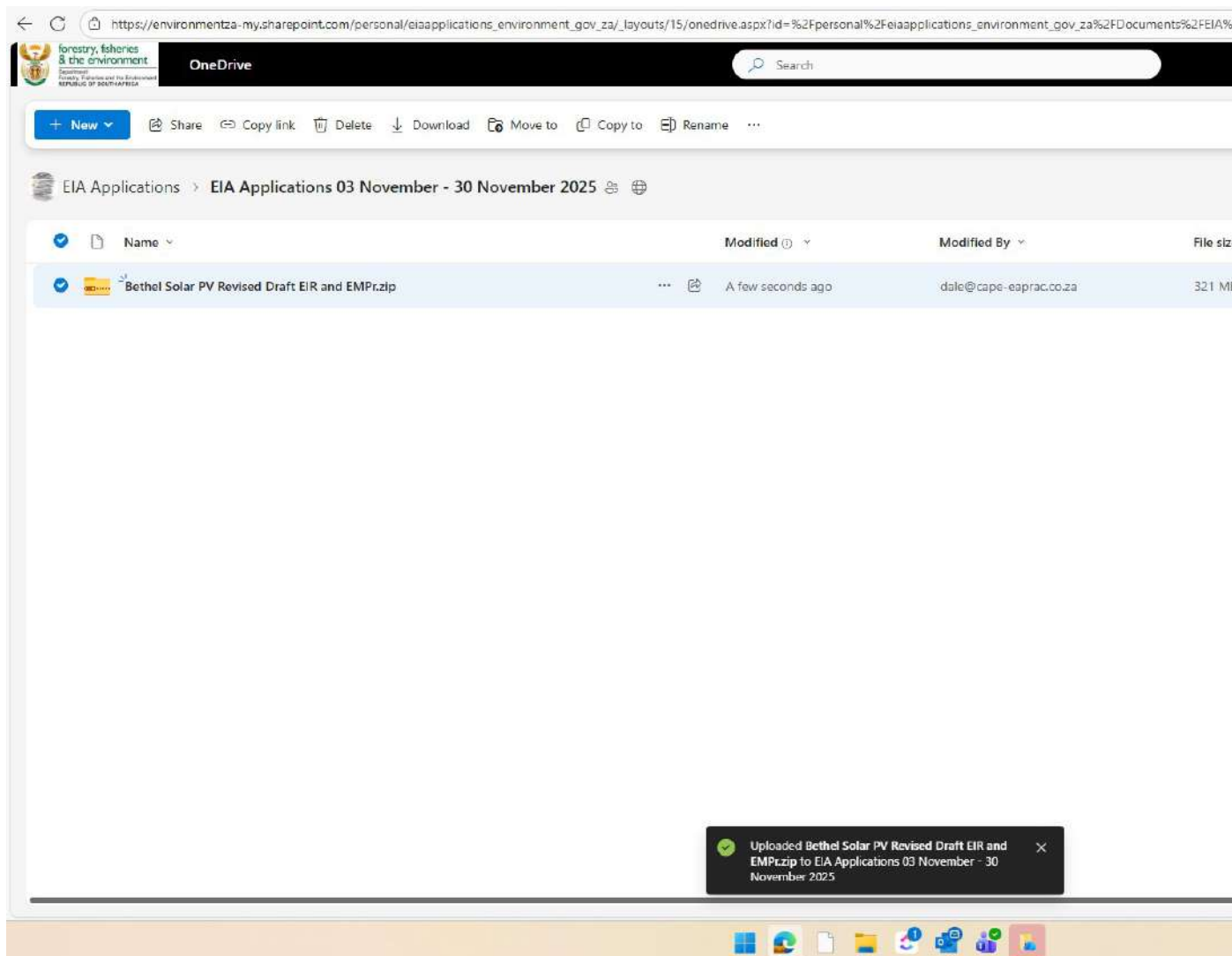
Regards,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 10:55
To: EIA Applications <eiaapplications@dfre.gov.za>
Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dfre.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfre.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfre.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dfre.gov.za>
Subject: Submission of Revised Draft EIR and EMPr for Bethel Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear EIA Applications

Kindly find attached screenshot and document control form for the submission of the Revised Draft EIR and EMPr for the Proposed Bethel Solar PV and associated infrastructure.



This Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report is available to all registered interested and affected parties for a further 30 day review and comment period extending from 07 November 2025 – 08 December 2025.

Kindly note that a public open day / information sharing session is being held on 25 November 2025 at the Vleifontein Community Hall between 12:00 and 19:00. The Competent Authority is welcome to attend this meeting / information sharing session, should they wish to do so.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
 NDip Nat.Con
 EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dfpe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 23 October 2025 09:22
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dfpe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfpe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfpe.gov.za>
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Good Day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION IN TERMS REGULATION 23(1)(B), OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS BETHEL SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended for the abovementioned project on 22 October 2025.

Please take note of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that *“and that the revised reports or EMPs or, where applicable, a closure plan will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days.”*

Further 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 in terms of Regulation 3(7) of these Regulations.

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

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Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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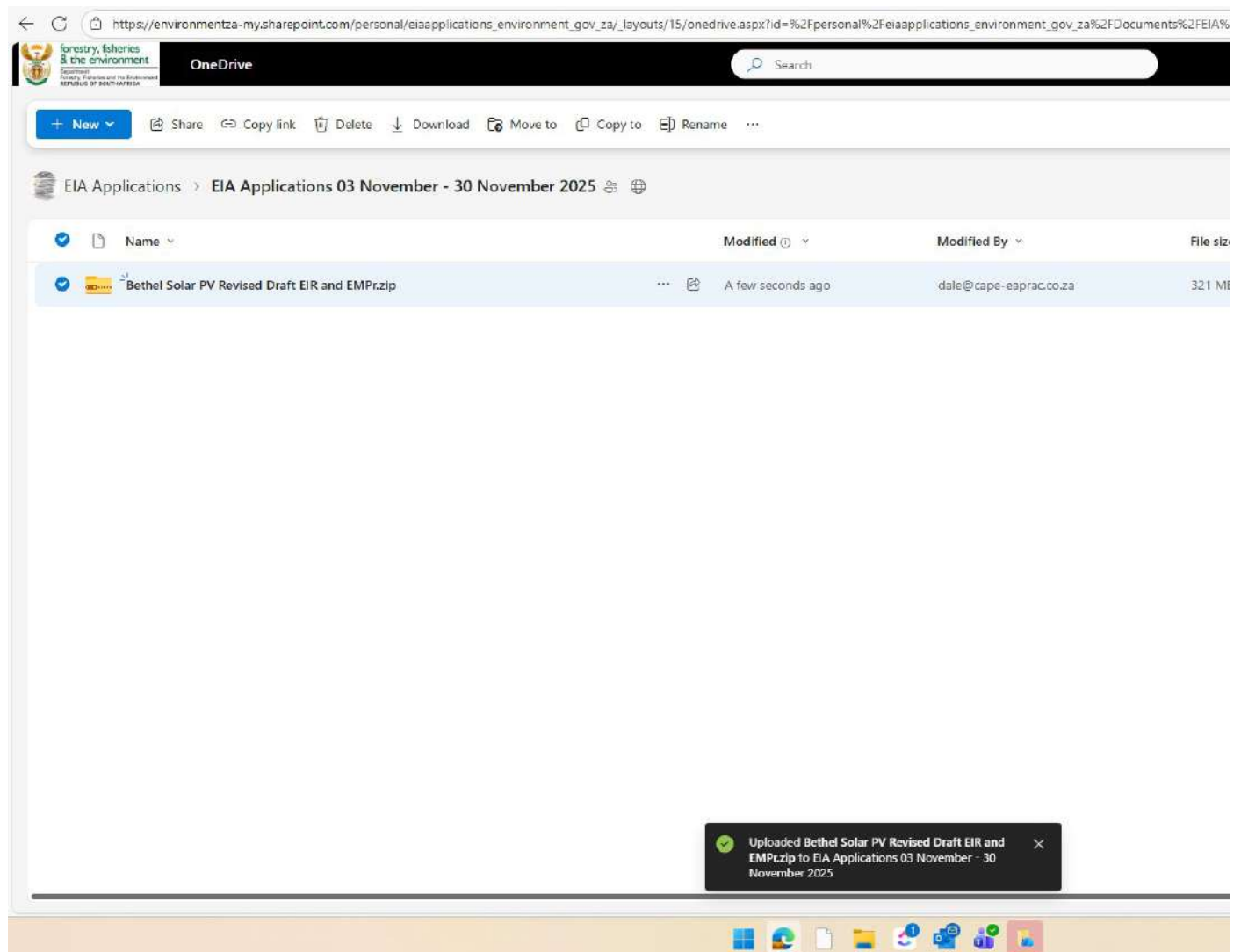
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Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 10:55
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Zama Langa; Salome Mambane; EIAadmin; Ephron Maradwa
Subject: Submission of Revised Draft EIR and EMPr for Bethel Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear EIA Applications

Kindly find attached screenshot and document control form for the submission of the Revised Draft EIR and EMPr for the Proposed Bethel Solar PV and associated infrastructure.



This Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report is available to all registered interested and affected parties for a further 30 day review and comment period extending from 07 November 2025 – 08 December 2025.

Kindly note that a public open day / information sharing session is being held on 25 November 2025 at the Vleifontein Community Hall between 12:00 and 19:00. The Competent Authority is welcome to attend this meeting / information sharing session, should they wish to do so.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 23 October 2025 09:22
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Good Day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION IN TERMS REGULATION 23(1)(B), OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS BETHEL SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended for the abovementioned project on 22 October 2025.

Please take note of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that *“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.”*

Further 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 in terms of Regulation 3(7) of these Regulations.

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Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 11:02
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Lunga Dlova; Salome Mambane; EIAadmin; Ephron Maradwa
Subject: Submission of Revised Draft EIR and EMPr for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Attachments: Document control form Klipput Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications

Kindly find attached screenshot and document control form for the submission of the Revised Draft EIR and EMPr for the Proposed Draailoop Solar PV and associated infrastructure.

← ↻ https://environmentza-my.sharepoint.com/personal/eiaapplications_environment_gov_za/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Feiaapplications_envir



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 EIA Applications > EIA Applications 03 November - 30 November 2025  

 Name ▾	Modified ⓘ ▾	Modified By
  Draailoop Solar PV Revised Draft EIR and EMPr.zip ... 	A few seconds ago	dale@cape-
 Application for EA for the expansion of an existing cattle feedlot on the farm Moray, FS within the V...	7 minutes ago	charlotte@g
 Bethel Solar PV Revised Draft EIR and EMPr.zip	14 minutes ago	dale@cape-



This Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report is available to all registered interested and affected parties for a further 30 day review and comment period extending from 07 November 2025 – 08 December 2025.

Kindly note that a public open day / information sharing session is being held on 25 November 2025 at the Vleifontein Community Hall between 12:00 and 19:00. The Competent Authority is welcome to attend this meeting / information sharing session, should they wish to do so.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 23 October 2025 09:40
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Good Day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION IN TERMS REGULATION 23(1)(B), OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended for the abovementioned project on 22 October 2025.

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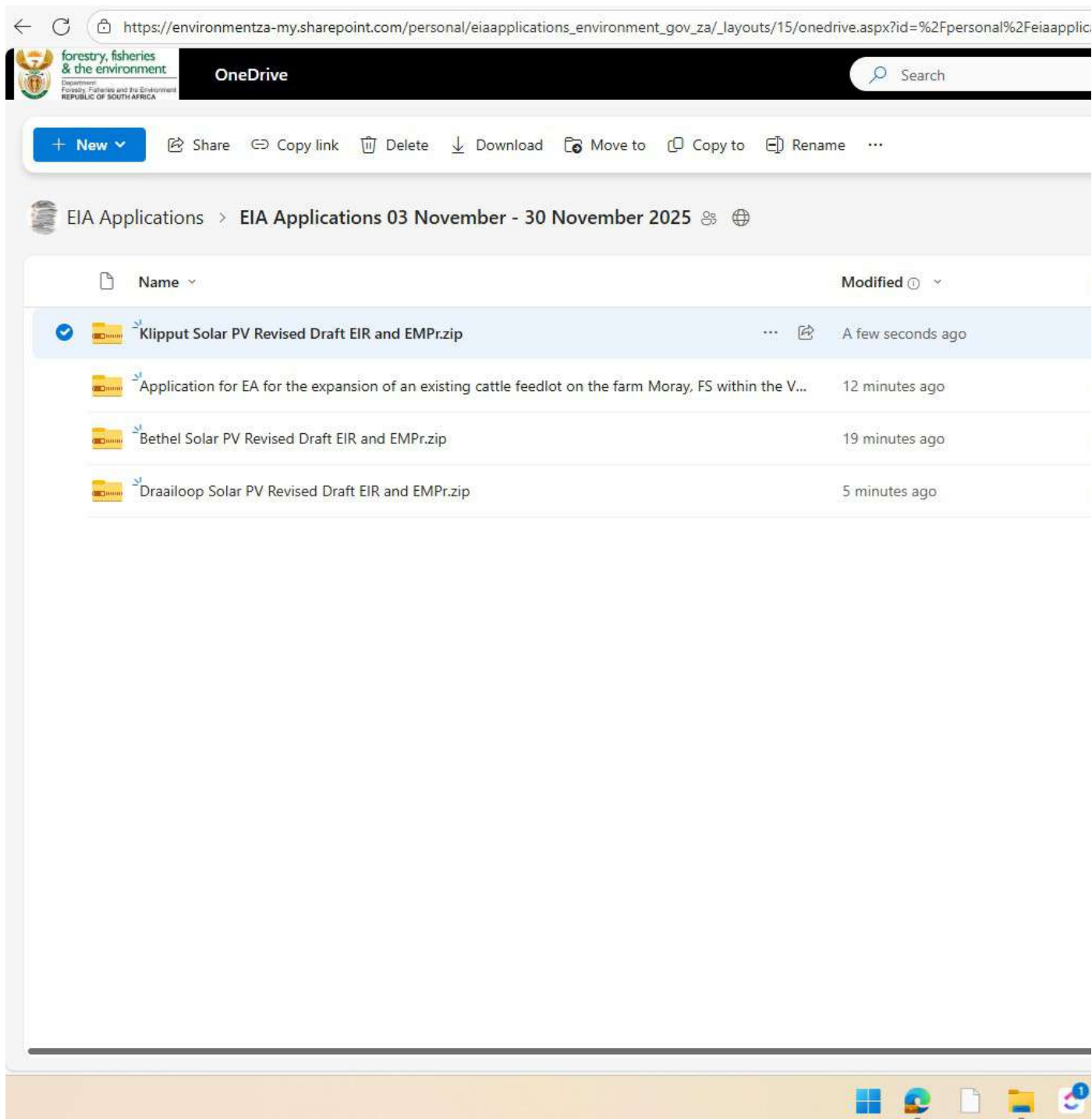
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Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 11:08
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Makhosi Yeni; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin; Ephron Maradwa
Subject: Submission of Revised Draft EIR and EMPr for Klipput Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Attachments: Document control form Klipput Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications

Kindly find attached screenshot and document control form for the submission of the Revised Draft EIR and EMPr for the Proposed Klipput Solar PV and associated infrastructure.



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Kindly note that a public open day / information sharing session is being held on 25 November 2025 at the Vleifontein Community Hall between 12:00 and 19:00. The Competent Authority is welcome to attend this meeting / information sharing session, should they wish to do so.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dfre.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 23 October 2025 09:14
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfre.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfre.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfre.gov.za>
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Good Day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION IN TERMS REGULATION 23(1)(B), OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

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EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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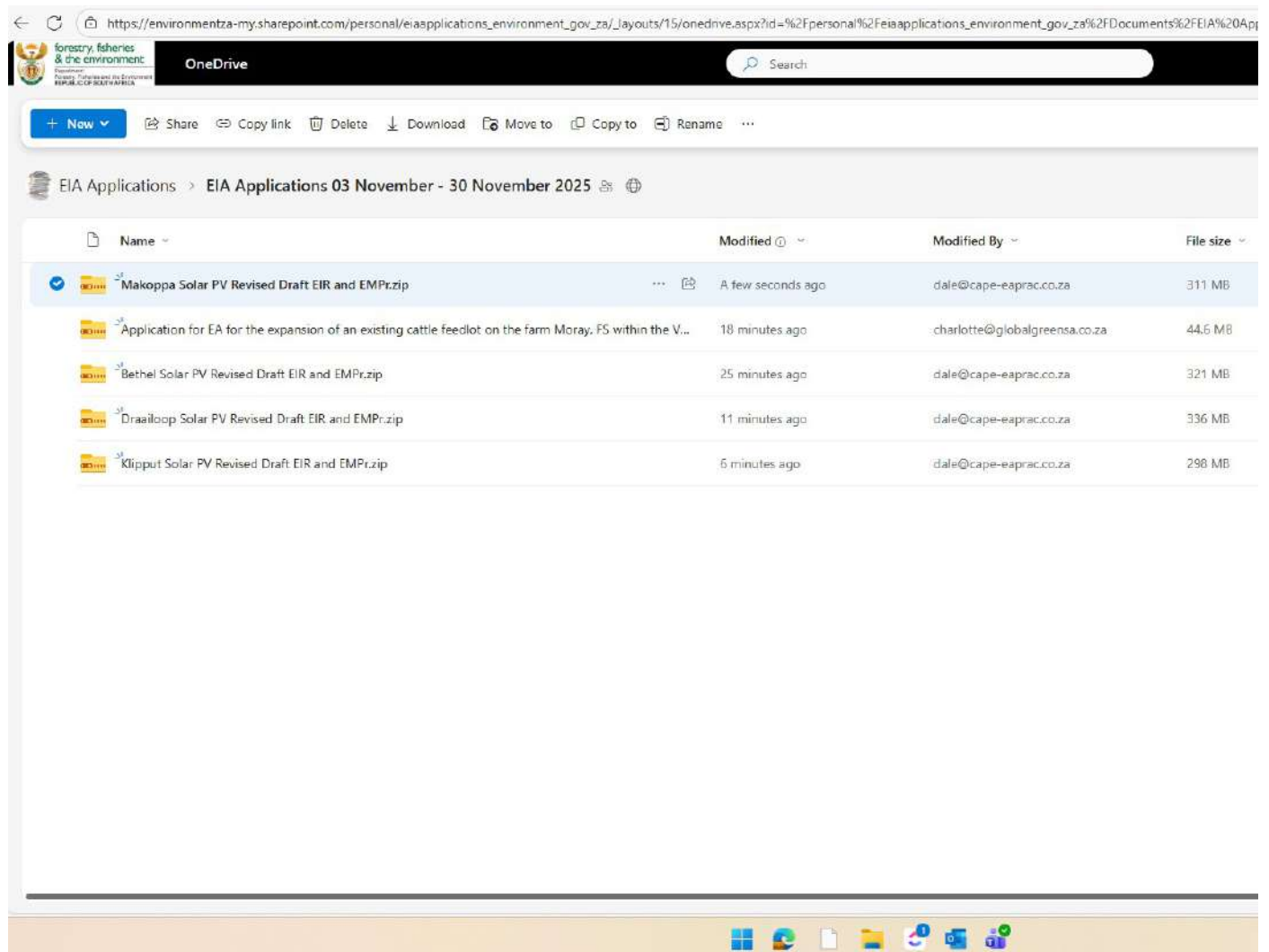
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Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 11:17
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin; Francois Byleveld; Ephron Maradwa
Subject: Submission of Revised Draft EIR and EMPr for the proposed Makoppa Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701
Attachments: Document control form Makoppa Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications

Kindly find attached screenshot and document control form for the submission of the Revised Draft EIR and EMPr for the Proposed Makoppa Solar PV and associated infrastructure.



The screenshot displays a OneDrive interface within a web browser. The address bar shows a URL from environmentza-my.sharepoint.com. The page header includes the South African government logo and the text 'forestry, fisheries & the environment'. The main content area shows a file list under the path 'EIA Applications > EIA Applications 03 November - 30 November 2025'. The file list has columns for Name, Modified, Modified By, and File size. The first file, 'Makoppa Solar PV Revised Draft EIR and EMPr.zip', is highlighted in blue and marked with a checkmark. Other files include 'Application for EA for the expansion of an existing cattle feedlot...', 'Bethel Solar PV Revised Draft EIR and EMPr.zip', 'Draailoop Solar PV Revised Draft EIR and EMPr.zip', and 'Klippot Solar PV Revised Draft EIR and EMPr.zip'.

Name	Modified	Modified By	File size
Makoppa Solar PV Revised Draft EIR and EMPr.zip	A few seconds ago	dale@cape-eaprac.co.za	311 MB
Application for EA for the expansion of an existing cattle feedlot on the farm Moray, FS within the V...	18 minutes ago	charlotte@globalgreensa.co.za	44.6 MB
Bethel Solar PV Revised Draft EIR and EMPr.zip	25 minutes ago	dale@cape-eaprac.co.za	321 MB
Draailoop Solar PV Revised Draft EIR and EMPr.zip	11 minutes ago	dale@cape-eaprac.co.za	336 MB
Klippot Solar PV Revised Draft EIR and EMPr.zip	6 minutes ago	dale@cape-eaprac.co.za	298 MB

This Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report is available to all registered interested and affected parties for a further 30 day review and comment period extending from 07 November 2025 – 08 December 2025.

Kindly note that a public open day / information sharing session is being held on 25 November 2025 at the Vleifontein Community Hall between 12:00 and 19:00. The Competent Authority is welcome to attend this meeting / information sharing session, should they wish to do so.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 05 November 2025 12:51
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Good Day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION IN TERMS REGULATION 23(1)(B), OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED 74-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended for the abovementioned project on 22 October 2025.

Please take note of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that *“and that the revised reports or EMP or, where applicable, a closure plan will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days.”*

Further 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 in terms of Regulation 3(7) of these Regulations.

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

EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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Regards

Mr. Ephron Maradwa

Administrative Officer: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

473 Steve Biko Road

PRETORIA

Tel: (012) 399 9367

Cell: 076 940 6571

E-mail: EMaradwa@dfffe.gov.za



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

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Wednesday, 05 November 2025 12:50

To: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dfffe.gov.za>

Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfffe.gov.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Subject: RE: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2705

Dear Ephron

The acknowledgement below has reference.

Kindly note that the reference number in the subject line is incorrect and should be 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701.

Kind Regards,

Dale

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dfpe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 23 October 2025 09:07

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfpe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfpe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfpe.gov.za>

Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2705

Good Day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2705

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION IN TERMS REGULATION 23(1)(B), OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED 74-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended for the abovementioned project on 22 October 2025.

Please take note of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that *“and that the revised reports or EMP or, where applicable, a closure plan will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days.”*

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Francois Byleveld

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 23 October 2025 09:22
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Zama Langa; Salome Mambane; EIAadmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Good Day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION IN TERMS REGULATION 23(1)(B), OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS BETHEL SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended for the abovementioned project on 22 October 2025.

Please take note of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that *“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.”*

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EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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Francois Byleveld

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dfpe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 23 October 2025 09:40
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Lunga Dlova; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Good Day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION IN TERMS REGULATION 23(1)(B), OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended for the abovementioned project on 22 October 2025.

Please take note of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that *“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.”*

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EIA Applications

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Francois Byleveld

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 23 October 2025 09:14
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Makhosi Yeni; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Good Day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION IN TERMS REGULATION 23(1)(B), OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

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Francois Byleveld

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dfef.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 05 November 2025 12:51
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin; Francois Byleveld
Subject: RE: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Good Day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION IN TERMS REGULATION 23(1)(B), OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED 74-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

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Regards

Mr. Ephron Maradwa

Administrative Officer: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

473 Steve Biko Road

PRETORIA

Tel: (012) 399 9367

Cell: 076 940 6571

E-mail: EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za



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

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Wednesday, 05 November 2025 12:50

To: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>

Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Subject: RE: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2705

Dear Ephron

The acknowledgement below has reference.

Kindly note that the reference number in the subject line is incorrect and should be 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701.

Kind Regards,

Dale

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 23 October 2025 09:07

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>

Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2705

Good Day

14/12/16/3/3/2/2705

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION IN TERMS REGULATION 23(1)(B), OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED 74-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended for the abovementioned project on 22 October 2025.

Please take note of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that *“and that the revised reports or EMPs or, where applicable, a closure plan will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days.”*

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Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 13:45
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Makhosi Yeni; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Lydia Kutu; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa; Nyiko Nkosi; Thulisile Nyalunga; Nyiko Nkosi
Subject: Notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) for the Klipput Solar PV Development - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Attachments: VHE853.17 Notification Regulation 23(1)(b) - Klipput Solar PV.pdf

Dear EIA Applications

Kindly find attached notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) for the proposed Klipput Solar PV (DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700)

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 09:46
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>; Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dffe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report for the Klipput Solar PV Development - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Dear Dale.

We acknowledge receipt of the withdrawal email received on 21 October 2025 for the above-mentioned FEIAr received on the 06 October 2025.

EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:07

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

Cc: Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfpe.gov.za>; ElAadmin <ElAadmin@dfpe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfpe.gov.za>; Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfpe.gov.za>; Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dfpe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dfpe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dfpe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfpe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dfpe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfpe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dfpe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dfpe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dfpe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfpe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dfpe.gov.za>

Subject: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report for the Klipput Solar PV Development - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Dear EIA Applications

Following the receipt of a Comment from an I&AP (after submission of the abovementioned Final EIAR) and subsequent meeting with officials from the Department (in copy), we kindly request that the submission of the Final EIAR for the Klipput Solar PV project be withdrawn. Kindly note that as per discussions with the relevant officials, we are withdrawing the submission of the Final EIAR and not the application as a whole.

Following confirmation that the Final EIAR has been withdrawn, we will proceed to notify the Department in terms of regulation 23(1)(b) and undertake additional public participation to address the concerns raised by the I&AP.

We are looking forward to your response in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfpe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:56

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfpe.gov.za>; ElAadmin <ElAadmin@dfpe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfpe.gov.za>

Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 13:45
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Zama Langa; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Lydia Kutu; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa; Thulisile Nyalunga; Nyiko Nkosi
Subject: Notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) for the proposed Bethel Solar PV Project 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Attachments: VHE853.15 Notification Regulation 23(1)(b) - Bethel Solar PV.pdf

Dear EIA Applications

Kindly find attached notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) for the proposed Bethel Solar PV (DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698)

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 09:49
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>; Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dffe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: Withdrawal of Final EIR submission for the proposed Bethel Solar PV Project 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear Dale.

We acknowledge receipt of the withdrawal email received on 21 October 2025 for the above-mentioned FEIAR received on the 06 October 2025.

EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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@dffe.gov.za.

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

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:08

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

Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>; Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dffe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>

Subject: Withdrawal of Final EIR submission for the proposed Bethel Solar PV Project 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear EIA Applications

Following the receipt of a Comment from an I&AP (after submission of the abovementioned Final EIAR) and subsequent meeting with officials from the Department (in copy), we kindly request that the submission of the Final EIAR for the Bethel Solar PV project be withdrawn. Kindly note that as per discussions with the relevant officials, we are withdrawing the submission of the Final EIAR and not the application as a whole.

Following confirmation that the Final EIAR has been withdrawn, we will proceed to notify the Department in terms of regulation 23(1)(b) and undertake additional public participation to address the concerns raised by the I&AP.

We are looking forward to your response in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:47

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>

Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS BETHEL SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the

National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 13:45
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Lunga Dlova; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Thulisile Nyalunga; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa; Nyiko Nkosi; Lydia Kutu; Nyiko Nkosi; Thulisile Nyalunga
Subject: Notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Attachments: VHE853.16 Notification Regulation 23(1)(b) - Draailoop Solar PV.pdf

Dear EIA Applications

Kindly find attached notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV (DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699)

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 09:55
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dffe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Dear Dale.

We acknowledge receipt of the withdrawal email received on 21 October 2025 for the above-mentioned FEIAR received on the 06 October 2025.

EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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@dffe.gov.za.

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

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:08

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

Cc: Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfpe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfpe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfpe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfpe.gov.za>; Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dfpe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dfpe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dfpe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfpe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dfpe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfpe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dfpe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dfpe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dfpe.gov.za>; Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfpe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dfpe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfpe.gov.za>

Subject: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Dear EIA Applications

Following the receipt of a Comment from an I&AP (after submission of the abovementioned Final EIAR) and subsequent meeting with officials from the Department (in copy), we kindly request that the submission of the Final EIAR for the Draailoop Solar PV project be withdrawn. Kindly note that as per discussions with the relevant officials, we are withdrawing the submission of the Final EIAR and not the application as a whole.

Following confirmation that the Final EIAR has been withdrawn, we will proceed to notify the Department in terms of regulation 23(1)(b) and undertake additional public participation to address the concerns raised by the I&AP.

We are looking forward to your response in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfpe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:52

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfpe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfpe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfpe.gov.za>

Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAIILOOP SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the

National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 13:45
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Lydia Kutu; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa
Subject: Notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) Makoppa Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701
Attachments: VHE853.18 Notification Regulation 23(1)(b) - Makoppa Solar PV.pdf

Dear EIA Applications

Kindly find attached notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) for the proposed Makoppa Solar PV (DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701)

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 09:43
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>; Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dffe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report Makoppa Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Dear Dale.

We acknowledge receipt of the withdrawal email received on 21 October 2025 for the above-mentioned FEIAR received on the 06 October 2025.

EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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@dffe.gov.za.

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

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:07

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

Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>; Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dffe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>

Subject: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report Makoppa Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Dear EIA Applications

Following the receipt of a Comment from an I&AP (after submission of the abovementioned Final EIAR) and subsequent meeting with officials from the Department (in copy), we kindly request that the submission of the Final EIAR for the Makoppa Solar PV project be withdrawn. Kindly note that as per discussions with the relevant officials, we are withdrawing the submission of the Final EIAR and not the application as a whole.

Following confirmation that the Final EIAR has been withdrawn, we will proceed to notify the Department in terms of regulation 23(1)(b) and undertake additional public participation to address the concerns raised by the I&AP.

We are looking forward to your response in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:59

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>

Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!



Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd

Reg. No. 2008/004627/07
VAT No 4720248386

Telephone: (044) 874 0365 17 Progress Street, George
Facsimile: (044) 874 0432
Web: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

PO Box 2070, George 6530

22 October 2025

VHE853/15

Attention: **Ms Zamalanga Langa**
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Environment House
473 Steve Biko Rd
Arcadia
Pretoria
0001

Via email: eiaapplications@dffe.gov.za

NOTIFICATION OF EXTENSION CONTEMPLATED IN REGULATION 23(1)(B) FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV PROJECT ON FARM 431 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 AS WELL AS ASSOCIATED GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE SITUATED ON REMAINDER OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 2 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 424, PORTION 2 OF FARM 470, FARM 1211, REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 2 OF FARM 472, FARM 1209 AND PORTION 1 OF FARM 473 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Notification is hereby given in terms of regulation 23(1)(b), that the Final Environmental Impact report for the proposed Bethel Solar PV located on the abovementioned farm portions will be submitted to the competent authority within 156 days from the Acceptance of the Final Scoping Report.

Following the completion of the comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Report, an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) raised concerns relating to the public participation process that was undertaken in respect of this application. A revised Draft Environmental Impact Report will be subjected to an additional 30 Day comment period to address the concerns raised by this I&AP.

Please contact the undersigned should you require any further information in this regard.

Sincerely,

Dale Holder
Cape EAPrac



Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd

Reg. No. 2008/004627/07
VAT No 4720248386

Telephone: (044) 874 0365 17 Progress Street, George
Facsimile: (044) 874 0432
Web: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

PO Box 2070, George 6530

22 October 2025

VHE853/16

Attention: **Mr Lunga Dlova**
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Environment House
473 Steve Biko Rd
Arcadia
Pretoria
0001

Via email: eiaapplications@dffe.gov.za

NOTIFICATION OF EXTENSION CONTEMPLATED IN REGULATION 23(1)(B) FOR THE PROPOSED DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV PROJECT ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 430 AND FARM 431 AS WELL AS ASSOCIATED GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE SITUATED ON REMAINDER OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 2 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 424, PORTION 2 OF FARM 470, FARM 1211, REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 2 OF FARM 472, FARM 1209 AND PORTION 1 OF FARM 473 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Notification is hereby given in terms of regulation 23(1)(b), that the Final Environmental Impact report for the proposed DraaiLoop Solar PV located on the abovementioned farm portions will be submitted to the competent authority within 156 days from the Acceptance of the Final Scoping Report.

Following the completion of the comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Report, an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) raised concerns relating to the public participation process that was undertaken in respect of this application. A revised Draft Environmental Impact Report will be subjected to an additional 30 Day comment period to address the concerns raised by this I&AP.

Please contact the undersigned should you require any further information in this regard.

Sincerely,

Dale Holder
Cape EAPrac



Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd

Reg. No. 2008/004627/07
VAT No 4720248386

Telephone: (044) 874 0365 17 Progress Street, George
Facsimile: (044) 874 0432
Web: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

PO Box 2070, George 6530

22 October 2025

VHE853/17

Attention: **Ms Makhosazane Yeni**
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Environment House
473 Steve Biko Rd
Arcadia
Pretoria
0001

Via email: eiaapplications@dfpe.gov.za

NOTIFICATION OF EXTENSION CONTEMPLATED IN REGULATION 23(1)(B) FOR THE PROPOSED KLIPPUT SOLAR PV PROJECT ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 AS WELL AS ASSOCIATED GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE SITUATED ON REMAINDER OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 2 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 424, PORTION 2 OF FARM 470, FARM 1211, REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 2 OF FARM 472, FARM 1209 AND PORTION 1 OF FARM 473 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

DFPE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Notification is hereby given in terms of regulation 23(1)(b), that the Final Environmental Impact report for the proposed Klipput Solar PV located on the abovementioned farm portions will be submitted to the competent authority within 156 days from the Acceptance of the Final Scoping Report.

Following the completion of the comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Report, an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) raised concerns relating to the public participation process that was undertaken in respect of this application. A revised Draft Environmental Impact Report will be subjected to an additional 30 Day comment period to address the concerns raised by this I&AP.

Please contact the undersigned should you require any further information in this regard.

Sincerely,

Dale Holder
Cape EAPrac



Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd

Reg. No. 2008/004627/07
VAT No 4720248386

Telephone: (044) 874 0365 17 Progress Street, George
Facsimile: (044) 874 0432
Web: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

PO Box 2070, George 6530

22 October 2025

VHE853/18

Attention: **Ms Thulisile Nyalunga**
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Environment House
473 Steve Biko Rd
Arcadia
Pretoria
0001

Via email: eiaapplications@dffe.gov.za

NOTIFICATION OF EXTENSION CONTEMPLATED IN REGULATION 23(1)(B) FOR THE PROPOSED MAKOPPA SOLAR PV PROJECT ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 465 AS WELL AS ASSOCIATED GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE SITUATED ON REMAINDER OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466, PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 2 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 424, PORTION 2 OF FARM 470, FARM 1211, REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 2 OF FARM 472, FARM 1209 AND PORTION 1 OF FARM 473 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Notification is hereby given in terms of regulation 23(1)(b), that the Final Environmental Impact report for the proposed Makoppa Solar PV located on the abovementioned farm portions will be submitted to the competent authority within 156 days from the Acceptance of the Final Scoping Report.

Following the completion of the comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Report, an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) raised concerns relating to the public participation process that was undertaken in respect of this application. A revised Draft Environmental Impact Report will be subjected to an additional 30 Day comment period to address the concerns raised by this I&AP.

Please contact the undersigned should you require any further information in this regard.

Sincerely,

Dale Holder
Cape EAPrac

Francois Byleveld

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 09:49
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Zama Langa; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Lydia Kutu; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa; Thulisile Nyalunga; Nyiko Nkosi
Subject: RE: Withdrawal of Final EIR submission for the proposed Bethel Solar PV Project 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Dale.

We acknowledge receipt of the withdrawal email received on 21 October 2025 for the above-mentioned FEIAR received on the 06 October 2025.

EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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@dffe.gov.za.

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

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:08
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>; Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dffe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: Withdrawal of Final EIR submission for the proposed Bethel Solar PV Project 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear EIA Applications

Following the receipt of a Comment from an I&AP (after submission of the abovementioned Final EIAR) and subsequent meeting with officials from the Department (in copy), we kindly request that the submission of the Final EIAR for the Bethel Solar PV project be withdrawn. Kindly note that as per discussions with the relevant officials, we are withdrawing the submission of the Final EIAR and not the application as a whole.

Following confirmation that the Final EIAR has been withdrawn, we will proceed to notify the Department in terms of regulation 23(1)(b) and undertake additional public participation to address the concerns raised by the I&AP.

We are looking forward to your response in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfpe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:47

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dfpe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfpe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfpe.gov.za>

Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS BETHEL SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dfpe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dfre.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 09:55
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Lunga Dlova; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Thulisile Nyalunga; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlovo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa; Nyiko Nkosi; Lydia Kutu; Nyiko Nkosi; Thulisile Nyalunga
Subject: RE: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Dale.

We acknowledge receipt of the withdrawal email received on 21 October 2025 for the above-mentioned FEIAR received on the 06 October 2025.

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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

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From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:08
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dfre.gov.za>
Cc: Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfre.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfre.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfre.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfre.gov.za>; Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dfre.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlovo <SDLOMO@dfre.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dfre.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfre.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dfre.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfre.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dfre.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dfre.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dfre.gov.za>; Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfre.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dfre.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfre.gov.za>
Subject: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Dear EIA Applications

Following the receipt of a Comment from an I&AP (after submission of the abovementioned Final EIAR) and subsequent meeting with officials from the Department (in copy), we kindly request that the submission of the Final EIAR for the Draailoop Solar PV project be withdrawn. Kindly note that as per discussions with the relevant officials, we are withdrawing the submission of the Final EIAR and not the application as a whole.

Following confirmation that the Final EIAR has been withdrawn, we will proceed to notify the Department in terms of regulation 23(1)(b) and undertake additional public participation to address the concerns raised by the I&AP.

We are looking forward to your response in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfpe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:52

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfpe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfpe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfpe.gov.za>

Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAA LOOP SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dfpe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 09:46
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Makhosi Yeni; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Lydia Kutu; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa; Nyiko Nkosi; Thulisile Nyalunga; Nyiko Nkosi
Subject: RE: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report for the Klipput Solar PV Development - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Dale.

We acknowledge receipt of the withdrawal email received on 21 October 2025 for the above-mentioned FEIAR received on the 06 October 2025.

EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:07
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>; Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dffe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report for the Klipput Solar PV Development - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Dear EIA Applications

Following the receipt of a Comment from an I&AP (after submission of the abovementioned Final EIAR) and subsequent meeting with officials from the Department (in copy), we kindly request that the submission of the Final EIAR for the Klipput Solar PV project be withdrawn. Kindly note that as per discussions with the relevant officials, we are withdrawing the submission of the Final EIAR and not the application as a whole.

Following confirmation that the Final EIAR has been withdrawn, we will proceed to notify the Department in terms of regulation 23(1)(b) and undertake additional public participation to address the concerns raised by the I&AP.

We are looking forward to your response in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:56

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; ElAadmin <ElAadmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>

Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 09:43
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Lydia Kutu; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa
Subject: RE: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report Makoppa Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Dale.

We acknowledge receipt of the withdrawal email received on 21 October 2025 for the above-mentioned FEIAR received on the 06 October 2025.

EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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@dffe.gov.za.

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

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:07
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>; Louise-Mari van Zyl <louise@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dffe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report Makoppa Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Dear EIA Applications

Following the receipt of a Comment from an I&AP (after submission of the abovementioned Final EIAR) and subsequent meeting with officials from the Department (in copy), we kindly request that the submission of the Final EIAR for the Makoppa Solar PV project be withdrawn. Kindly note that as per discussions with the relevant officials, we are withdrawing the submission of the Final EIAR and not the application as a whole.

Following confirmation that the Final EIAR has been withdrawn, we will proceed to notify the Department in terms of regulation 23(1)(b) and undertake additional public participation to address the concerns raised by the I&AP.

We are looking forward to your response in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfffe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:59

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfffe.gov.za>

Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dfffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:08
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Zama Langa; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Lydia Kutu; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa; Thulisile Nyalunga; Nyiko Nkosi
Subject: Withdrawal of Final EIR submission for the proposed Bethel Solar PV Project 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear EIA Applications

Following the receipt of a Comment from an I&AP (after submission of the abovementioned Final EIR) and subsequent meeting with officials from the Department (in copy), we kindly request that the submission of the Final EIR for the Bethel Solar PV project be withdrawn. Kindly note that as per discussions with the relevant officials, we are withdrawing the submission of the Final EIR and not the application as a whole.

Following confirmation that the Final EIR has been withdrawn, we will proceed to notify the Department in terms of regulation 23(1)(b) and undertake additional public participation to address the concerns raised by the I&AP.

We are looking forward to your response in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfre.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:47
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dfre.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfre.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfre.gov.za>
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS BETHEL SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the

National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:08
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Lunga Dlova; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Thulisile Nyalunga; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa; Nyiko Nkosi; Lydia Kutu; Nyiko Nkosi; Thulisile Nyalunga
Subject: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Dear EIA Applications

Following the receipt of a Comment from an I&AP (after submission of the abovementioned Final EIAR) and subsequent meeting with officials from the Department (in copy), we kindly request that the submission of the Final EIAR for the Draailoop Solar PV project be withdrawn. Kindly note that as per discussions with the relevant officials, we are withdrawing the submission of the Final EIAR and not the application as a whole.

Following confirmation that the Final EIAR has been withdrawn, we will proceed to notify the Department in terms of regulation 23(1)(b) and undertake additional public participation to address the concerns raised by the I&AP.

We are looking forward to your response in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfre.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:52
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfre.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfre.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfre.gov.za>
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAIILOOP SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the

National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:07
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Makhosi Yeni; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Lydia Kutu; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa; Nyiko Nkosi; Thulisile Nyalunga; Nyiko Nkosi
Subject: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report for the Klipput Solar PV Development - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Dear EIA Applications

Following the receipt of a Comment from an I&AP (after submission of the abovementioned Final EIAR) and subsequent meeting with officials from the Department (in copy), we kindly request that the submission of the Final EIAR for the Klipput Solar PV project be withdrawn. Kindly note that as per discussions with the relevant officials, we are withdrawing the submission of the Final EIAR and not the application as a whole.

Following confirmation that the Final EIAR has been withdrawn, we will proceed to notify the Department in terms of regulation 23(1)(b) and undertake additional public participation to address the concerns raised by the I&AP.

We are looking forward to your response in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfre.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:56
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfre.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfre.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfre.gov.za>
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the

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Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:07
To: EIA Applications
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga; EIAadmin; Salome Mambane; Lydia Kutu; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Olivia Letlalo; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Lunga Dlova; Bathandwa Ncube; Ephron Maradwa
Subject: Withdrawal of Final Environmental Impact Report Makoppa Solar PV - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Dear EIA Applications

Following the receipt of a Comment from an I&AP (after submission of the abovementioned Final EIAR) and subsequent meeting with officials from the Department (in copy), we kindly request that the submission of the Final EIAR for the Makoppa Solar PV project be withdrawn. Kindly note that as per discussions with the relevant officials, we are withdrawing the submission of the Final EIAR and not the application as a whole.

Following confirmation that the Final EIAR has been withdrawn, we will proceed to notify the Department in terms of regulation 23(1)(b) and undertake additional public participation to address the concerns raised by the I&AP.

We are looking forward to your response in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dfre.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:59
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dfre.gov.za>; EIAadmin <EIAadmin@dfre.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfre.gov.za>
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:47
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Zama Langa; ElAdmin; Salome Mambane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS BETHEL SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support
Tel: (012) 399 9370
Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:52
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Lunga Dlova; ElAadmin; Salome Mambane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAIILOOP SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support
Tel: (012) 399 9370
Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:56
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Makhosi Yeni; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support
Tel: (012) 399 9370
Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:59
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga; ElAadmin; Salome Mambane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 06 October 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support
Tel: (012) 399 9370
Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:16
To: eiaapplications@dffe.gov.za
Subject: Submission of Final EIR, EMPR and Revised Application form - Bethel Solar PV.
Attachments: Document control form Bethel Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications.

Kindly find attached document control form and screenshot for the submission of the Final EIR, EMPR and Revised Application form for the proposed Bethel Solar PV project.

The screenshot displays a web browser window with the URL https://environmentza-my.sharepoint.com/personal/eiaapplications_environment_gov_za/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Feiaapplications_environment_gov_za. The page header includes the South African Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment logo and the text "OneDrive". Below the header is a navigation bar with a "New" button and various action icons (Share, Copy link, Delete, Download, Move to, Copy to, Rename). The main content area shows a folder named "EIA Applications" containing a sub-folder "EIA Applications 01 October - 31 October 2025". Inside this sub-folder, a table lists three files:

Name	Modified	Modified By	File size	Sharing
Bethel Solar PV Final EIR and Revised Application.zip	A few seconds a...	francois@cape-eap	288 MB	Shared
Draailoop Solar PV Final EIR and Revised Application.zip	35 minutes ago	francois@cape-eap	302 MB	Shared
Klipput Solar PV Final EIR and Revised Application.zip	34 minutes ago	francois@cape-eap	265 MB	Shared

A confirmation message at the bottom right states: "Uploaded Bethel Solar PV Final EIR and Revised Application.zip to EIA Applications 01 October - 31 October 2025". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the date and time as 24°C Mostly cloudy, and the search bar.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 13:42
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Final EIR, EMPR and Revised Application form - Draailoop Solar PV.
Attachments: Document control form Draailoop Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications.

Kindly find attached document control form and screenshot for the submission of the Final EIR, EMPR and Revised Application form for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV project.

EIA Applications 01 October - 31

+

https://environmentza-my.sharepoint.com/personal/eiaapplications_environment_gov_za/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Feiaapplications_en

forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

OneDrive

Search

+ New

Upload

Share

Copy link

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EIA Applications > EIA Applications 01 October - 31 October 2025

Name	Modified	Modified By	File size	Sharing	Activity
Draailoop Solar PV Final EIR and Revised ...	A few seconds a...	francois@cape-eap	302 MB	Shared	

✓

Uploaded Draailoop Solar PV Final EIR and Revised Application.zip to EIA Applications 01 October - 31 October 2025

1 AFG - BAN

Game score

Search

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 13:43
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Final EIR, EMPR and Revised Application form - Klipput Solar PV.
Attachments: Document control form Klipput Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications.

Kindly find attached document control form and screenshot for the submission of the Final EIR, EMPR and Revised Application form for the proposed Klipput Solar PV project.

The screenshot displays a web browser window with the URL https://environmentza-my.sharepoint.com/personal/eiaapplications_environment_gov_za/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Feiaapplicat. The page header includes the South African Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment logo and the text 'OneDrive'. A search bar is visible on the right. Below the header, a toolbar contains buttons for '+ New', 'Share', 'Copy link', 'Delete', 'Download', 'Move to', 'Copy to', 'Rename', and a menu icon. The main content area shows a breadcrumb path: 'EIA Applications > EIA Applications 01 October - 31 October 2025'. Below this, a table lists files:

Name	Modified	Modified By	File size
Draailoop Solar PV Final EIR and Revised Application.zip	About a minute...	francois@cape-eap	302 MB
Klipput Solar PV Final EIR and Revised Application.zip	A few seconds a...	francois@cape-eap	265 MB

The bottom of the screenshot shows a Windows taskbar with a weather widget indicating 24°C and 'Partly sunny', a search bar, and several application icons.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

EIA Applications 01 October - 31

https://environmentza-my.sharepoint.com/personal/eiaapplications_environment_gov_za/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Feiaapplications_environment



OneDrive

 Search

[+ New](#)
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[Download](#)
[Move to](#)
[Copy to](#)
[Rename](#)
[...](#)

EIA Applications > EIA Applications 01 October - 31 October 2025

Name	Modified	Modified By	File size	Sharing
 Bethel Solar PV Final EIR and Revised Application.zip	3 minutes ago	francois@cape-eap	288 MB	 Share
 Draailoop Solar PV Final EIR and Revised Application.zip	37 minutes ago	francois@cape-eap	302 MB	 Share
 Klipput Solar PV Final EIR and Revised Application.zip	36 minutes ago	francois@cape-eap	265 MB	 Share
  Makoppa Solar PV Final EIR and Revised Application.zip	A few seconds a...	francois@cape-eap	278 MB	 Share

Uploaded **Makoppa Solar PV Final EIR and Revised Application.zip** to EIA Applications 01
October - 31 October 2025

24°C
Mostly cloudy

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301



Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd

Tel: (044) 874 0365

www.cape-eaprac.co.za

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

PROJECT: Klipput Solar PV and Grid Infrastructure

PROJECT REF: VHEXS3 DATE: 01/10/2025

NAME	REPRESENTING	CONTACTS	EMAIL	SIGNATURE
Olivia Letlelo	DEFE: IEA	TEL: X 8812 FAX: CELL: 064 880 8747	Oletlelo@dffe.gov.za	
Makhasazane Yeni	DEFE: IEA	TEL: 012 349 9400 FAX: CELL: 072 759 1825	MYeni@dffe.gov.za	
Francois Byleveld	Cape EAPrac	TEL: FAX: CELL: 074 317 4509	francois@cape-eaprac.co.za	
		TEL: FAX: CELL:		
		TEL: FAX: CELL:		
		TEL: FAX: CELL:		
		TEL: FAX: CELL:		

Please Note: When completing this form, you consent to the lawful processing of personal information in relation to the intended purposes, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Your information will be used for this project, or any future project where you are identified as I&AP. You also agree that by submitting comment to inform this process, your contact details will, where required by a public body, be reflected in our regulated reports that must be compiled and submitted to the general public, registered stakeholders, organs of state as well as the competent authority for consideration and decision-making. Kindly view our Privacy Statement at www.cape-eaprac.co.za for more information.

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Tuesday, 30 September 2025 12:29
To: Makhosi Yeni; Francois Byleveld
Cc: Olivia Letlalo; Mahlatse Shubane
Subject: RE: KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT
Attachments: N1 Turnoff to Klipput.kmz

Good Morning Makhosi

Francois will send the same to your phone. Please find attached KMZ showing where you can meet Francois tomorrow morning.

It is basically at the intersection between the N1 and the R36.



Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Tuesday, 30 September 2025 10:19
To: 'Makhosi Yeni' <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>

Subject: RE: KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT

Hi Makhosi

Francois is on a flight to Johannesburg at the moment and then Flying to Polokwane later this afternoon.

When he lands in Joburg, he will share a location pin on whatsapp on where best to meet tomorrow morning.

Regards,
Dale

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 September 2025 09:40
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT

Good morning, Francois

Kindly share the location for our site tomorrow.

Regards
Makhosazane Yeni

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Thursday, 25 September 2025 11:58
To: Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT

Good Morning Makhosi

I hope you are well.

Just to confirm, we have finalised our travel arrangements for next week Wednesday (01 October). Francois from our office will be joining you on site next week.

I have provided your cellphone number (072 7591825) to Francois to make final arrangements on the day or day before as to where on site to meet etc. Francois cell phone number is 074 317 4509.

Kind Regards,
Dale

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Tuesday, 23 September 2025 14:13
To: 'Makhosi Yeni' <MYeni@dfpe.gov.za>
Cc: Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dfpe.gov.za>; Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dfpe.gov.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT

Dear Makhosi

Thank you for the telephonic discussions and email.

I confirm that we (either Francois from Cape EAPrac and/or Myself) will be available at 09:00 on Wednesday 01 October for the site visit. We will finalise our flight and travel arrangements on Thursday morning.

I will touch base with you closer to the time to agree on where to meet on Wednesday Morning.

Best Regards,
Dale

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfpe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 23 September 2025 13:46
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dfpe.gov.za>; Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dfpe.gov.za>
Subject: KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT

Dear Dale

Our telephonic conversation regarding the site inspection for Klipput Solar PV, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province, refers. Kindly confirm that the date for the site visit is on Wednesday, 01 October 2025 at 9h00am.

Regards
Makhosazane Yeni

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment

Environmental House

473 Steve Biko Road

Arcadia, 0083

Pretoria

Tel: 012 -399 9400

Cell: 072 7591825



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Enquiries: Ms Zama Langa

Telephone: (012) 399 9389 **E-mail:** Zlanga@dffe.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365
Cell phone Number: 082 448 9225
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE BETHEL SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON FARM 431 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 21 August 2025 refer.

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

a) Listed Activities

- 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. Also ensure to choose the correct and relevant sub listing. Additionally, note that the onus is on the applicant and the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to ensure that all the applicable listed activities are included in the application. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays in the processing of the application.
- If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR and draft EIAR, 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>.



Batho pele- putting people first

The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others

N.N

b) Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)

- (i) It has been noted that the associated infrastructure includes water storage tanks and pipelines. The DEIAR provides no assessment of the pipeline's impact. Kindly specify the size and length of the pipeline. Also please ensure that the pipeline impacts are assessed and do not trigger a listed activity.
- (ii) You have applied for the BESS. You are required to provide the height and capacity of the BESS.
- (iii) Please provide a technical detail for the proposed facility with the components and descriptions and or dimensions of the project not limited to BESS, onsite switching station, IPP substation, O&M complex, Access road and internal roads, temporary storage, laydown area.
- (iv) Furthermore, the technical details must indicate the distances of all the assessed powerline alternatives. Currently, only one powerline distance has been provided, and it is unclear whether this relates to the preferred powerline alternative or not.
- (v) Please note that Appendix 1(3)(1)(h)(x) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, requires that "if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such" must be included in the final EIAR.
- (vi) A description of the process followed to reach the preferred alternative within the site as per Appendix 1(3)(1)(h)(i) of the EIA Regulations (2014), as amended, must be incorporated into the final EIAR.
- (vii) You indicated that no technology alternatives are under consideration in this application. Please investigate BESS technology alternatives. You are requested to explain which technology alternative preferable, and the other alternatives are not viable.

c) Locality, Site Layout and Sensitivity Maps

- (i) Please ensure that the site layout map to be submitted with the final EIAR must provide the following:
 - A clear description of all associated infrastructure.
 - substation;
 - powerline
 - The locality map must depict the pipeline
 - Internal roads infrastructure; and;
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area and auxiliary buildings, dangerous goods facility etc.
 - All necessary details regarding all possible locations and sizes of the proposed solar PV infrastructure.
 - A copy of the final preferred layout map. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout map must indicate the following:
 - Permanent laydown area footprint;
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible);
 - Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, streams and water crossings of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used;
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites, including their entire footprint;
 - Location of access and service roads;
 - Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads;
 - Buffer areas;
 - Buildings, including accommodation;
 - All "no-go" areas; and
 - A north arrow and legend/key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.

- An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmentally sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
- A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.

d) Coordinates

- (i) The EIAr must include coordinates of the proposed project including all associated infrastructures as shown on the layout map submitted with the draft EIAr. i.e. BESS, IPP substation, onsite substation, laydown area, O&M buildings, Diesel storage, access point and access road.

e) Public Participation Process

- (i) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAr.
- (ii) Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR and draft EIAr from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final EIAr. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final EIAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (iii) Copies of comments received must be submitted to the Department. Copies of responses provided to all comments received must also be submitted. In addition, the EIAr must also include proof that responses were sent to Interested and Affected Parties.
- (iv) A Comments and Response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final EIAr. The C&R report must incorporate all comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Appendix 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as "noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments. Please ensure that the comments and trail report is in the format provided by the department. This must include all comments received on this application.
- (v) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.
- (vi) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- (vii) The EAP is requested to contact the Department to make the necessary arrangements to conduct a site inspection prior to the submission of the final EIAr.
- (viii) All evidence of public participation must be included in the final EIR including site notices and newspaper articles

f) Cumulative Assessment

- (i) During the pre-application meeting, it was indicated that the applicant intends to develop three (3) × 240 MW solar PV facilities and one (1) × 75 MW solar PV facility, including the associated grid connections. These applications have already been submitted to the Department and allocated to different officials. However, the draft EIAr does not make reference to these clustered applications. You are therefore requested to include these projects in the introduction of the EIAr and provide the reference numbers for each. Furthermore, a map showing the location of these projects must also be included. This information must be consistently reflected in all EIARs to be submitted.
- (ii) Please ensure that EIR must include cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts and must be refined to indicate the following.
- 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.
 - 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.
 - The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.

- A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.
- A cumulative map that shows all the neighbouring PV Developments.

g) Specialists

- (i) Specialist studies must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for the authorisation.
- (ii) The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation, will not be accepted.
- (iii) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.
- (iv) It is brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols, **except where the applicant provides proof to the competent authority that the specialist assessment affected by these protocols had been commissioned before the date on which the protocols came into effect, in which case Appendix 6 of the Environmental impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, will apply.** Please indicate in the EIAR whether or not the protocols were applied or provide the necessary proof where the exception applies. Please note further that the protocols, if applicable, require certain specialists' to be SACNASP registered.
- (v) For ease of reference, please provide a table in the EIAR's, indicating the studies required by the Department's screening tool, a column indicating whether these studies were undertaken or not, a column with the requisite motivation if a study was not undertaken (confirmed by a site sensitivity verification, where the protocols are applicable and require such); a column(s) indicating whether the protocols are applicable and if they were complied with for the relevant study.

h) Environmental Management Programme

- (i) The generic EMPs are not signed by the applicant holder of EA. You are required to ensure that the generic EMPs are signed by the applicant.
- (ii) Please ensure that all recommended mitigation measures recorded in the EIAR and specialist studies are carried through to the site-specific section of the Generic EMPs. The EMPs must also include an environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process, overlaid with the development footprint site map.
- (iii) Please also include in the EMP, the recommended frequency for the auditing of compliance with the conditions of the EA and EMP for the construction, post-construction monitoring, and operational (where relevant) phases of the activity, and for the submission of such compliance reports to the competent authority.
- (iv) The facility EMP must include measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants
- (v) You must ensure that the facility EMP complies with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

General

Where the proposed activity does not include operational aspects, please also ensure that the final EIAR includes the period for which the environmental authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are reminded that the final EIAR to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIAR must contain all information set out in the Regulations or comply with a

protocol or minimum information requirements relevant to the application as identified and gazetted by the Minister in a government notice.

Regulation 23(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, states that: *“The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority -(a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, and an EMPr, which must 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 EIAR's 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 23(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *“The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the reports, and an EMPr, will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the competent authority, or where regulation 21(2) applies, within 156 days of receipt of application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the environmental impact assessment report or EMPr, 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 environmental impact assessment report or EMPr 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 23 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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Ms Nyiko Nkosi

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisations Projects

Date: 19/09/2025

cc:	Mr Andrew Pearson	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
	Matodzi Rathumbu	DEDET	Email: RathumbulM@ledet.gov.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

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PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 430 AND FARM 431 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 21 August 2025 refer.

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

a) Listed Activities and application form

- (i) You have applied for Listing Notice 1 item 11 the development of facilities or infrastructure, for the transmission and distribution of electricity – outside an urban area or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33kV but less than 275kV. Please specify the exact capacity of the electricity to be transmitted and distributed.



Batho pele – putting people first

The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and/or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

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- (ii) You have applied for Listing Notice 1 item 12 the development of an infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 metres square or more. Please specify whether this activity will be triggered or not, as the term “**may be**” shows a concern of being uncertain.
- (iii) You are requested to provide the details such as vegetation clearance, access road length and width, and development footprint. Please include any relevant thresholds, areas, or footprints for the development where necessary as mentioned above.
- (iv) If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR and draft EIAr, 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>.

b) Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAr)

- (i) It has been noted that the associated infrastructure includes water storage tanks and pipelines. The DEIAr provides no assessment of the pipeline’s impact. You must specify the size and length of the pipeline. You are required to assess the impacts of the pipeline. Please ensure that the pipeline does not trigger any listed activity as no listed activity for the pipeline you have applied for.
- (ii) You have applied for the BESS. You are required to provide the height and capacity of the BESS.
- (iii) Please provide a technical detail for the proposed facility with the components and descriptions and or dimensions of the project not limited to BESS, onsite switching station, IPP substation, O&M complex, access road and internal roads, temporary storage, laydown area.
- (iv) Please note that Appendix 1(3)(1)(h)(x) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, requires that “if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such” must be included in the final EIAr.
- (v) A description of the process followed to reach the preferred alternative within the site as per Appendix 1(3)(1)(h)(i) of the EIA Regulations (2014), as amended, must be incorporated into the final EIAr.
- (vi) You indicated that no technology alternatives are under consideration in this application. Please investigate BESS technology alternatives. You are requested to explain which technology alternative preferable, and the other alternatives are not viable.

c) Locality, Site Layout and Sensitivity Maps

- (i) The final EIAr must provide the following:
 - This description must include, but is not limited to the following:
 - A clear description of all associated infrastructure.
 - substation;
 - powerline
 - The locality map must depict the pipeline
 - Internal roads infrastructure; and;
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area and auxiliary buildings, dangerous goods facility etc.
 - All necessary details regarding all possible locations and sizes of the proposed solar PV infrastructure.
 - A copy of the final preferred layout map. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout map must indicate the following:
 - Permanent laydown area footprint;

- Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible);
- Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, streams and water crossings of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used;
- The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
- Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites, including their entire footprint;
- Location of access and service roads;
- Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;
- All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads;
- Buffer areas;
- Buildings, including accommodation;
- All “no-go” areas; and
- A north arrow and legend/key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.
- An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
- A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.

d) **Public Participation Process**

- (i) The final EIAR must comply with all conditions of the acceptance of the scoping report dated 23 July 2025. Please ensure that the Department’s comments are addressed in the report as well as in the comments and response table.
- (ii) Ensure that the final EIAR includes proof that the key stakeholders received written notification of the proposed activity, and the draft EIAR. Comments made by interested and affected parties (I&APs) must be comprehensively captured and responded to clearly and fully in the comments and response report.

e) **Cumulative Assessment**

- (i) You are required to assess each identified potentially significant impact and risk, including—
 - cumulative impacts;
 - the nature, significance and consequences of the impact and risk;
 - the extent and duration of the impact and risk;
 - the probability of the impact and risk occurring;
 - the degree to which the impact and risk can be reversed;
 - the degree to which the impact and risk may cause irreplaceable loss of resources; and
 - the degree to which the impact and risk can be mitigated.
- (ii) There are 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:
 - 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.
 - 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.

- The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
- A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

f) **Specialists**

- Please include a table in the BAR summarising the specialist studies required by the Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted.
- It is brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols, **except where the applicant provides proof to the competent authority that the specialist assessment affected by these protocols had been commissioned before the date on which the protocols came into effect, in which case Appendix 6 of the Environmental impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, will apply.** Please indicate in the EIAR whether or not the protocols were applied or provide the necessary proof where the exception applies. Please note further that the protocols, if applicable, require certain specialists' to be SACNASP registered.
- For ease of reference, please provide a table in the EIAR's, indicating the studies required by the Department's screening tool, a column indicating whether these studies were undertaken or not, a column with the requisite motivation if a study was not undertaken (confirmed by a site sensitivity verification, where the protocols are applicable and require such); a column(s) indicating whether the protocols are applicable and if they were complied with for the relevant study.

g) **Environmental Management Programme**

- The generic EMPs are not signed by the applicant holder of EA. You are required to ensure that the generic EMPs are signed by the applicant.
- Please ensure that all recommended mitigation measures recorded in the EIAR and specialist studies are carried through to the site-specific section of the Generic EMPs. The EMPs must also include an environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process, overlaid with the development footprint site map.
- Please also include in the EMP, the recommended frequency for the auditing of compliance with the conditions of the EA and EMP for the construction, post-construction monitoring, and operational (where relevant) phases of the activity, and for the submission of such compliance reports to the competent authority.

h) **Undertaking of an Oath**

- Please ensure that the final EIAR includes an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP **(administered by a Commissioner of Oaths)** as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that the EIAR must include:

"an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to:

- the correctness of the information provided in the reports;*
- 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”.*

General

Where the proposed activity does not include operational aspects, please also ensure that the final EIAr includes the period for which the environmental authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are reminded that the final EIAr to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIAr must contain all information set out into the Regulations or comply with a protocol or minimum information requirements relevant to the application as identified and gazetted by the Minister in a government notice.

Regulation 23(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, states that: *“The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority –(a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, and an EMPr, which must 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 EIAr's 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 23(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *“The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the reports, and an EMPr, will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the competent authority, or where regulation 21(2) applies, within 156 days of receipt of application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the environmental impact assessment report or EMPr, 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 environmental impact assessment report or EMPr 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 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.

DFFE REFERENCE: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 430 AND FARM 431 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Ms Masina Morudu

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisation Projects

Date: 22/09/2025.

cc:	Andrew Pearson	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
	Matodzi Rathumbu	Department of Economic Development, Environment & Tourism (DEDET)	Email: RathumbuM@ledet.gov.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

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PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) KLIPPUT SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The application for Environmental Authorisation and draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 21 August 2025 refer.

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

a) Project description and Listed Activities

- The draft EIAR indicated that a revised application form will be submitted with the final EIAR to reflect the updated descriptions. Please note that the activities applied for in the application form must be the same as those in the EIAR.
- It has been noted that activity 14 of Listing Notice (LN) 1 has been applied for because of the BESS, however, it remains unclear if the BESS will be assembled on site or not. Furthermore, you are advised to assess the risk in relation to dangerous goods and the best practical environment option be selected.
- The size or the capacity of triggering project infrastructure applied for are estimated. You are reminded to ensure that all the dimensions/sizes of associated infrastructure (i.e. roads, pipelines, etc) as detailed on page iii, iv, v, vi, 8, 9, 40, 41, and 42 of the draft EIAR are included in the amended application form and final EIAR.



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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

- For activity 24 of LN1, it is not clear whether the road will have a reserve or not. This must be clear in the amended application form and the final EIAr.
- For activity 14 and 18 of LN3 the use of word “*may be*” and “*and/or*” is hereby noted. However, **kindly be advised that listed activities are not based on a precautionary approach. Please ensure that all the listed activities in the amended application form and EIAr are clear, are the same and final for decision making purposes. Should it not be clear that listed activity is triggered, such activity will not be considered in the decision-making process.**
- Please ensure that all relevant activities listed are applied for are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. In addition, the onus is on the applicant and the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (“EAP”) to ensure that all the applicable listed activities are included in the application form and the EIAr. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays in the processing of the application.
- If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the EIAr an amended application form must be submitted with the EIAr. 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>.

b) Coordinates

- Please provide coordinate points for the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous turning points, each turning point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities (indicate the position of the proposed activity with the latitude and longitude and the centre point for each alternative site). The co-ordinates should be in degrees and decimal minutes. The minutes should be to at least three decimal places. The projection that must be used in all cases is the WGS-84 spheroid in a national or local projection).

c) Alternatives

- Alternatives as included on page 30 to 37 of the draft EIAr are hereby noted. However, it has been indicated that no technology alternatives are under consideration in this application. For BESS, the preferred technology alternatives must be investigated and it must be clear if the BESS will be assembled on site or not.
- You are required to provide all the alternatives considered for this development as per Appendix 2 (2) (1) (g) (i) (v) (vi) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended in the final EIAr. Furthermore, the preferred options for all assessed alternatives must be determined and be clear throughout the final EIA report.
- Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2. However, note that no development will be allowed within sensitive areas, mitigation hierarchy should be considered to avoid impacts on sensitive environment.
- The preferred alternative must be aligned with the specialist’s recommendations.

d) Layout and Sensitivity Maps

- Figure 26: Alternative 3- Preferred layout is hereby noted. However, the following is not clear:
 - ♦ The site boundary as said to be depicted in green is not clear.
 - ♦ The two green sites opposite the PV areas are not specified on the legend.
- The final layout map must include the following:
 - The PV development area.
 - Preferred EGI alternative.
 - Position of all associated infrastructure e.g., panels, BESS, on-site substations, powerline route, etc.
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as permanent laydown area and auxiliary buildings including accommodation, dangerous goods facility etc.
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads.
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width).

- The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure.
- Buffer areas.
- All “no-go” areas.
- A north arrow and legend/ key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.
- All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the map and infrastructure must not encroach on highly sensitive areas as far as possible.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments.
- A combined map showing all the Cluster Projects (Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV).
- Ensure that similar colours are not used to differentiate between infrastructure. i.e., items must be easily distinguishable on the legend.
- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

e) **Public Participation Process (PPP)**

- Page 53 of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment mentions that “***although the project area is not located within a protected area, it is located within a conservation area – the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR)***”. You are reminded to seek input from DFFE’s Protected Areas Section and Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR) NPC- info@vhembecosphere.org. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and incorporated in the EIAR. **Should it be that Section 50(5) in terms of NEM:BA is required, you are advised to obtain such and include it in the final EIAR.**
- **The issue raised on 06 May 2025 by Motz Ntimo regarding land claims affecting multiple farms identified, including Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 466, and Portion 1 of Farm 466 must be addressed and responded to. Proof thereon must be incorporated to the EIAR.**
- The letter dated 14 November 2024 from the Office of the Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo is hereby noted. However, the CA advises that meeting be convened with the representatives of the affected communities and the representatives from Office of the Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo.
- The Department submits that should the final EIAR be submitted without the outcome of consultation or proof that the abovementioned affected parties were consulted, it would be considered as non-compliance with the requirements of this letter and the EIA Regulation, 2024 as amended.
- Please ensure that all comments from all identified and relevant competent authorities as well as stakeholders have been responded to, addressed and incorporated to the EIAR. The identified stakeholders must include but are not limited to the **Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR) NPC-info@vhembecosphere.org**, **Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFPE): Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness and Biodiversity Conservation Directorates (BCAdmin@dfpe.gov.za)**, Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District Municipality, Limpopo: **Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET) EIA and Biodiversity Sections**, Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Department of Mineral Resources, Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA), Birdlife South Africa, Vulpro, South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO), Square Kilometer Array (SKA), Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS), Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), Eskom, SA National Defence Force and the relevant heritage authorities.
- Ensure that all languages used in the area are considered during PPP.
- The PPP must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- A Comments and Responses trail report (C&RR) must be compiled, continuously updated throughout the EIA process for this proposed development starting with the draft SR. The C&RR must be a separate document from the main report and must be in the table format, which reflects the details of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), the date comments were received (actual comments received) and responses provided.

- Comments made by I&APs must be comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as “noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments.
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the EIAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the CA of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- Please ensure that the EIAr indicates when and where the draft SR and EIAr were made available for a 30-day review and comment period.

f) Specialist Assessments

- The findings of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment, Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment, and Avifaunal Specialist assessment are hereby noted. However, these reports must be submitted to DFFE’s Biodiversity Mainstreaming-BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za, LEDET – EIA and Biodiversity Sections, Birdlife SA, Vulpro for comments. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and be incorporated in the final EIAr.
- The Heritage Impact Assessment report must be submitted to SAHRA for comments. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and incorporated in the EIAr.
- You are reminded that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. “the Protocols”), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), are in effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.

g) Environmental Management Programme

- Part B: Section 2 of the generic EMPs for the powerline and substation must be completed, and a copy of an originally signed generic EMPs must be submitted with the EIAr. Please ensure that Point 7.1.1 in Part B: Section 2 match the details of the Applicant as contained in the amended application form and EIAr.
- If any specific environmental sensitivities/attributes are present on site which require more specific impact management outcomes and impact management actions, not included in the pre-approved generic EMP template, to manage such impacts, those impact management outcomes and actions must be included in Section C of the generic EMPs.
- The EMP for the facility must comply with the requirements of Appendix 4 in the EIA Regulation, as amended.

h) Cumulative Assessment

- Noting that this project is part of the cluster and there may 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:
 - The cumulative impacts assessment must consider the existing, authorised but not yet developed, the proposed similar development and powerline in the area.
 - 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.
 - The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

General

Where the proposed activity does not include operational aspects, please ensure that the final EIAr 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 3(3)(1)(r) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are reminded that the final EIAR to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIAR must contain all information set out into the Regulations or comply with a protocol or minimum information requirements relevant to the application as identified and gazetted by the Minister in a government notice.

Regulation 23(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, states that: *“The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority - (a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, and an EMPr, which must 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 EIAR's 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 23(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *“The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the reports, and an EMPr, will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the competent authority, or where regulation 21(2) applies, within 156 days of receipt of application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the environmental impact assessment report or EMPr, which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in sub-regulation (1)(a) and that the revised environmental impact assessment report or EMPr 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 23 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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment

Letter signed by: Ms. Olivia Letlalo

Designation: Deputy Director: Prioritised Infrastructure Projects

Date: 19/09/2025

cc:	Mr. Andrew Pearson	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Tel: 021 685 3240 Cell: 084 7224855	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
	Matodzi Rathumbu	Limpopo: Department of Economic Development, Environment & Tourism (DEDET)	Tel: 015 293 8648 Cell: 079 3410018	Email: RathumbuM@ledet.gov.za/harmses@ledet.gov.za
	Ms Nokwanda Nkosi	Makhado Local Municipality	Tel: 015 519 3003	Email: municipal.manager@makhado.gov.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Enquiries: Ms Thulisile Nyalunga

Telephone: (012) 399 9405 **E-mail:** TNyalunga@dffe.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365
Cell phone Number: 082 448 9225
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE UP TO 74 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 465 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 21 August 2025 refer.

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

a) Listed Activities and application form

- (i) Please expand the description of each of the listed activities applied for and relate their relevance to the proposed development. This description, which must also be provided in the EIAR, must be detailed in indicating what is being proposed, with the proposed thresholds and capacities. This must be done for all listed activities applied for.
- (ii) Activity 56 of Listing Notice 1 and Activity 12 of Listing Notice 3 have been removed from the draft EIAR. Please update the application form to reflect this change. 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>.



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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

- (iii) The relevant authorities must be continuously involved throughout the environmental impact 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) Specific Comments

- (i) The nearest protected area i.e. Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve is located approximately 8,5km north of the proposed development site. You are required to obtain comments from the Blijdschap Private Nature Reserve.
- (ii) It has been noted that the proposed associated infrastructure includes water storage tanks and pipelines. However, the draft EIAR provides no assessment of the impacts of the proposed pipeline. You are required to assess the impacts of the proposed pipeline, specify the size and length of the proposed pipeline and ensure that the pipeline does not trigger any listed activity as no listed activity related to a pipeline has been applied for.
- (iii) A BESS has been applied for as part of this application. You are required to provide the height and capacity of the proposed BESS.
- (iv) Please provide technical details for the proposed facility with the components and descriptions and or dimensions of the project not limited to the BESS, onsite switching station, IPP substation, O&M complex, access road and internal roads, temporary storage, laydown area, etc.
- (v) On pages 26-27, a series of questions and answers to demonstrate the need and desirability were provided. You are requested to summarize the need and desirability and present it in a paragraph form.
- (vi) It is indicated in the report that Grid connection alternative 1 is the preferred option at this stage and that this could change depending on the outcome of the environmental procedure. You are requested to demonstrate why alternative 1 is preferable and the other alternatives are not viable. Please note Appendix 1(3)(1)(h)(x) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, which requires that *"if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such must be included in the final EIAR"*, in this regard.
- (vii) A description of the process followed to reach the preferred alternative within the site as per Appendix 1(3)(1)(h)(i) of the EIA Regulations (2014), as amended, must be incorporated into the final EIAR.
- (viii) It is indicated in the report that no technology alternatives are under consideration in this application. Please investigate the BESS technology alternatives. The same approach as alluded to in (vi) above must be followed.

c) Screen Tool Report

- (i) The screening tool report (page 1 of 15) requires a compiler signature. Please submit the signed screening report along with the final EIAR.

d) Coordinates

- (i) Only the centre point coordinates for the BESS were provided in the report. Please provide four corner coordinate points for the proposed BESS, IPP substation, Eskom switching station, temporary laydown areas and all other structures that may be the subject of this application process.
- (ii) Please ensure that the coordinates provided also include the start, middle and end points (and bend points if there are any) of the proposed pipeline and access and internal roads. All coordinates must be in degrees and decimal minutes.

e) Locality, Site Layout and Sensitivity Maps

The final EIAR must provide the following:

- (i) A clear description of all associated infrastructure. This description must include, but is not limited to the following:
 - The proposed PV facility, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), pipeline, PV Inverter, including their entire footprint;
 - Internal roads; and
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area and auxiliary buildings, dangerous goods facility etc.

- (ii) A copy of the final preferred layout map. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout map must indicate the following:
 - Permanent laydown area footprint;
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible);
 - Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, streams and water crossings of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used;
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites, including their entire footprint;
 - Location of access and service roads;
 - Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads;
 - Buffer areas;
 - Buildings, including accommodation;
 - All “no-go” areas; and
 - A north arrow and legend/key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.
- (iii) An environmental sensitivity map indicating sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
- (iv) A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.

f) **Public Participation Process**

- (i) The final EIAR must comply with all conditions of the acceptance of the scoping report dated 21 July 2025. Please ensure that the Department’s comments are addressed in the report as well as in the comments and response table.
- (ii) Please ensure that the final EIAR includes proof that the key stakeholders received written notification of the proposed activity, and the draft EIAR. Comments made by interested and affected parties (I&APs) must be comprehensively captured and responded to clearly and fully in the comments and response report.

g) **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:
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

h) **Specialist Studies**

- (i) It is brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. “the Protocols”), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols, **except where the applicant provides proof to the competent authority that the specialist assessment affected by these protocols had been commissioned before the date on which the protocols came into effect, in which case Appendix 6 of the**

Environmental impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, will apply. Please indicate in the EIAr whether or not the protocols were applied or provide the necessary proof where the exception applies. Please note further that the protocols, if applicable, require certain specialists to be SACNASP registered.

- (ii) For ease of reference, please provide a table in the EIAr, indicating the studies required by the Department's screening tool, a column indicating whether these studies were undertaken or not, a column with the requisite motivation if a study was not undertaken (confirmed by a site sensitivity verification, where the protocols are applicable and require such); a column(s) indicating whether the protocols are applicable and if they were complied with for the relevant study.

i) Environmental Management Programme

- (i) The generic EMPs are not signed by the applicant. The signed generic EMPs must form part of the final EIAr.
- (ii) Please ensure that all recommended mitigation measures recorded in the EIAr and specialist studies are carried through to the site-specific section of the Generic EMPs. The EMPs must also include an environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process, overlaid with the development footprint site map.
- (iii) Please also include in the EMP, the recommended frequency for the auditing of compliance with the conditions of the EA and EMP for the construction, post-construction monitoring, and operational (where relevant) phases of the activity, and for the submission of such compliance reports to the competent authority.

j) Undertaking of an Oath

- (i) Please ensure that the final EIAr includes an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP **(administered by a Commissioner of Oaths)** as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

General

Where the proposed activity does not include operational aspects, please also ensure that the final EIAr includes the period for which the environmental authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are reminded that the final EIAr to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIAr must contain all information set out in the Regulations or comply with a protocol or minimum information requirements relevant to the application as identified and gazetted by the Minister in a government notice.

Regulation 23(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, states that: *"The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority -(a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, and an EMP, which must 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 EIAr's or EMP 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 23(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *"The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the reports, and an EMP, will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the competent authority, or where regulation 21(2) applies, within 156 days of receipt of application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the environmental impact assessment report or EMP, 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 environmental impact assessment report or EMP 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 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE UP TO 74 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 465 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Ms Sindiswa Dlomo

Designation: Deputy Director: National Integrated Authorisation Projects

Date: 19/09/2025

cc:	Mr Andrew Pearson	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
-----	-------------------	----------------------------	--------------------------

From: Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 26 August 2025 12:31
To: Dale Holder
Cc: ElAdmin; Zama Langa
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS BETHEL SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the abovementioned project on 21 August 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Salome Mambane
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Priority Infrastructure Developments
Tel: 012 399 9385
Cell: 063 684 5431
Email: SMambane@dffe.gov.za

From: Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 25 August 2025 11:32
To: Dale Holder
Cc: ElAdmin; Lunga Dlova
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR THE PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAA LOOP SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the abovementioned project on 21 August 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Salome Mambane
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Priority Infrastructure Developments
Tel: 012 399 9385
Cell: 063 684 5431
Email: SMambane@dffe.gov.za

Francois Byleveld

From: Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 25 August 2025 11:39
To: Dale Holder
Cc: ElAdmin; Makhosi Yeni
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR THE PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the abovementioned project on 21 August 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Salome Mambane
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Priority Infrastructure Developments
Tel: 012 399 9385
Cell: 063 684 5431
Email: SMambane@dffe.gov.za

Francois Byleveld

From: Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 25 August 2025 11:44
To: Dale Holder
Cc: ElAdmin; Thulisile Nyalunga
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR THE PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the abovementioned project on 21 August 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Salome Mambane
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Priority Infrastructure Developments
Tel: 012 399 9385
Cell: 063 684 5431
Email: SMambane@dffe.gov.za

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 21 August 2025 17:11
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Draft Environmental Impact Report and Draft Environmental Management Programme for the proposed Bethel Solar PV Project in the Limpopo Province.
Attachments: Document control form Bethel Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications

Please find the attached screenshot and document control for the submission of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Bethel Solar PV Project in the Limpopo Province.

EIA Applications 01 August - 31 August - 31 A X +

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Bethel PV Draft EIR.zip

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Draailoop PV Draft EIR.zip

EA Application_Doorfontein Solar PV Plant.zip

EA Application_Malgas Solar PV Plant.zip

Klipput PV Draft EIR.zip

Mokolobane EA Amendment Application 2025-07-0050.zip

Orkney Part 1 Amendment.zip

Phofu SPP - DFFE Part 1 Amendment Re-sumbmission.zip

Portion 76 of Farm 216 Uitzicht Knysna Application Form Folder.zip

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Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 21 August 2025 17:08
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Draft Environmental Impact Report and Draft Environmental Management Programme for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Project in the Limpopo Province.
Attachments: Document control form Draailoop Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications

Please find the attached screenshot and document control for the submission of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Project in the Limpopo Province.

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EA Application_Malgas Solar PV Plant.zip	About an
Mokolobane EA Amendment Application 2025-07-0050.zip	3 hours a
Orkney Part 1 Amendment.zip	About an
Phofu SPP - DFFE Part 1 Amendment Re-submission.zip	5 hours a
Portion 76 of Farm 216 Uitzicht Knysna Application Form Folder.zip	2 hours a

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
 NDip Nat.Con
 EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 21 August 2025 17:10
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Draft Environmental Impact Report and Draft Environmental Management Programme for the proposed Klipput Solar PV Project in the Limpopo Province.
Attachments: Document control form Klipput Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications

Please find the attached screenshot and document control for the submission of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Klipput Solar PV Project in the Limpopo Province.

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 EA Application_Malgas Solar PV Plant.zip

☒  Klipput PV Draft EIR.zip

 Mokolobane EA Amendment Application 2025-07-0050.zip

 Orkney Part 1 Amendment.zip

 Phofu SPP - DFFE Part 1 Amendment Re-submission.zip

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2

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 21 August 2025 17:12
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Draft Environmental Impact Report and Draft Environmental Management Programme for the proposed Makoppa Solar PV Project in the Limpopo Province.
Attachments: Document control form Makoppa Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications

Please find the attached screenshot and document control for the submission of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Makoppa Solar PV Project in the Limpopo Province.

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- Bethel PV Draft EIR.zip
- Draailoop PV Draft EIR.zip
- EA Application_Doorfontein Solar PV Plant.zip
- EA Application_Malgas Solar PV Plant.zip
- Klipput PV Draft EIR.zip
- ☒ Makoppa PV Draft EIR.zip
- Mokolobane EA Amendment Application 2025-07-0050.zip
- Orkney Part 1 Amendment.zip
- Phofu SPP - DFFE Part 1 Amendment Re-submission.zip
- Portion 76 of Farm 216 Uitzicht Knysna Application Form Folder.zip

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Enquiries: Ms Zamalanga Langa

Telephone: (012) 399 9389 **E-mail:** zlanga@dffe.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Cell Number: 044 874 0365

Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za / francois@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

ACCEPTANCE OF SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON FARM 431 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The final Scoping Report (FSR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated 25 April 2025 and received by the Department on 09 June 2025, refer.

The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR, and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated May 2025 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

In addition, the following amendments and additional information are required for the EIAR:

(a) Listed Activities

- (i) For activities listed under Listing Notice 3, please ensure that the specific name of the protected area in proximity to the proposed project is clearly indicated in the activity description.
- (ii) 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. Also ensure to choose the



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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others

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correct and relevant sub listing. Additionally, note that the onus is on the applicant and the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to ensure that all the applicable listed activities are included in the application. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays in the processing of the application.

- (iii) The EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- (iv) If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final EIAR, 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>.
- (v) The relevant authorities with jurisdiction in respect of geographically designated areas in terms of GN R. 985 (Listing Notice 3) Activities must be continuously involved throughout the environmental impact assessment process. Written comments (or proof of consultation) 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. Please also ensure that the potential impacts on the affected Critical Biodiversity Areas and protected areas are fully assessed in the EIAR.

(b) Public Participation

- (i) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR.
- (ii) Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR and draft EIAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final EIAR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final EIAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (iii) Copies of comments received must be submitted to the Department. Copies of responses provided to all comments received must also be submitted. In addition, the EIAR must also include proof that responses were sent to Interested and Affected Parties.
- (iv) A Comments and Response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final EIAR. The C&R report must incorporate all comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Appendix 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as "noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments. Please ensure that the comments and trail report is in the format provided by the department. This must include all comments received on this application.
- (v) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.
- (vi) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- (vii) The EAP is requested to contact the Department to make the necessary arrangements to conduct a site inspection prior to the submission of the final EIAR.
- (viii) All evidence of public participation must be included in the final EIR including site notices and newspaper articles

(c) Cumulative Assessment

- (i) The EIR must include cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts and must be refined to indicate the following.

- 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.
- 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.
- The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
- A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

(d) Specialist assessments

- (i) The specialist studies must include the following:
 - A detailed description of the study's methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.
 - Provide a detailed description of all limitations to the studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation will not be allowed.
 - Please note that the Department considers a 'no-go' area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the 'no-go' areas.
 - Should the specialist definition of 'no-go' area differ from the Departments definition; this must be clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the 'no-go' area's buffer if applicable.
 - All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.
 - Should a specialist recommend specific mitigation measures, these must be clearly indicated.
 - Regarding cumulative impacts:
 - Clearly defined cumulative impacts and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
 - A detailed process flow 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.
 - Identified cumulative impacts associated with the proposed development must be rated with the significance rating methodology used in the process.
 - The significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.
- (ii) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.
- (iii) It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal

species), have come into effect. Should this study be required, the specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.

- (iv) The screening tool output:
 - The screening tool and the gazetted protocols (GN R320 of 20 March 2020 and GN R 1150 of 30 October 2020) require a site sensitivity verification to be completed to either confirm or dispute the findings and sensitivity ratings of the screening tool.
 - It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm the list of specialist assessments and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist studies including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation.
- (v) Additionally, the protocols specify that an assessment must be prepared by a specialist who is an expert in the field and is SACNASP registered for e.g. an aquatic assessment must be prepared by a specialist registered with SACNASP, with expertise in the field of aquatics sciences.
- (vi) Please be reminded that section 2(3) of NEMA requires developments to be socially, environmentally and *economically* sustainable, while section 2(4)(i) of NEMA requires the social, *economic* and environmental impacts of activities, including disadvantages and benefits, to be considered, assessed and evaluated.
- (vii) Specialist findings and recommendations must be separated per project.
- (viii) The following Specialist Assessments will form part of the EIAR:

Specialist Study
Agricultural Compliance Statement
Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment
Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment
Palaeontology Impact Assessment
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment
Avian Impact Assessment
Civil Aviation Compliance Statement
Defence Compliance Statement
Geotechnical Assessment
Socio-Economic Impact Assessment
Plant Species Compliance Statement
Animal Species Impact Assessment

(e) Locality, Site Layout and Sensitivity Maps

The draft EIAR must provide the following maps that includes:

- (i) A clear description of all associated infrastructure. This description must include, but is not limited to the following:
 - PV facility and all associated infrastructures such as, substation, access road etc;
 - Internal road infrastructure; and;
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area and auxiliary buildings, etc.
- (ii) All necessary details regarding all possible locations and sizes of the proposed project infrastructure.
- (iii) A copy of the final preferred layout map. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout map must indicate the following:
 - Permanent laydown area footprint;

- Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible);
 - Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, streams, and water crossings of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used;
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on-site e.g. CBAs, ESA, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines, etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites, including their entire footprint;
 - Location of access and service roads;
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads;
 - Buffer areas;
 - Buildings, ;
 - All “no-go” areas; and
 - A north arrow and legend/key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.
- (iv) An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmentally sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
- (v) A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.

(f) Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)

- (i) It is drawn to your attention that for the overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 of the EIA 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 Programmes (EMPr), contemplated in Regulations 19(4) must be used over and above the EMPr for the facility. Accordingly, there needs to be a generic EMPr for the substation, powerline and separate EMPr for the facility.
- (ii) Please ensure that the mitigation measures specified in the EIAr and specialist reports are also incorporated into the EMPr.
- (iii) In addition, ensure that the EMPr complies with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- (iv) Please also include in the EMPr, a recommended frequency for the auditing of compliance with the conditions of the EA and EMPr, and for the submission of such compliance reports to the competent authority.
- (v) EMPr must include an environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
- (vi) A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.
- (vii) EMPr must include measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.

(g) General

- (i) The EIAr must provide the technical details for the proposed facility in a table format as well as their description and/or dimensions. A sample for the minimum information required is listed under Annexure 2 below.
- (ii) Recommendations of conditions to be included in the EA, must be done per project.
- (iii) Details of the future plans for the site and infrastructure after decommissioning in 20-30 years and the possibility of upgrading the proposed infrastructure to more advanced technologies must be indicated.

- (iv) The EAP must provide landowner consent for all farm portions affected by the proposed project, whether the project component is linear or not, i.e. all farm portions where the access road, solar panels and associated infrastructure is to be located.
- (v) Please also ensure that the EIAR includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- (vi) Kindly ensure that, the appendices of the EIAR are properly packed and grouped. For example, you must create a folder that relate to public participation process and all information regarding the public participation process must all be included in that folder. The same must be done also to Specialist report, maps, EMPr(s) and other files.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amendment, with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations.

Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 23 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 faithfully



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Ms Nyiko Nkosi

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisation Projects

Date: 23/07/2025

cc:	Andrew Pearson	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
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Annexure 1

Format for Comments and Response Trail Report:

Date of comment, format of comment name of organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
Pule Joseph Lenong Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) Email correspondence: 07 February 2022	On behalf of the Provincial Head of the Department of Water and Sanitation: Free State, I hereby would like to acknowledge receipt your e-mail with kindness. The contents are receiving attention. In future, if you do not mind, please send your EIA directly to this office. Mr George Nel is copied here and myself	The comment raised by the DWS has been noted. In addition, George Nel has been added onto the database for all future correspondence.

Annexure 2: Sample of technical details for the proposed facility

Component	Description / dimensions
Height of PV panels	
Area of PV Array	
Number of inverters required	
Area occupied by inverter / transformer stations / substations	
Capacity of on-site substation	
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	
Area occupied by buildings	
Length of internal roads	
Width of internal roads	
Proximity to grid connection	
Height of fencing	
Type of fencing	



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Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Enquiries: Mr Lunga Dlova

Telephone: (012) 399 8524 **E-mail:** LDlova@dffe.gov.za

Mr. Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365
Cellphone Number: 082 448 9225
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 430 AND FARM 431 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated 06 June 2026 (**administrative error on the year written in the FSR**) and received by the Department on 09 June 2025, refer.

The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated **06 June 2026** and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(1) (a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

In addition, the following is required for the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR):

(a) Coordinates

- (i) Please provide coordinate points for the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous turning points, at each turning point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end



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point of all linear activities (Indicate the position of the proposed activity with the latitude and longitude at the centre point for each alternative site. The co-ordinates should be in degrees and decimal minutes. The minutes should be to at least three decimal places. The projection that must be used in all cases is the WGS-84 spheroid in a national or local projection).

(b) Alternatives

- (i) Please note that Appendix 1(3)(1)(h)(x) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, requires that “if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such” must be included in the draft EIAr. You are therefore required to provide a motivation should other alternative sites, routes, layouts, and technologies not be considered.

(c) Locality, Site Layout and Sensitivity Maps

- (i) The draft EIAr must provide the following:
- A clear description of all associated infrastructure. This description must include, but is not limited to the following:
 - Internal roads infrastructure; and;
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area and auxiliary buildings, dangerous goods facility etc.
 - All necessary details regarding all possible locations and sizes of the proposed solar PV infrastructure.
 - A copy of the final preferred layout map. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout map must indicate the following:
 - Permanent laydown area footprint;
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible);
 - Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, streams and water crossings of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used;
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, ESA, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - Location of access and service roads;
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads;
 - Buffer areas;
 - Buildings, including accommodation;
 - All “no-go” areas; and
 - A north arrow and legend/key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.
 - An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
 - A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.

(d) **Public Participation**

- (i) On the comments and response table, you must respond to each issue raised by interested and affected parties and use a clear and readable font. It is preferable to compile a table with three columns for the date of comment, name of organization/I&AP, issue or comment raised, and response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist.
- (ii) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR. This includes but is not limited to the Department of Economic Development, Environment & Tourism (DEDET), Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA), Limpopo Province Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Birdlife South Africa, Limpopo Provincial Heritage Resources Agency, Endangered Wildlife Trust, Eskom Holdings (Pty) Ltd, Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District Municipality and the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation, Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs).
- (iii) Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received on the draft SR and draft EIAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the Final SR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final EIAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (iv) A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final EIAR. The C&R report must incorporate all comments (pre- and post-submission of the draft EIAR) received for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format which reflects the details of the I&APs and date of comments received, actual comments received, and response provided. Please ensure that comments made by I&APs are comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&APs comments.
- (v) Please ensure that the EIAR indicates when and where the draft SR and EIAR were made available for a 30-day review and comment period.
- (vi) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of the approved public participation plan and Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

(e) **Specialist assessments**

- (i) All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.
- (ii) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.
- (iii) It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), are in effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.

(f) Environmental Management Programme

- (i) It is drawn to your attention that for substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the EIA 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 Programmes (EMPr), contemplated in Regulations 19(4) must be used over and above the EMPr for the PV facility. Accordingly, there needs to be a generic EMPr for the on-site substation, a generic EMPr for the overhead powerline, and a third, separate EMPr for the PV facility.
- (ii) Please ensure that any specific mitigation measures identified in the EIAr and specialist reports for the on-site substation and powerline are incorporated into the site-specific section of the generic EMPrs.
- (iii) Please ensure that the mitigation measures specified in the EIAr and specialist reports for the PV facility are also incorporated into the EMPr for the PV facility. In addition, please ensure that the EMPr complies with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- (iv) Please also include in the EMPrs, a recommended frequency for the auditing of compliance with the conditions of the EA and EMPr, and the submission of such compliance reports to the competent authority.

(g) General

- (ii) Please ensure that the final EIAr 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 3(3)(1)(r) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- (iii) Confirmation of the availability of services (e.g., sewage, water, etc. if required) must be included in the EIAr.
- (iv) Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as an amendment, with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations.

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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Letter signed by: Ms Masina Morudu

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisation Projects

Date: 23/07/2025.

cc:	Mr Andrew Pearson	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
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Annexure 1: Table of Technical Details

- The EIA must provide the technical details for the proposed facility in a table format, as well as their description and/or dimensions, as per the sample below.

Sample of minimum technical details required for the proposed facility

Component	Description/dimensions
Height of PV structures	
Capacity of the PV facility	
Surface area to be covered by the facility (i.e., the area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas, including PV array area and associated infrastructure such as roads)	
Proximity to grid connection	
Number of overhead power lines required and voltage of overhead power lines	
Height of the Power Line	
Number of substations required and voltage of substations	
Area occupied by inverter/transformer stations/substations	
Area occupied by buildings	
Number of access roads, including length and width	
Length and width of internal roads	
Additional Infrastructure	



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DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Enquiries: Ms Makhosazane Yeni

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Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za / francois@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR PV ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated 25 April 2025 and received by the Department on 09 June 2025, refer.

The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated 25 April 2025 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(1) (a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

In addition, the following is required for the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR):

(a) Project description and Listed Activities



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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

- The project infrastructure as presented on page v to vi and page 7 to 8 of the final SR is hereby noted. You are reminded to ensure that all the dimensions/sizes of associated infrastructure (i.e. roads, pipelines, etc) are presented.
- The final SR indicated that a revised application form will also be submitted with the draft EIAR to reflect the updated descriptions as per the comments on draft SR. Please note that the comments regarding the listed activities on draft SR still stands.
- It has been noted that activity 11 of Listing Notice (LN) 1 has been applied for, however, the length of the proposed grid connection infrastructure is not specified. You are advised to provide the length of the proposed grid connection.
- Activities 12 of LN1 have been applied for, however the physical footprint of the infrastructure or structures is not specified. Please ensure the details are provided in the amended application form and draft EIAR.
- For activity 24 and 56 of LN1 it is not clear whether the road will have a reserve or not. In addition, the use of the word “may” in the description does not confirm that these activities are applicable to the proposed development. Therefore, you are advised to refrain from using the word may.
- It has been noted on page 50 of the final SR that *“the project development will not impact on any CBAs and falls entirely in an ONA (Other Natural Area)”*. It is also noted that activities 4, 12, 14, and 18 of LN3 have been applied for. However, the relevant site sensitivities as per sub activities are not specified. As such, you are requested to specify the applicable sensitivities/geographical areas, and this information must be clear in the EIAR.
- The use of words such as “*may be*” and statements such as “*the relevance of this activity will be determined in the impact assessment phase*” is hereby noted. However, **kindly be advised that listed activities are not based on a precautionary approach. Please ensure that all the listed activities in the amended application form and EIAR are clear, are the same and final for decision making purposes. Should it not be clear that listed activity is triggered, such activity will not be considered in the decision-making process.**
- Please ensure that all relevant activities listed are applied for are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. In addition, the onus is on the applicant and the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (“EAP”) to ensure that all the applicable listed activities are included in the application form and the EIAR. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays in the processing of the application.
- If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the SR, an amended application form must be submitted with the EIAR. 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>.

(b) Coordinates

- Please provide coordinate points for the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous turning points, at each turning point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities (indicate the position of the proposed activity with the latitude and longitude at the centre point for each alternative site). The co-ordinates should be in degrees and decimal minutes. The minutes should be to at least three decimal places. The projection that must be used in all cases is the WGS-84 spheroid in a national or local projection).

(c) Alternatives

- Alternatives as included on page 29 to 36 of the final SR are hereby noted. You are required to provide all the alternatives considered for this development as per Appendix 2 (2) (1) (g) (i) (v) (vi) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended in the EIAR. Furthermore, the preferred options for all assessed alternatives must be determined and be clear throughout the EIA report.
- Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2. However, note that no development will be allowed within sensitive area, mitigation hierarchy should be considered to avoid impacts on sensitive environment.

(d) Layout and Sensitivity Maps

- The layout map included as Appendix D of the final SR must be amended to include the following:
 - The PV development area.
 - Position of all associated infrastructure e.g., panels, BESS, on-site substations, powerline, etc.
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as permanent laydown area and auxiliary buildings, dangerous goods facility etc.
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads;
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible);
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure.
 - Buffer areas;
 - All “no-go” areas.
 - A north arrow and legend/ key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.
- All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the map and infrastructure must not encroach on highly sensitive areas as far as possible.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments.
- A combined map showing all the Cluster Projects (Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV).
- Ensure that similar colours are not used to differentiate between infrastructure. i.e., items must be easily distinguishable on the legend.
- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

(e) Public Participation Process (PPP)

- Please ensure that all comments from all identified and relevant competent authorities as well as stakeholders have been responded to, addressed and incorporated to the EIAR. The identified stakeholders must include but are not limited to the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District Municipality, Limpopo: Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET), Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Department of Mineral Resources, Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA), Birdlife South Africa, South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO), Square Kilometer Array (SKA), Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS), Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), Eskom, SA National Defence Force and the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFPE): Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness and Biodiversity Conservation Directorates (BCAdmin@dfpe.gov.za), and the relevant heritage authorities.
- The PPP must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- A Comments and Responses trail report (C&RR) must be compiled, continuously updated throughout the EIA process for this proposed development starting with the draft SR. The C&RR must be a separate document from the main report and must be in the table format, which reflects the details of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), the date comments were received (actual comments received) and responses provided.
- Comments made by I&APs must be comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as “noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments.
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the EIAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the CA of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- Please ensure that the EIAR indicates when and where the draft SR and EIAR were made available for a 30-day review and comment period.

- The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of the approved public participation plan and Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

(f) Screening Tool Report

- It has been noted that the screening tool reports dated 13 March 2025 for Klipput Solar PV and powerline alternatives 1, 2 and 3 submitted with the application form and the final SR are not signed by the compiler. You are advised to ensure that all signed screening tool reports are submitted with the amended application form and the EIAR.

(g) Specialist Assessments

- According to page 5 of 15 of the screening tool report dated 13 March 2025 for Klipput Solar PV, the defence theme is rated as very high in terms of sensitivity, while the agriculture and civil aviation themes are rated high in terms of sensitivity. The animal species and palaeontology themes have medium sensitivity. The aquatic biodiversity, archaeology and cultural heritage, plant species, and terrestrial biodiversity themes are rated low in terms of sensitivity. In addition, you are advised to ensure that themes for all powerline alternatives are considered, site sensitivity reports and studies are undertaken accordingly.
- Site sensitivity verification reports that have been submitted are hereby noted. According to the SSVr and page 113 of the final SR, the following specialist assessments will be undertaken and included in the EIAR:
 - Agricultural Compliance Statement
 - Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment.
 - Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment.
 - Plant Species Impact Assessment.
 - Animal Species Impact Assessment.
 - Avifaunal Impact Assessment
 - Heritage Impact Assessment (including Cultural Heritage, Archaeology and Palaeontology)
 - Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
 - Agricultural Compliance Statement.
 - Socio-Economic Impact Assessment.
 - Geotechnical Assessment.

The following Compliance Statements will be undertaken by the EAP:

- Defence Compliance Statement
- Civil Aviation Compliance Statement.
- All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.
- Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expert advice.
- It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), are in effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.

(h) Environmental Management Programme

- It is noted that activity 11 of Listing Notice 1 has been applied for. Please ensure that the generic EMP that complies with the GN 435 of March 2022 is used for the management of impacts of the substation and power line that will be constructed for this development and are submitted to the CA.
- Part B: Section 2 of the generic EMP must be completed, and a copy of an originally signed generic EMP must be submitted with the EIAR. Please ensure that Point 7.1.1 in Part B: Section 2 match the details of the Applicant as contained in the amended application form and EIAR.

- If any specific environmental sensitivities/attributes are present on site which require more specific impact management outcomes and impact management actions, not included in the pre-approved generic EMPr template, to manage such impacts, those impact management outcomes and actions must be included in Section C of the generic EMPr.
- The EMPr for the facility must comply with the requirements of Appendix 4 in the EIA Regulation, as amended.

(i) Cumulative Assessment

- Noting that this project is part of the cluster and there may 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:
 - The cumulative impacts assessment must consider the existing, authorised but not yet developed, the proposed similar development and powerline in the area.
 - 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.
 - The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

(j) General

- The technical checklist included in the final SR must be amended to provide the technical details for the proposed facility as per the sample below.

Sample of minimum technical details required for the proposed facility.

Component	Description/dimensions
Height of PV structures	
Capacity of the PV facility	
Surface area to be covered by the facility (i.e., the area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas, including PV array area and associated infrastructure such as roads)	
Proximity to grid connection	
Number of overhead power lines required and voltage of overhead power lines	
Height of the Power Line	
Number of substations required and voltage of substations	
Area occupied by inverter/transformer stations/substations	
Area occupied by buildings	
Number of access roads, including length and width	
Length and width of internal roads	
Additional Infrastructure	

- Please ensure that the final EIAR 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 3(3)(1)(r) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- Confirmation of the availability of services (e.g., sewage, water, etc. if required) must be included in the EIAR.
- Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as an amendment, with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations.

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

Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment

Letter signed by: Mr Mahlatse Shubane

Designation: Deputy Director (Acting): Prioritised Infrastructure Projects

Date: 17 July 2025

cc:	Mr. Andrew Pearson	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Tel: 021 685 3240 Cell: 084 7224855	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
	Matodzi Rathumbu	Limpopo: Department of Economic Development, Environment & Tourism (DEDET)	Tel: 015 293 8648 Cell: 079 3410018	Email: RathumbulM@ledet.gov.za/harmses@ledet.gov.za
	Ms Nokwanda Nkosi	Makhado Local Municipality	Tel: 015 519 3003	Email: municipal.manager@makhado.gov.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Enquiries: Ms Thulisile Nyalunga

Telephone: (012) 399 9405 **E-mail:** TNyalunga@dfffe.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365
Cell phone Number: 082 448 9225
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED UP TO 74 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 465 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated April 2024 and received by the Department on 09 June 2025, refer.

The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated April 2025 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(1) (a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

In addition, the following is required for the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR):

(a) Coordinates



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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

- (i) Please provide coordinate points for the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous turning points, at each turning point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities. Please indicate the position of the proposed activity with the latitude and longitude at the centre point for each alternative site. The co-ordinates must be in degrees and decimal minutes. The minutes should be to at least three decimal places. The projection that must be used in all cases is the WGS-84 spheroid in a national or local projection.

(b) Alternatives

- (i) Please note that Appendix 1(3)(1)(h)(x) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, requires that “*if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such*” must be included in the draft EIAR. You are therefore required to provide a motivation should other alternative sites, routes, layouts, and technologies not be considered.

(c) Locality, Site Layout and Sensitivity Maps

The draft EIAR must provide the following:

- (i) A clear description of all associated infrastructure. This description must include, but is not limited to the following:
 - Internal roads infrastructure; and;
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area and auxiliary buildings, dangerous goods facility etc.
- (ii) All necessary details regarding all possible locations and sizes of the proposed solar PV infrastructure.
- (iii) A copy of the final preferred layout map. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout map must indicate the following:
 - Permanent laydown area footprint;
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible);
 - Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, streams and water crossings of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used;
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, ESA, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - Location of access and service roads;
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads;
 - Buffer areas;
 - Buildings, including accommodation;
 - All “no-go” areas; and
 - A north arrow and legend/key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.
- (iv) An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
- (v) A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.

(d) Public Participation

- (i) On the comments and response table, please respond to each issue raised by interested and affected parties and use a clear and readable font. It is preferable to compile a table with three columns for the date of comment, name of organization/I&AP, issue or comment raised, and response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist.

- (ii) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR. This includes but is not limited to the Department of Economic Development, Environment & Tourism (DEDET), Makhado Local Municipality, and the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation.
- (iii) Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received on the draft SR and draft EIAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the Final SR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final EIAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (iv) A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final EIAR. The C&R report must incorporate all comments (pre and post-submission of the draft EIAR) received for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format which reflects the details of the I&APs and date of comments received, actual comments received, and response provided. Please ensure that comments made by I&APs are comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&APs comments.
- (v) Please ensure that the EIAR indicates when and where the draft SR and EIAR were made available for a 30-day review and comment period.
- (vi) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of the approved public participation plan and Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

(e) Specialist Assessments

- (i) All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.
- (ii) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expert advice.
- (iii) It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), are in effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.

(f) Environmental Management Programme

- (i) It is drawn to your attention that for substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the EIA 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 Programmes (EMPr), contemplated in Regulations 19(4) must be used over and above the EMPr for the PV facility. Accordingly, there needs to be a generic EMPr for the on-site substation, a generic EMPr for the overhead powerline, and a third, separate EMPr for the PV facility.
- (ii) Please ensure that any specific mitigation measures identified in the EIAR and specialist reports for the on-site substation and powerline are incorporated into the site-specific section of the generic EMPrs.

- (iii) Please ensure that the mitigation measures specified in the EIAr and specialist reports for the PV facility are also incorporated into the EMPr for the PV facility. In addition, please ensure that the EMPr complies with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- (iv) Please also include in the EMPrs, a recommended frequency for the auditing of compliance with the conditions of the EA and EMPr, and the submission of such compliance reports to the competent authority.

(g) General

- (i) The EIAr must provide the technical details for the proposed facility in a table format, as well as their description and/or dimensions.
- (ii) Please ensure that the final EIAr 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 3(3)(1)(r) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- (iii) Confirmation of the availability of services (e.g., sewage, water, etc. if required) must be included in the EIAr.
- (iv) Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as an amendment, with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations.

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 faithfully



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Letter signed by: Ms Sindiswa Dlomo

Designation: Deputy Director: National Integrated Authorisation Projects

Date: 21/07/2025

cc:	Mr Andrew Pearson	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
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From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 10 June 2025 10:22
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Zama Langa; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS BETHEL SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Scoping Report for the abovementioned project on 09 June 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Priority Infrastructure Developments
Tel: (012) 399 9370
Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 10 June 2025 10:27
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Lunga Dlova; ElAadmin; Salome Mambane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Scoping Report for the abovementioned project on 09 June 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Priority Infrastructure Developments
Tel: (012) 399 9370
Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 10 June 2025 10:30
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Makhosi Yeni; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS KLIPPUT SOLAR, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Scoping Report for the abovementioned project on 09 June 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Priority Infrastructure Developments
Tel: (012) 399 9370
Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 10 June 2025 10:34
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga; ElAadmin; Salome Mambane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Scoping Report for the abovementioned project on 09 June 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Priority Infrastructure Developments
Tel: (012) 399 9370
Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Enquiries: Ms Zamalanga Langa

Telephone: (012) 399 9389 **E-mail:** zlanga@dffe.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Cell Number: 044 874 0365

Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za / francois@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON FARM 431 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated April 2025 and received by the Department on 24 April 2025, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included in the Final Scoping Report:

(a) Listed activities

- The project descriptions provided for some of the listed activities applied for cannot be directly linked to the respective listed activities, as the required thresholds or capacities have not been included. You are required to amend the project descriptions for Activities 11, 12, and 28 of Listing Notice 1 to include the capacity/threshold of the proposed infrastructure that triggers each listed activity. For example, for Activity 11, you must specify the infrastructure that triggers this listed activity, such as a substation or powerline, and indicate their capacity in kilovolts (kV).
- For the listed activities applied for under Listing Notice 3 (Activities 4, 12, 14, and 18), you must select the applicable geographical sensitivity area triggered by the proposed project, as you have not selected the relevant sub-listed activity.
- Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Furthermore, kindly ensure that the latest listed activities, as amended in 2021, are applied for.
- It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the Scoping and EIA 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



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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

N.N.

submitted to this Department. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided. Please also the potential impacts on the affected respective geographical areas (such as Critical Biodiversity Areas, and Protected Areas) indicated in Listing Notice 3 must be assessed.

(b) Screen tool report

- It has been noted that the screening tool report on page 1 requires a compiler signature. Please submit the signed screening tool report with the final SR.

(c) Public Participation Process

- Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the SR 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 SR.
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- Proof of the newspaper advertisement must be included in the final SR.
- The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.
- The final SR must provide evidence that all identified and relevant competent authorities have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposed development.

(d) Specialist Assessments

Please kindly ensure that the terms of reference for all specialist studies to be conducted includes the following requirements:

- A detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicating the locations and descriptions of PV positions, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.
- a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. Please ensure that all specialist studies that are conducted have been commissioned in the right season, and providing that as a limitation will not be accepted.
- If the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons and where necessary, include further expert advice.
- Regarding cumulative impacts:
 - Clearly defined cumulative impacts and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
 - A detailed process flow 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.

- Identified cumulative impacts associated with the proposed development must be rated with the significance rating methodology used in the process.
- The significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
- It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. Please ensure that specialist assessments are conducted in accordance with these protocols, except where the applicant provides proof to the competent authority that the specialist assessment affected by these protocols had been commissioned before the date on which the protocols came into effect, in which case Appendix 6 of the Environmental impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, will apply to such applications. Please indicate in the report whether the protocols were applied.
- Please note that the protocols require certain specialist's to be SACNASP registered. As such, the Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must also indicate the scientific organization registration/member number and status of registration/membership for each specialist.
- Please take note that for the themes that have been identified as medium and low, after having conducted the site verification the protocols requires that compliance statements be submitted together with the EIR. please ensure that these specialists must be identified as specialist to be conducted who compliance statements are to be included in the EIAR.

(e) Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- The layout map included in the SR must be amended to include the following:
 - The PV development area.
 - Position of all infrastructure e.g., panels, BESS, on-site substations, powerline etc.
 - laydown area footprint Connection routes to the distribution/transmission network; and
 - 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.
- All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the map and infrastructure must not encroach on highly sensitive areas as far as possible.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the map and infrastructure must not encroach on highly sensitive areas as far as possible.
- A combined map showing all the Cluster Projects (Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV)
- Ensure that similar colours are not used to differentiate between infrastructure. i.e., items must be easily distinguishable in the Legend.
- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

(f) Cumulative Impacts

- As this proposed project (Bethel Solar) forms part of a cluster of similar projects (Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV) situated in farm portions located next to each other, the assessment of cumulative impacts must include all the other proposed facilities linked or related to this proposed cluster development in this project area. Further, 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:

- 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.
- 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.
- The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
- A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

General

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:

"If S&EIR must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 44 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority a scoping report which has 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".

You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Further 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 timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).

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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

Signed by: Ms Nyiko Nkosi

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisations Projects

Date: 21/05/2025

cc:	Mr Andrew Pearson	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
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From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 30 April 2025 10:43
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Zama Langa; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION FORM AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS BETHEL SOLAR PV, VH, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Application Form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 24 April 2025. 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 3 of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 21 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 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.

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support
Tel: (012) 399 9370
Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 24 April 2025 15:07
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Application Form and Draft Scoping Report for the proposed Bethel Solar PV and associated Grid Connection Infrastructure.
Attachments: Document control form Bethel Solar PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications

Kindly find the attached document control form and screenshot for the submission of the application for the Proposed 240 Megawatt (MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility and associated electrical grid connection infrastructure, known as Bethel Solar PV, on Farm 431 and the Remainder of Farm 466 located South of Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District, Limpopo Province.

The pre application reference number in respect of this application is 2025-02-0006.



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Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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EIA Applications > EIA Applications 01 April - 30 April 2025

Name	Modified	Modified By	File size	Sharing
14_12_16_3_1_3_120_MP1_Final MMP Report.zip	About an hour ago	suhasini.naik@hatch.com	55.2 MB	Shared
Andromeda FEIAR 14-12-16-3-2-2633 (2).zip	About an hour ago	nmapira@ages-group.com	164 MB	Shared
Bethel Solar PV Application and DSR.zip	2 minutes ago	dale@cape-eaprac.co.za	144 MB	Shared
Draailoop Solar PV Application and DSR.zip	A few seconds ago	dale@cape-eaprac.co.za	144 MB	Shared
Final BAR for Proposed Dwelling on Erf 2924 Knysna (14-12-16-3-1-3096).zip	About an hour ago	joclyn@ecoroute.co.za	105 MB	Shared

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

Dale Holder

Subject: 2025-02-0006
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Start: Mon 2025/03/03 11:00
End: Mon 2025/03/03 12:00

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Meeting organizer

Organizer: Dale Holder
Required Attendees: Zama Langa; Francois Byleveld; Megan Dennis; Luke Attenborough
Optional Attendees: Nyiko Nkosi; Mahlatse Shubane; Olivia Letlalo; Bathandwa Ncube; Masina Morudu; Thabile Sangweni; Sindiswa Dlomo; Lunga Dlova; Makhosi Yeni; Thulisile Nyalunga; Ephron Maradwa

Dear Zama

Thank you very much for the confirmation of the time and date for the pre application meeting for the Mulilo Tabor Solar Project as per the abovementioned reference.

Please find MS Teams Calendar Invite for this meeting.

Kind Regards,

Dale

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 386 482 652 853

Passcode: LP6Nz3V8

For organizers: [Meeting options](#)

From: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>

Sent: Friday, 14 February 2025 10:27

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dffe.gov.za>; Masina Morudu <memorudu@dffe.gov.za>;

Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dffe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dffe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>

Subject: RE: 2025-02-0006

Dear Dale

Your pre application requested received on 05 February 2025 refers,

Please note that the department is available to meet on **03 March 2025 at 11h00**. Kindly arrange a MS Teams meeting and provide a link.

Regards,

Ms Zamalanga Langa

*Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
National Infrastructure Projects
Cell: 072 146 4308
Tel: 012 399 9389*



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>

Sent: Monday, 10 February 2025 09:46

To: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>

Cc: Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@dffe.gov.za>; Masina Morudu <memorudu@dffe.gov.za>; Thabile Sangweni <TSANGWENI@dffe.gov.za>; Sindiswa Dlomo <SDLOMO@dffe.gov.za>

Subject: FW: 2025-02-0006

Dear all

Please note that you have been added to the cluster project for Zama.

@Zama please make sure you invite them when you arrange for the meeting

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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@dffe.gov.za.

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

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.

From: EIA Applications
Sent: Wednesday, 05 February 2025 12:30
To: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: 2025-02-0006

Dear Zama.

Please note that you have been allocated an application:

Type of Application: Pre-Application Meeting Request;
Reference Number: 2025-02-0006;
Date Received: 05/02/2025;
Action Required: Decide on meeting request.

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

EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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@dffe.gov.za.

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

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 05 February 2025 10:20
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: Request for pre-application meeting - Proposed Mulilo Tabor PV projects.

Dear EIA Applications

Kindly find the attached request for pre-application meeting for the proposed Mulilo Tabor PV projects in the Limpopo province.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

T: 044 874 0365
17 Progress Street, Geo
PO Box 2070, George 65





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In the interest of resource conservation please reconsider printing this email.

Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you consent to the lawful processing of personal information for the intended purposes, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Your information will be used for this project, including the initial application as well as subsequent related appeals, amendments or audits, or any future project where you are identified as an I&AP. You also agree that by submitting comment to inform this process, your contact details will, where required by a public body, be reflected in our regulated reports that must be compiled and submitted to the general public, registered stakeholders, organs of state as well as the competent authority for consideration and decision-making.

Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information.



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Enquiries: Ms Zama Langa

Telephone: (012) 399 9389 **E-mail:** Zlanga@dff.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365
Cell phone Number: 082 448 9225
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE AMENDED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE BETHEL SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON FARM 431 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 21 August 2025, The Department's comments dated 19 September 2025, the notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) received 22 October 2025, the revised draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 06 November 2025 refer.

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

a) Listed Activities

- 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. Also ensure to choose the correct and relevant sub listing. Additionally, note that the onus is on the applicant and the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to ensure that all the applicable listed activities are included in the application. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays in the processing of the application.
- If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR and draft EIAR, 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 [RCSM Forms | Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment](#).



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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others

N.N

b) Alternatives

- Alternatives as included in the amended draft EIAR are hereby noted. You are required to provide all the alternatives considered for this development as per Appendix 2 (2) (1) (g) (i) (v) (vi) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended in the final EIAR. Furthermore, the preferred options for all assessed alternatives must be determined and be clear throughout the final EIA report.
- Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2. However, note that no development will be allowed within sensitive areas, mitigation hierarchy should be considered to avoid impacts on sensitive environment.
- The preferred alternative must be aligned with the specialist's recommendations.

c) Locality, Site Layout and Sensitivity Maps

- The Preferred Site Layout Plan attached as Appendix D1 is hereby noted. You are reminded to include the final layout map in the final EIAR that includes the following:
 - The PV development area.
 - Preferred EGI alternative.
 - Position of all associated infrastructure e.g., panels, BESS, on-site substations, powerline route, etc.
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as permanent laydown area and auxiliary buildings including accommodation, dangerous goods facility etc.
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads.
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width).
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines, avifaunal habitat and nests etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure.
 - Buffer areas of all sensitive areas.
 - All "no-go" areas.
 - A north arrow and legend/ key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.
- All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the map and infrastructure must not encroach on highly sensitive areas as far as possible.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments.
- A combined map showing all the Cluster Projects (Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV).
- Ensure that similar colours are not used to differentiate between infrastructure. i.e., items must be easily distinguishable on the legend.
- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

d) Public Participation Process

- Page 51 of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment mentions that "***although the project area is not located within a protected area, it is located within a conservation area – the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR)***". You are reminded to seek input from DFFE's Biosphere Reserve Section (Mr Vongani Maringa- email: vmaringa@environment.gov.za) and the management authority of the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR) NPC - info@vhembecosphere.org as well as Limpopo Protected Areas/Biodiversity Directorate. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and incorporated in the EIAR. Should you not receive comments from these stakeholders, proof of consultation must be submitted with the final EIAR.
- The Department notes that the notification to make use of the additional 50-day period was intended to conduct further consultation and address issues raised by Chatleka CPA. Please note that, following the receipt of the amended draft EIA Report (EIAR), the Department received objections via emails dated 20 and 25 November 2025, which were sent to the EAP and copied to the Department. You are required to address and provide a comprehensive response to the CPA on all issues raised. This must be done prior submission of final EIAR. Proof that responses were sent to the CPA, along with copies of the responses, must be attached to the EIAR to be submitted to the Department. Furthermore, the objections and corresponding responses must be included in the Comments and Response Report and incorporated into the Final EIAR.

- Regarding the letter dated 10 June 2025 from the Office of the Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo, the research report by the Dithakone and Chatleka Community has been gazetted by the Land Claims Commissioner. It further states that the properties in question must not be disposed of, sold, or leased without expressed permission from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo. You are required to submit with the final EIAR, a letter from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo that gives permission to continue with the planned development.
- The letter by the applicant (Appendix G1e) regarding the advice the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo to not engage with the claimants representatives is also noted. However, this letter does not give details of the official that Mulilo engage with and date when the telephonic conversation happened.
- As such, the Department submits that should the final EIAR be submitted without the formal letter from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo, the outcome of consultation and proof that the abovementioned affected parties were consulted, it would be considered as non-compliance with the requirements of this letter and the EIA Regulations, 2024 as amended.
- Please ensure that all comments from the registered interested and affected parties and relevant competent authorities as well as stakeholders have been responded to, addressed and incorporated to the final EIAR. The identified stakeholders must include but are not limited to the **Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR) NPC-info@vhembecosphere.org**, **Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE): Biosphere Reserves Section and Biodiversity Conservation Directorates (BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za)**, Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District Municipality, **Limpopo: Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET) EIA and Biodiversity Sections**, Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Department of Mineral Resources, Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA), Birdlife South Africa, Vulpro, South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO), Square Kilometer Array (SKA), Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS), Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), Eskom, SA National Defence Force and the relevant heritage authorities.
- It has been noted that the CPA raised the following concerns:
 - *"The method of communications by the EAP was limited to access to electronic communication while it was indicated that "the majority of the CPA beneficiaries are illiterate, reside in rural areas and do not have access to reliable internet, emails or other form of electronic communications."*
 - *Communication was in English, which excluded the majority of affected community members from participation in the EIA process.*
 - *It was highlighted the procedure was deficient, inconsistent with the principles of fair and transparent as contemplated in the NEMA and the EIA Regulations, as amended".*
 - *Considering the above, the CA advise you that based on the constitution of the communities in the area, communication must consider the use of local radio stations, advertisement, site notice and participation in the local languages (as advised in the comments dated 19 September 2025) to allow meaningful participation and approaches to community structures, committees and leaders.*
 - *The EAP is advised to reach illiterate, disabled and any other disadvantages I&APs as per Regulation 41(2)(e).*
 - *The EAP is advised to show an attempt made for the consultation i.e., having meetings with the local communities or their leaders or an investigation of their existence in the area considering the challenges in relation to communication and accessibility of the reports.*
- The PPP must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- A Comments and Responses trail report (C&RR) must be compiled, continuously updated throughout the EIA process for this proposed development starting with the draft SR. The C&RR must be a separate document from the main report and must be in the table format, which reflects the details of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), the date comments were received (actual comments received) and responses provided.
- Comments made by I&APs must be comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the EIAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the CA of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.

- Please ensure that the EIAR indicates when and where the draft SR and EIAR were made available for a 30-day review and comment period.

e) Cumulative Assessment

- Noting that this project is part of the cluster and there may 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:
 - The cumulative impacts assessment must consider the existing, authorised but not yet developed, the proposed similar development and powerline in the area.
 - 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.
 - The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.
 - A cumulative map that shows all the neighbouring PV Developments.

f) Specialists

- The findings of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment, Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment, and Avifaunal Specialist assessment are hereby noted. However, these reports must be submitted to DFFE's Biodiversity Mainstreaming-BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za, LEDET – EIA and Biodiversity Sections, Birdlife SA, Vulpro for comments. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and be incorporated in the final EIAR. You are requested to include in the CR&R on whether these studies were circulated to the abovementioned stakeholders and indicate the date as well as their responses. You are advised not to refer to the content of the specialist study or EIA report, however, provide response in the CR&R on how this was addressed.
- The Heritage Impact Assessment report must be submitted to SAHRA for comments. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and incorporated in the EIAR. You are requested to include in the CR&R on whether this study was circulated to the abovementioned stakeholders and indicate the date as well as their responses. You are advised not to refer to the content of the specialist study or EIA report, however, provide response in the CR&R on how this was addressed.
- You are reminded that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), are in effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.

g) Environmental Management Programme

- Part B: Section 2 of the generic EMPs for the powerline and substation must be completed, and a copy of an originally signed generic EMPs must be submitted with the EIAR. Please ensure that Point 7.1.1 in Part B: Section 2 match the details of the Applicant as contained in the amended application form and EIAR.
- If any specific environmental sensitivities/attributes are present on site which require more specific impact management outcomes and impact management actions, not included in the pre-approved generic EMP template, to manage such impacts, those impact management outcomes and actions must be included in Section C of the generic EMPs.
- The EMP for the facility must comply with the requirements of Appendix 4 in the EIA Regulation, as amended.

General

Where the proposed activity does not include operational aspects, please also ensure that the final EIAr includes the period for which the environmental authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are reminded that the final EIAr to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIAr must contain all information set out into the Regulations or comply with a protocol or minimum information requirements relevant to the application as identified and gazetted by the Minister in a government notice.

Regulation 23(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, states that: *"The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority -(a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, and an EMPr, which must 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 EIAr's 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 23(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *"The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the reports, and an EMPr, will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the competent authority, or where regulation 21(2) applies, within 156 days of receipt of application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the environmental impact assessment report or EMPr, 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 environmental impact assessment report or EMPr 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 23 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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Ms Nyiko Nkosi

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisations Projects

Date: 03/12/2025

cc:	Mr Andrew Pearson	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
	Matodzi Rathumbu	DEDET	Email: RathumbulM@ledet.gov.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

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Mr Dale Holder
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PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 240-MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS DRAAIOOP SOLAR PV, ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 430 AND FARM 431 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 06 November 2025 refer.

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

a) **Public Participation Process**

- (i) The final EIAR must comply with all conditions of the acceptance of the scoping report dated 23 July 2025 and comments on the draft EIAR dated 22 September 2025. Please ensure that the Department's comments are addressed in the report as well as in the comments and response table.
- (ii) Ensure that the final EIAR includes proof that the key stakeholders received written notification of the proposed activity, and the draft EIAR. Comments made by interested and affected parties (I&APs) **(especially those made by Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA))** must be comprehensively captured and responded to clearly and fully in the comments and response report.



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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and/or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

MEM

General

Where the proposed activity does not include operational aspects, please also ensure that the final EIAr includes the period for which the environmental authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are reminded that the final EIAr to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIAr must contain all information set out into the Regulations or comply with a protocol or minimum information requirements relevant to the application as identified and gazetted by the Minister in a government notice.

Regulation 23(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, states that: *"The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority -(a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, and an EMPr, which must 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 EIAr's 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 23(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *"The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the reports, and an EMPr, will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the competent authority, or where regulation 21(2) applies, within 156 days of receipt of application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the environmental impact assessment report or EMPr, 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 environmental impact assessment report or EMPr 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 23 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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

Signed by: Ms Masina Morudu

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisation Projects

Date: 04/12/2025.

cc:	Andrew Pearson	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Andrew@mulilo.com
	Matodzi Rathumbu	Department of Economic Development, Environment & Tourism (DEDET)	Email: RathumbuM@ledet.gov.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

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PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE AMENDED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE UP TO 74 MEGAWATT (MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, KNOWN AS MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 465 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and amended Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 06 November 2025 refer.

a) Amended Draft EIAR

- (i) The Department received multiple objections to the revised DEIAR. The Chatleka CPAs expressed concerns about the Heritage Impact Assessment, Agricultural Compliance Statement, Public Participation Process, failure to Recognize Land Claim Rights, Social Impact Assessment (SIA), and Visual Impact Assessment for your application. You are hereby requested to review all concerns submitted by the Chatleka CPAs and provide a comprehensive written response to each issue raised. The final EIAR must clearly demonstrate how each objection or concern has been addressed. Your responses may be supported by any relevant information, evidence, or documentation. Please ensure that all the issues that were raised in this Department's comments on the draft EIAR dated 19 September 2025, are adequately addressed.



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b) Public Participation Process

- (i) Please ensure that every concern raised during the public participation process is adequately addressed.
- (ii) The public participation process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- (iii) A Comments and Responses trail report (C&RR) must be compiled and continuously updated throughout the EIA process for this proposed development starting with the draft SR. The C&RR must be a separate document from the main report and must be in the table format, which reflects the details of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), the date comments were received (actual comments received) and responses provided.
- (iv) Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the EIAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the CA of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (v) The final EIAr must comply with all conditions of the acceptance of the scoping report dated 21 July 2025. Please ensure that the Department's comments are addressed in the report as well as in the comments and response table.
- (vi) Please ensure that the final EIAr includes proof that the key stakeholders received written notification of the proposed activity, and the draft EIAr. Comments made by interested and affected parties (I&APs) must be comprehensively captured and responded to clearly and fully in the comments and response report.

General

Please ensure that the final EIAr includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 23(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: "The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report, or, where regulation 21(2) applies, within 106 days of the date of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority – (a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, an EMP, a closure plan in the case of a closure activity and where the application is a mining application, the plans, report and calculations contemplated in the Financial Provisioning Regulations, which must 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 you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 23 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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Ms Sindiswa Dlomo

Designation: Deputy Director: National Integrated Authorisation Projects

Date: 03/12/2025

CC:	Andrew Pearson	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: andrew@mulilo.com
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forestry, fisheries & the environment

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DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

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PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE AMENDED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 240 MEGAWATT (MW) KLIPPUT SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The application for Environmental Authorisation, the 50 day notification received 22 October 2025 and the amended draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAr) received by the Department on 06 November 2025 refer.

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

a) Project description and Listed Activities

- The review of the amended draft EIAr has revealed the following in response to the comments dated 19 September 2025:
 - “A revised application form will be submitted with the final EIAr to reflect the updated descriptions” and activity 24 of LN1, activity 14 and 18 of LN3. It is further mentioned that a revised application form is included in Appendix J, however, there is no Appendix J.
 - In response to our comments regarding activity 14 of Listing Notice (LN) 1 applied for, it is mentioned that a revised application form is included in Appendix H, however, there is no application form in Appendix H”.



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- Considering that the amended draft report should be circulated inclusive of all the relevant information or reports to allow the registered Interested and Affected Parties to provide comments as per the Regulation 43 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended, the CA put forward the non-compliance with the requirements of the aforesaid Regulations and that failure to note such advice constitutes non-compliance with its obligations under NEMA and the EIA Regulations.
- You are reminded to ensure that all the dimensions/sizes of associated infrastructure (i.e. roads, pipelines, etc) as detailed in the amended draft EIAr are included in the amended application form to be submitted with the final EIAr.
- Please ensure that all relevant activities listed are applied for are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. In addition, the onus is on the applicant and the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to ensure that all the applicable listed activities are included in the application form and the EIAr. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays in the processing of the application.
- If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the EIAr an amended application form must be submitted with the EIAr. 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>.

b) Alternatives

- Alternatives as included in the amended draft EIAr are hereby noted. You are required to provide all the alternatives considered for this development as per Appendix 2 (2) (1) (g) (i) (v) (vi) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended in the final EIAr. Furthermore, the preferred options for all assessed alternatives must be determined and be clear throughout the final EIA report.
- Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2. However, note that no development will be allowed within sensitive areas, mitigation hierarchy should be considered to avoid impacts on sensitive environment.
- The preferred alternative must be aligned with the specialist's recommendations.

c) Layout and Sensitivity Maps

- The Preferred Site Layout Plan attached as Appendix D1 is hereby noted. You are reminded to include the final layout map in the final EIAr that includes the following:
 - The PV development area.
 - Preferred EGI alternative.
 - Position of all associated infrastructure e.g., panels, BESS, on-site substations, powerline route, etc.
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as permanent laydown area and auxiliary buildings including accommodation, dangerous goods facility etc.
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads.
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width).
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines, avifaunal habitat and nests etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure.
 - Buffer areas of all sensitive areas.
 - All "no-go" areas.
 - A north arrow and legend/ key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.
- All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the map and infrastructure must not encroach on highly sensitive areas as far as possible.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments.
- A combined map showing all the Cluster Projects (Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV).
- Ensure that similar colours are not used to differentiate between infrastructure. i.e., items must be easily distinguishable on the legend.

- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

d) **Public Participation Process (PPP)**

- Page 53 of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment mentions that ***“although the project area is not located within a protected area, it is located within a conservation area – the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR)”***. You are reminded to seek input from DFFE’s Protected Areas Section and Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR) NPC - info@vhembecosphere.org as well as Limpopo Protected Areas/Biodiversity Directorate. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and incorporated in the EIAR. **Should it be that Section 50(5) in terms of NEM: PAA is required, you are advised to obtain such and include it in the final EIAR.**
- The response to our comments regarding *“the issue raised on 06 May 2025 by Motz Ntimo regarding land claims affecting multiple farms identified, including Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 466, and Portion 1 of Farm 466”* that needed to be addressed, is hereby noted. However, the objections in the form of emails dated 20 and 25 November 2025 where the Department was copied must be addressed, responded to and incorporated into the final EIAR.
- Regarding the letter dated 10 June 2025 from the Office of the Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo, the research report by the Dithakone and Chatleka Community has been gazetted by the Land Claims Commissioner. It further states that the properties in question must not be disposed of, sold, or leased without expressed permission from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo. You are required to submit with the final EIAR, a letter from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo that gives permission to continue with the planned development.
- The letter by the applicant (Appendix G1e) regarding the advice the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo to not engage with the claimants representatives is also noted. However, this letter does not give details of the official and date when the telephonic conversation happened.
- As such, the Department submits that should the final EIAR be submitted without the formal letter from the Office of the Regional Land Claims Commissioner: Limpopo, the outcome of consultation and proof that the abovementioned affected parties were consulted, it would be considered as non-compliance with the requirements of this letter and the EIA Regulations, 2024 as amended.
- Please ensure that all comments from the registered interested and affected parties and relevant competent authorities as well as stakeholders have been responded to, addressed and incorporated to the final EIAR. The identified stakeholders must include but are not limited to the **Vhembe Biosphere Reserve (VBR) NPC-info@vhembecosphere.org**, **Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE): Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness and Biodiversity Conservation Directorates (BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za)**, Makhado Local Municipality, Vhembe District Municipality, Limpopo: **Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET) EIA and Biodiversity Sections**, Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Department of Mineral Resources, Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA), Birdlife South Africa, Vulpro, South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO), Square Kilometer Array (SKA), Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS), Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), Eskom, SA National Defence Force and the relevant heritage authorities.
- It has been noted that the CPA raised the following concerns:
 - *“The method of communications by the EAP was limited to access to electronic communication while it was indicated that “the majority of the CPA beneficiaries are illiterate, reside in rural areas and do not have access to reliable internet, emails or other form of electronic communications.”*
 - *Communication was in English, which excluded the majority of affected community members from participation in the EIA process.*
 - *It was highlighted the procedure was deficient, inconsistent with the principles of fair and transparent as contemplated in the NEMA and the EIA Regulations, as amended”.*
 - *Considering the above, the CA advise you that based on the constitution of the communities in the area, communication must consider the use of local radio stations, advertisement, site notice and participation*

in the local languages (as advised in the comments dated 19 September 2025) to allow meaningful participation and approaches to community structures, committees and leaders.

- *The EAP is advised to reach illiterate, disabled and any other disadvantages I&APs as per Regulation 41(2)(e).*
- *The EAP is advised to show an attempt made for the consultation i.e., having meetings with the local communities or their leaders or an investigation of their existence in the area considering the challenges in relation to communication and accessibility of the reports.*
- The PPP must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- A Comments and Responses trail report (C&RR) must be compiled, continuously updated throughout the EIA process for this proposed development starting with the draft SR. The C&RR must be a separate document from the main report and must be in the table format, which reflects the details of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), the date comments were received (actual comments received) and responses provided.
- Comments made by I&APs must be comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as “noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments.
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the EIAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the CA of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- Please ensure that the EIAr indicates when and where the draft SR and EIAr were made available for a 30-day review and comment period.

e) **Specialist Assessments**

- The findings of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment, Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment, and Avifaunal Specialist assessment are hereby noted. However, these reports must be submitted to DFFE’s Biodiversity Mainstreaming-BCAdmin@dfpe.gov.za, LEDET – EIA and Biodiversity Sections, Birdlife SA, Vulpro for comments. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and be incorporated in the final EIAr. **You are requested to include in the CR&R on whether these studies were circulated to the abovementioned stakeholders and indicate the date as well as their responses. You are advised not to refer to the content of the specialist study or EIA report, however, provide response in the CR&R on how this was addressed.**
- The Heritage Impact Assessment report must be submitted to SAHRA for comments. Their comments must be addressed, responded to and incorporated in the EIAr. **You are requested to include in the CR&R on whether this study was circulated to the abovementioned stakeholders and indicate the date as well as their responses. You are advised not to refer to the content of the specialist study or EIA report, however, provide response in the CR&R on how this was addressed.**
- You are reminded that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. “the Protocols”), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), are in effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.

f) **Environmental Management Programme**

- Part B: Section 2 of the generic EMPs for the powerline and substation must be completed, and a copy of an originally signed generic EMPs must be submitted with the EIAr. Please ensure that Point 7.1.1 in Part B: Section 2 match the details of the Applicant as contained in the amended application form and EIAr.
- If any specific environmental sensitivities/attributes are present on site which require more specific impact management outcomes and impact management actions, not included in the pre-approved generic EMP template, to manage such impacts, those impact management outcomes and actions must be included in Section C of the generic EMPs.

- The EMPr for the facility must comply with the requirements of Appendix 4 in the EIA Regulation, as amended.

g) Cumulative Assessment

- Noting that this project is part of the cluster and there may 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:
 - The cumulative impacts assessment must consider the existing, authorised but not yet developed, the proposed similar development and powerline in the area.
 - 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.
 - The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

General

Where the proposed activity does not include operational aspects, please ensure that the final EIAR 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 3(3)(1)(r) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are reminded that the final EIAR to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIAR must contain all information set out into the Regulations or comply with a protocol or minimum information requirements relevant to the application as identified and gazetted by the Minister in a government notice.

Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 23 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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment

Letter signed by: Ms. Olivia Letlalo

Designation: Deputy Director: Prioritised Infrastructure Projects

Date: 02/12/2025

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	Matodzi Rathumbu	DEDET	Tel: 015 293 8648 Cell: 079 3410018	Email: RathumbulM@ledet.gov.za/ harmeses@ledet.gov.za
	Ms Nokwanda Nkosi	Makhado Local Municipality	Tel: 015 519 3003	Email: municipal.manager@makhado.gov.za