



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](#).



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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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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 EIA, 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 EIA 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 EIA. 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 EIA. 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 EIA indicates when and where the draft SR and EIA 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 EIA. 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 EIA. 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 EIA. 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 EIA.
- 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 EIA 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 EIA to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIA 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 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 EIA’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.

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@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 03 December 2025 14:28
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>; 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@dffe.gov.za

Romans 11:36

To God be the Glory!!!



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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@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 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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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.

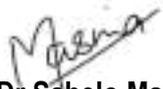
Regulation 23(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, states that: *“The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority -(a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, and an EMPr, which must have 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@dfffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 04 December 2025 12:05
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Lunga Dlova <LDlova@dfffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfffe.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@dfffe.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@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.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@dffe.gov.za

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



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

Enquiries: Ms Makhosazane Yeni

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Mr Dale Holder
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Cellphone Number: 082 448 9225
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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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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 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 disadvantaged 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: RathumbuIM@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.



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.

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@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 03 December 2025 12:15
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>; 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@dffe.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@dffe.gov.za>

Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 12:40

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.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>; 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: 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@dffe.gov.za>; Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.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>; 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 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@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 17 October 2025 13:26
To: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.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@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>
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; EIAAdmin
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 EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za.

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

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. 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, 06 November 2025 14:12
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 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 DRAILOOP 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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Francois Byleveld

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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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.

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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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.

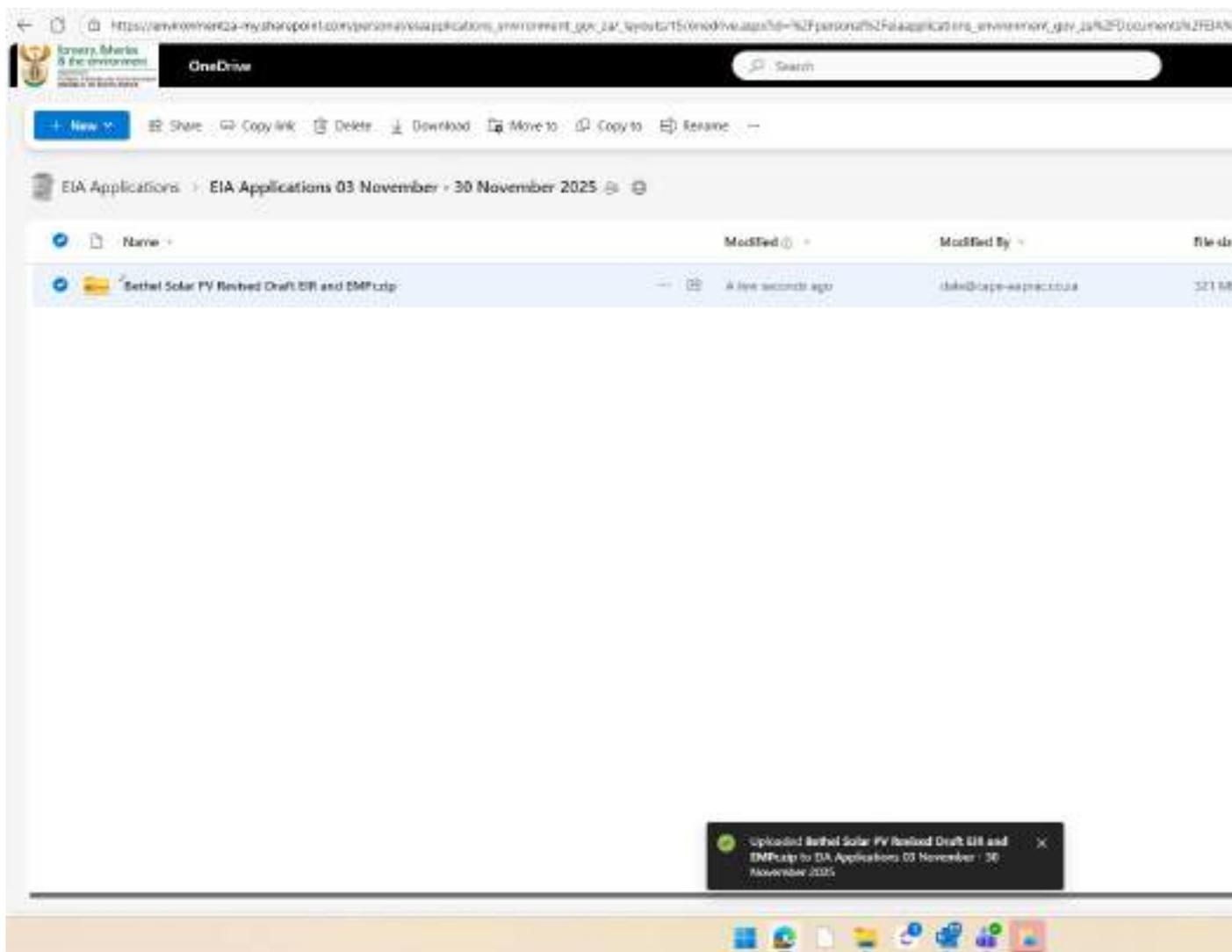
Regards,

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@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.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@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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EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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Batho pele – putting people first

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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.

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Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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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

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 DRAA LOOP 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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Batho pele – putting people first

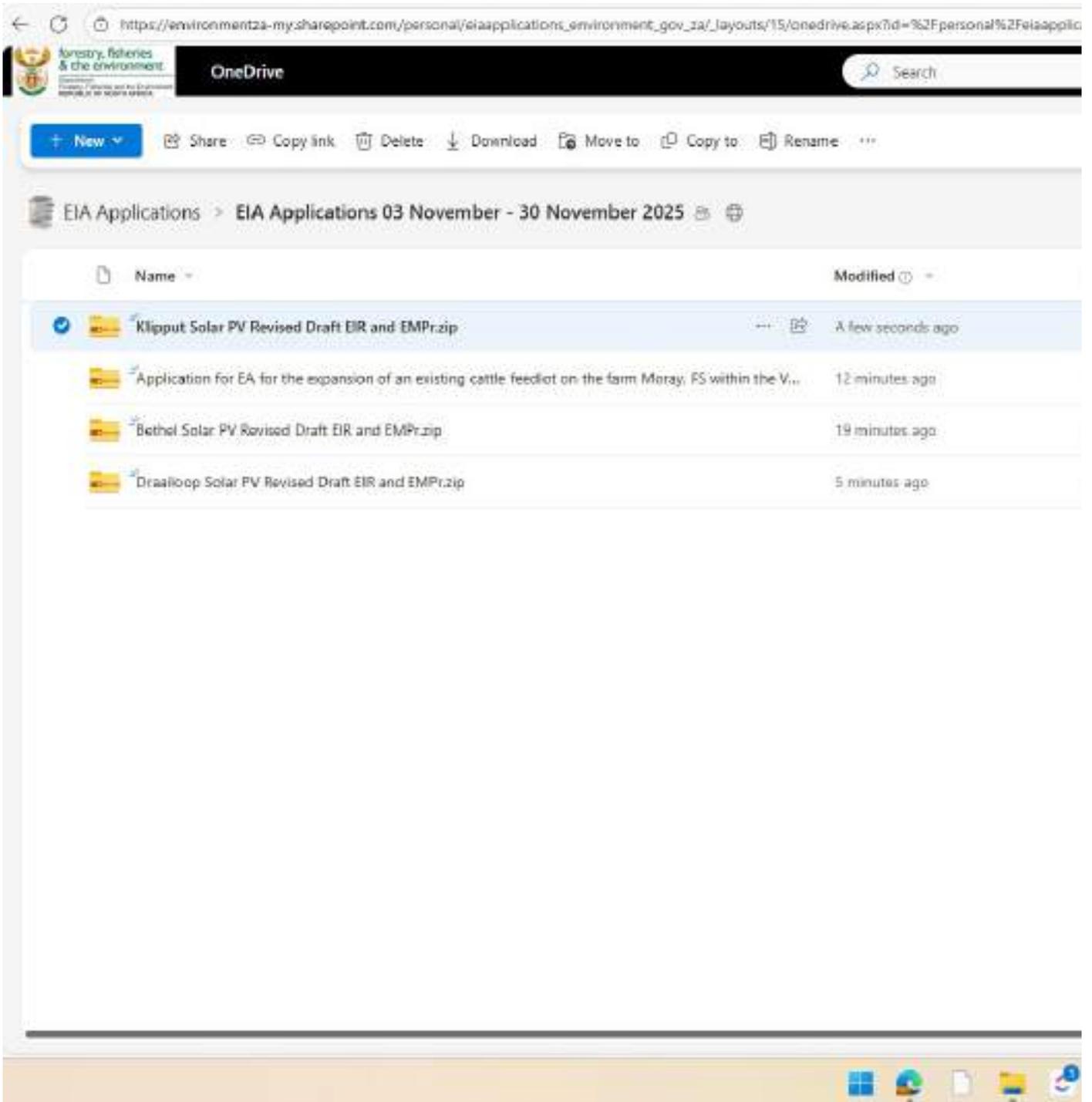
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Francois Byleveld

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.



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.

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Kind Regards,

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac

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

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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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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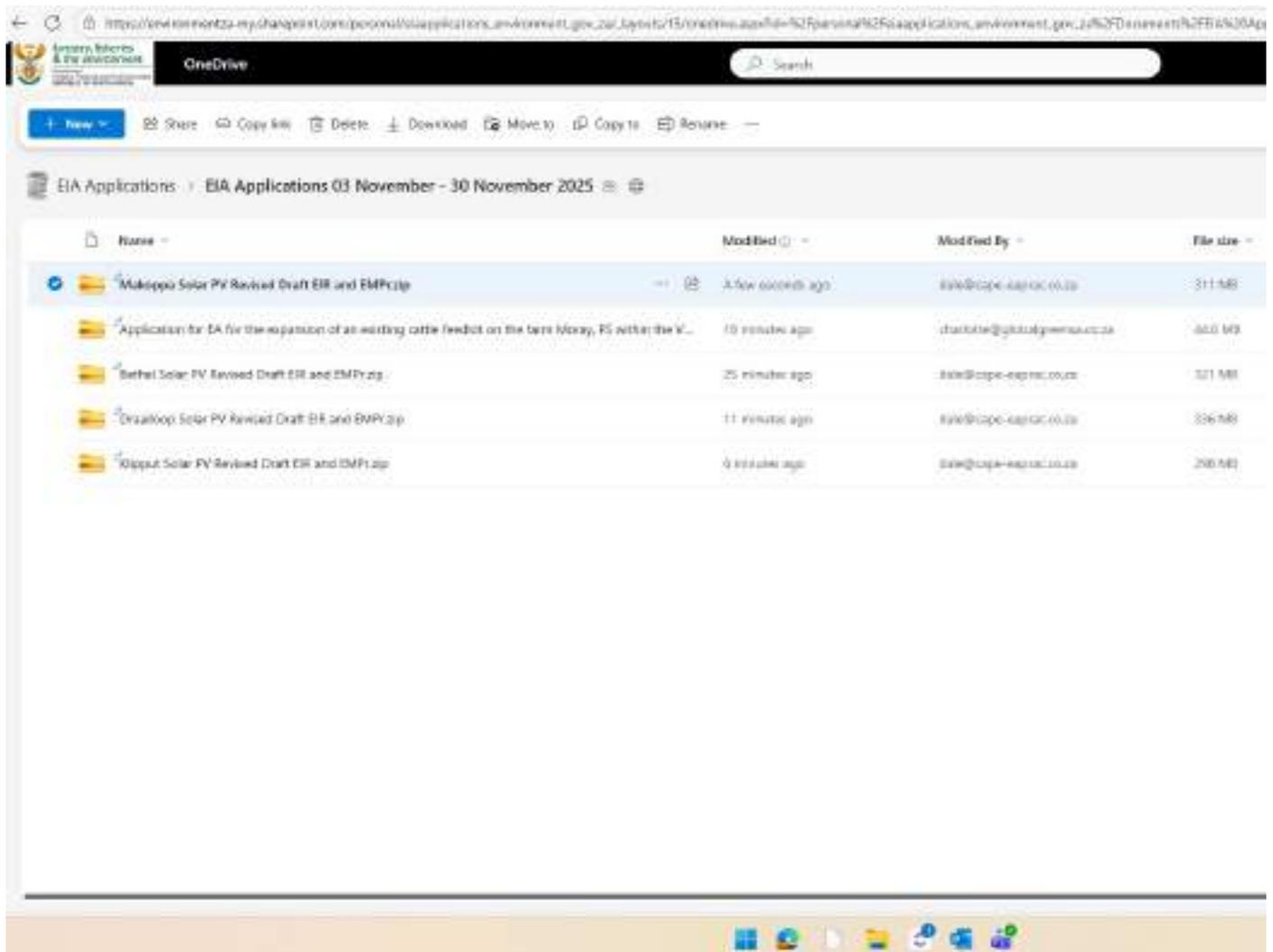
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Francois Byleveld

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.



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.

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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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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@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 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.

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

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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, 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@dffe.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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Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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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.

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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Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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Francois Byleveld

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.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.

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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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@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.

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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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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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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: 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>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@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: 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

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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 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@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@dffe.gov.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: 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@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:52
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>
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 <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: 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

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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@dfpe.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.

DFPE 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



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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.

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Sincerely,

Dale Holder
Cape EAPrac



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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@dfpe.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.

DFPE 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

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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

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Sincerely,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

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

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:47

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

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

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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@dff.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Francois Byleveld

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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 Dlomo; 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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Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 14:08
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.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: 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@dffe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:52

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>

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@dffe.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

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: 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@dfffe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:56

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

Cc: Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dfffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dfffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dfffe.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@dfffe.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 <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!!!

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@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.

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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 14:08
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@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:52
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>
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.

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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@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>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@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.

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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.

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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.

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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: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:47
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 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.

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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: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:52
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Lunga Dlova; EIAadmin; 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 DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

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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: 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.

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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: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 11:59
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga; EIAadmin; 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

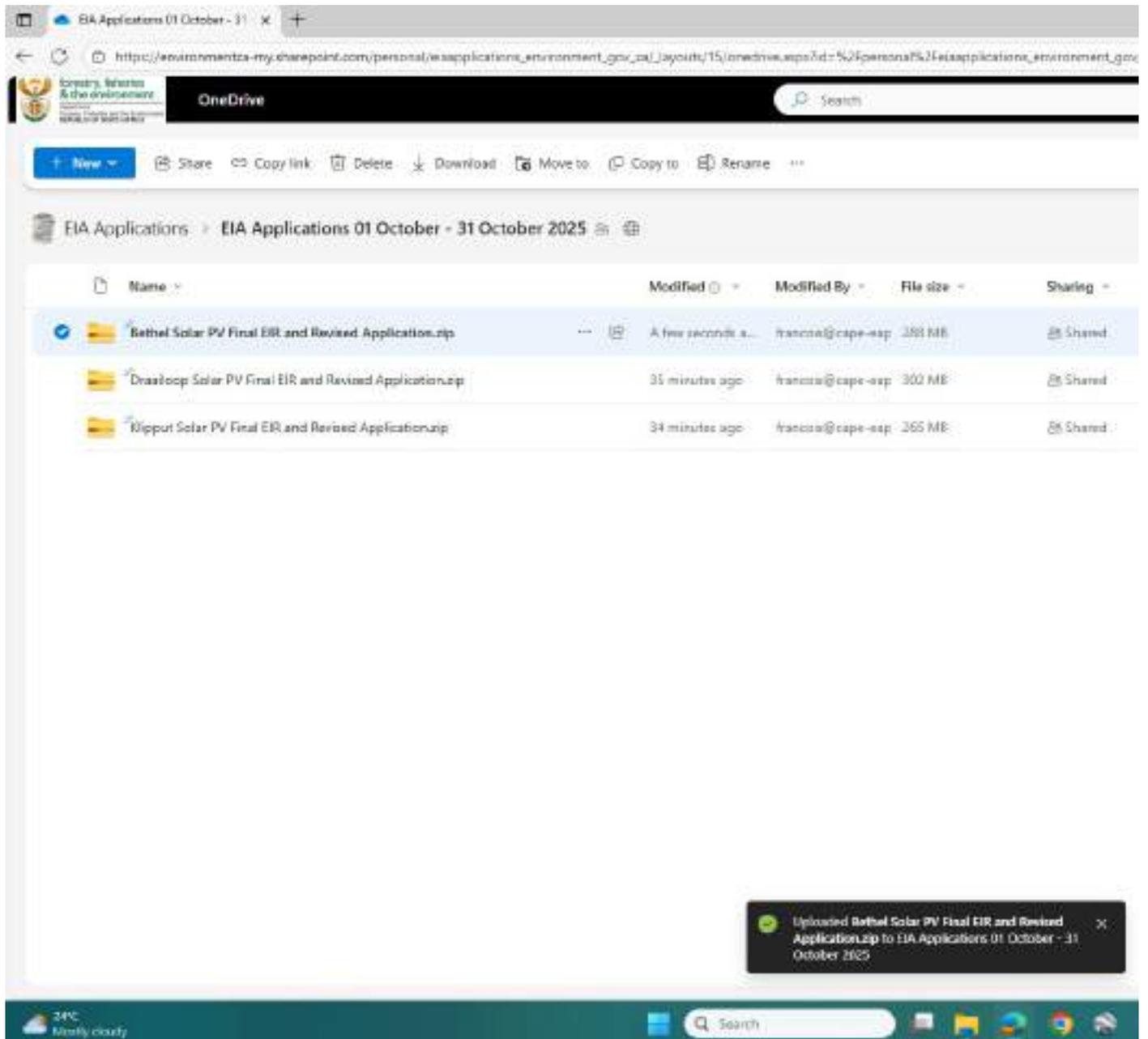
To God be the Glory!!!

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.



Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

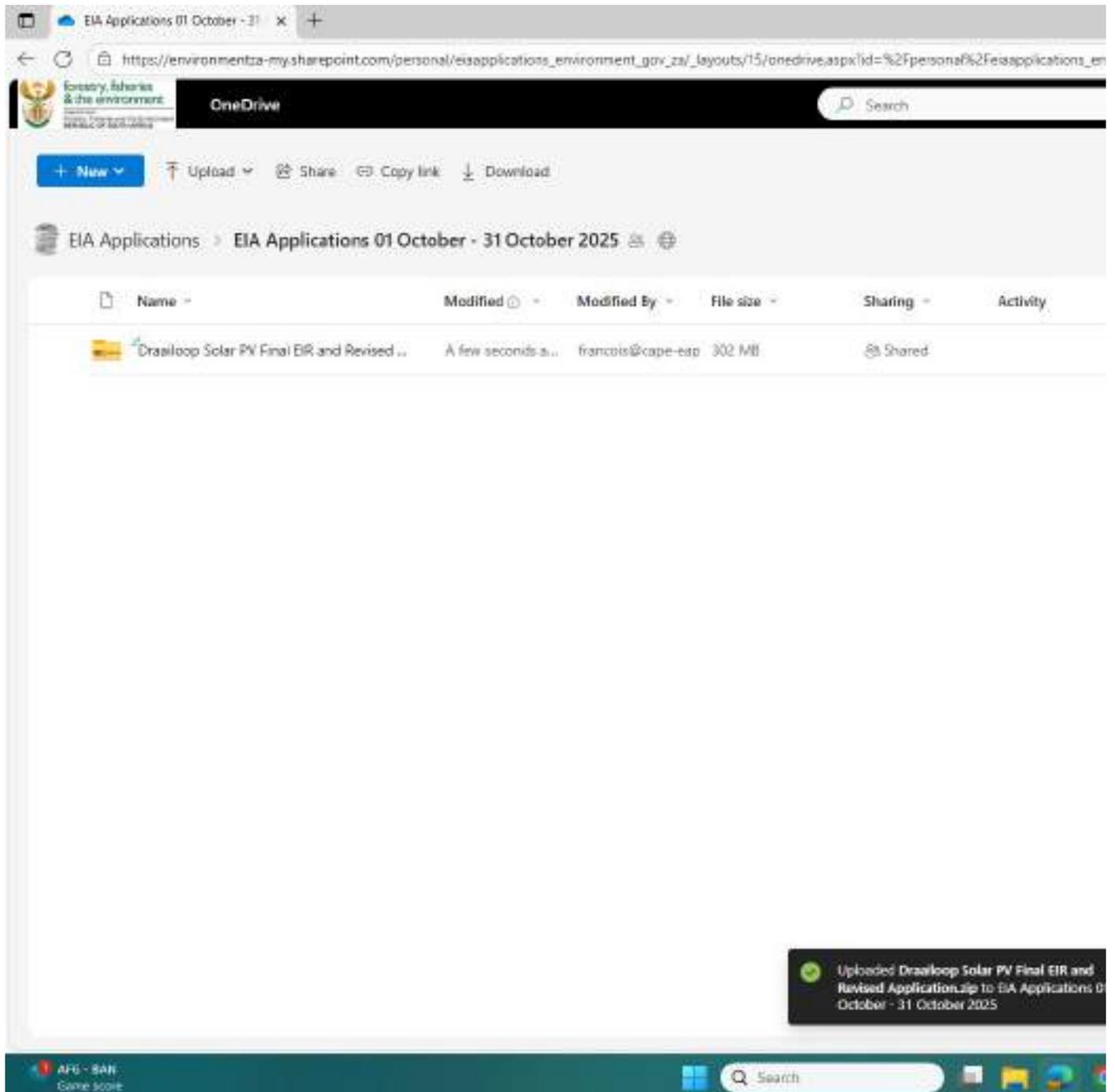
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

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.



Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

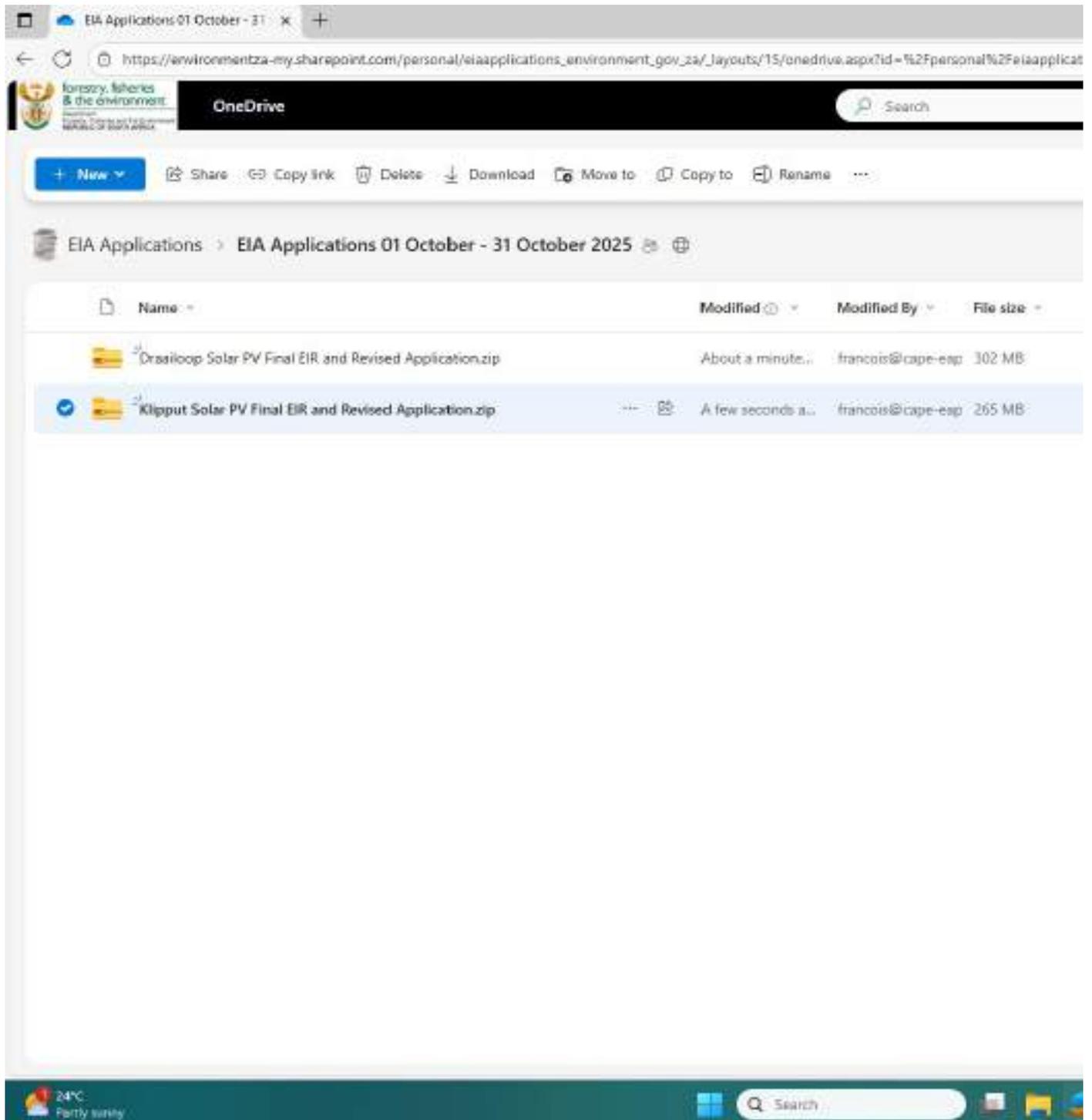
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

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.



Kind Regards,

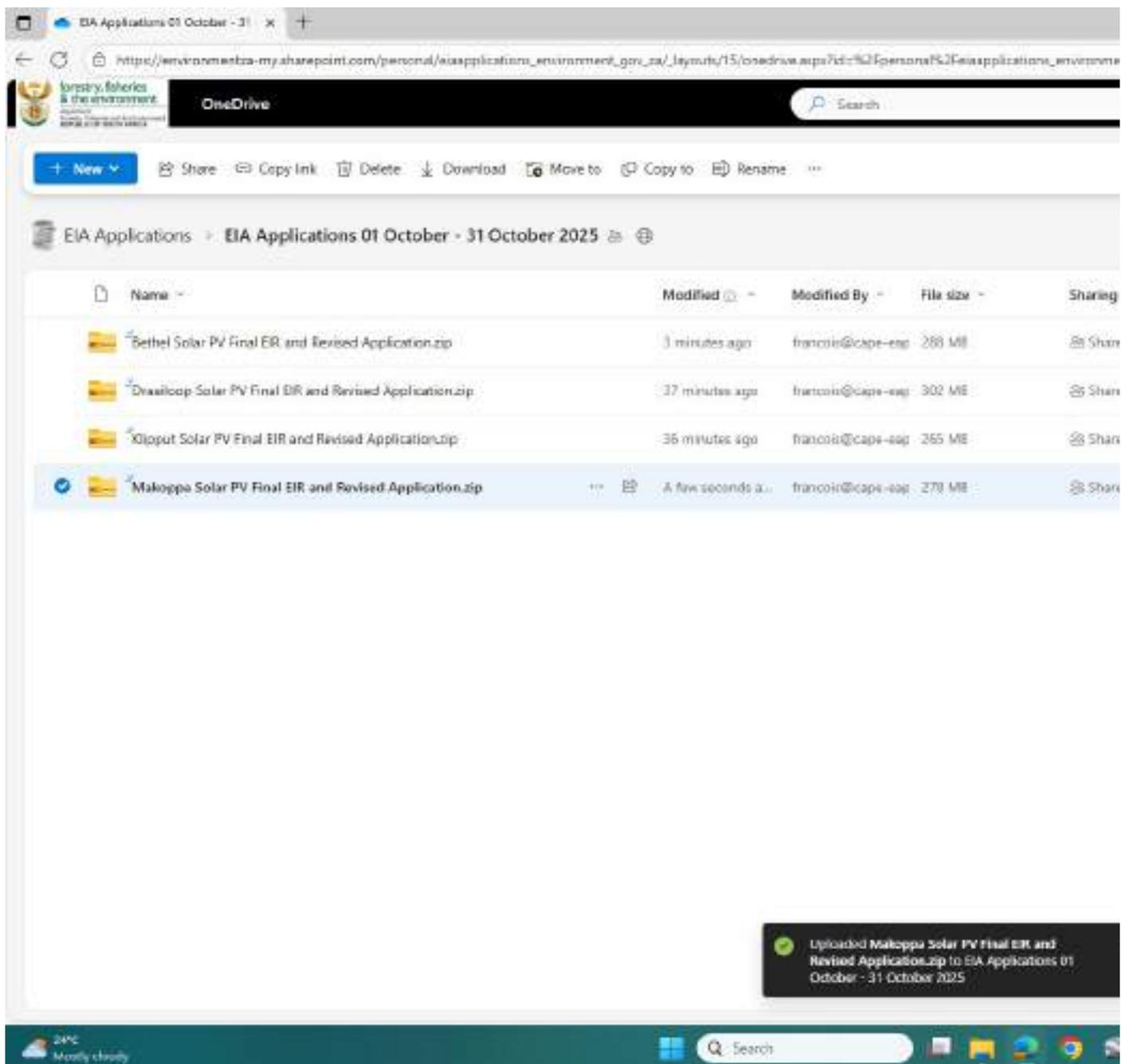
Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:17
To: eiaapplications@dffe.gov.za
Subject: Submission of Final EIR, EMPR and Revised Application form - Makoppa Solar PV.
Attachments: Document control form Makoppa 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 Makoppa Solar PV project.



Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301



Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

tel: (044) 874 0365

www.cape-eaprac.co.za

PROJECT: Klipfont Solar PV and Grid Infrastructure

PROJECT REF: VHE853 DATE: 01/10/2023

NAME	REPRESENTING	CONTACTS	EMAIL	SIGNATURE
Olivia Letelelo	DEFE: IEA	TEL: X 8812 FAX: CELL: 064 880 8747	O.letelo@defe.gov.za	
Makhelezane Yenu	DEFE: IEA	TEL: 012 349 9400 FAX: CELL: 072 759 1825	M.Yenu@defe.gov.za	
Francois Byjeveld	Cape EAPrac	TEL: FAX: CELL: 074 317 4509	francois@cape-eaprac.co.za	
		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. 17 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 your information to inform this process, your contact details will be required by a public body, as referred 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 environmental 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@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

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@dffe.gov.za>**Sent:** Tuesday, 23 September 2025 13:46**To:** Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>**Cc:** Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.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@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 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

NN

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 EIA must include coordinates of the proposed project including all associated infrastructures as shown on the layout map submitted with the draft EIA. 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 EIA.
- (ii) Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR and draft EIA from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final EIA. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final EIA. 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 EIA 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 EIA. 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 EIA.
- (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 EIA does not make reference to these clustered applications. You are therefore requested to include these projects in the introduction of the EIA 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 EIAs 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 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: 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

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@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 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.

MEL

- (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 EIA 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 EIA includes proof that the key stakeholders received written notification of the proposed activity, and the draft EIA. 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

- (i) 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.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) 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

- (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.

h) 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, which states that the EIAr must include:

"an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to:

- (i) the correctness of the information provided in the reports;*
- (ii) the inclusion of comments and inputs from stakeholders and I&APs;*

- (iii) *the inclusion of inputs and recommendations from the specialist reports where relevant; and*
- (iv) *any information provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties and any responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested and affected parties”.*

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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Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
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.

DL

- 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, Klippot 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 (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.
- 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 EIA to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIA 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 EIA’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	Klippot 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/ harmeses@ledet.gov.za
	Ms Nokwanda Nkosi	Makhado Local Municipality	Tel: 015 519 3003	Email: municipal.manager@makhado.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 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 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 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.

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

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
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Francois Byleveld

From: Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 26 August 2025 12:31
To: Dale Holder
Cc: EIAAdmin; 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

Francois Byleveld

From: Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 25 August 2025 11:32
To: Dale Holder
Cc: EIAAdmin; 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 DRAAILOOP 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: EIAAdmin; 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: EIAAdmin; 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.



+ New Share Copy link Delete Download Move to Copy to

EIA Applications > EIA Applications 01 August - 31 August 2025

Name

- Bethel PV Draft EIR.zip
- Draailoop PV Draft EIR.zip
- EA Application_Doorfontein Solar PV Plant.zip
- EA Application_Malgas Solar PV Plant.zip
- Klippiet 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

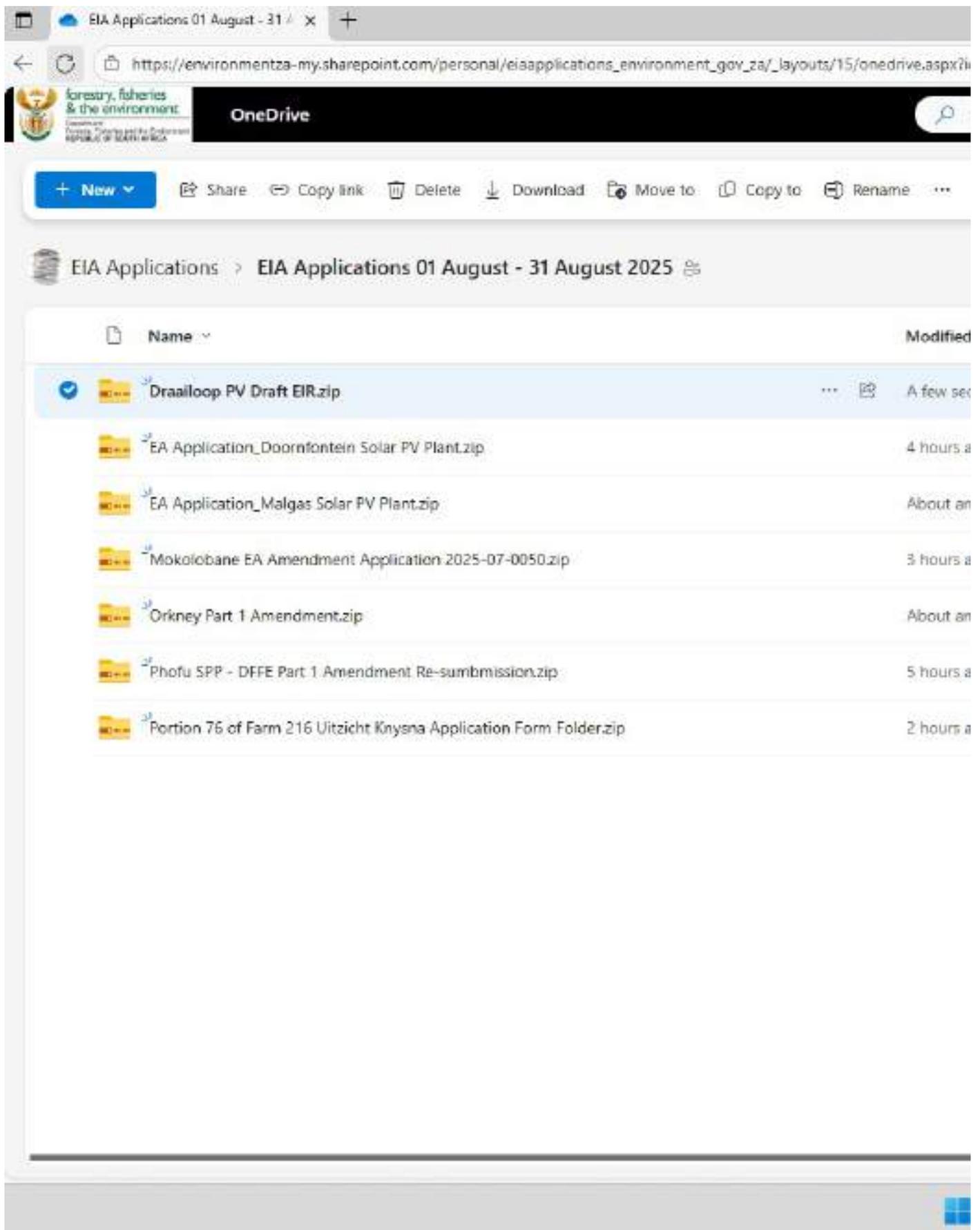
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

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.



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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EIA Applications > EIA Applications 01 August - 31 August 2025

Name

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-submission.zip

Portion 76 of Farm 216 Uitzicht Knysna Application Form Folder.zip

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.

EIA Applications 01 August - 31 August 2025

https://environmentza-my.sharepoint.com/personal/eiaapplications_environment_gov_za/_layouts/15/onenote.aspx

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

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EIA Applications > EIA Applications 01 August - 31 August 2025

Name

- 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@dff.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



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

NN

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@dff.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



MEM

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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.

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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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@dffe.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 EMPr 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 are submitted to the CA.
- Part B: Section 2 of the generic EMPr must be completed, and a copy of an originally signed generic EMPr 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: RathumbuM@ledet.gov.za / harmses@ledet.gov.za
	Ms Nokwanda Nkosi	Makhado Local Municipality	Tel: 015 519 3003	Email: municipal.manager@makhado.gov.za



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

Enquiries: Ms Thulisile Nyalunga

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Telephone Number: 044 874 0365
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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



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.

- (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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Francois Byleveld

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!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 10 June 2025 10:27
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Lunga Dlova; EIAadmin; 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 DRAA LOOP 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!!!

Francois Byleveld

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!!!

Francois Byleveld

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 10 June 2025 10:34
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Thulisile Nyalunga; EIAadmin; 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@dfpe.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.

NN

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 expertise 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, Klippuit 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, Klippuit 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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Francois Byleveld

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.

EIA Applications 01 April - 30 April

https://environmentza-my.sharepoint.com/personal/eiaapplications_environment_gov_za/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Feiaapplications_environment_gov_za%2FDocuments%2FEIA%20Applications%20

Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment
Department of Environmental Affairs
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 14-12-16-3-3-2-2633 (2).zip	About an hour ago	remapira@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 (14-12-16-3-3-1-3096).zip	About an hour ago	jodyni@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





Reduce Reuse Recycle

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@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

NN

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, Klippot 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 EIA, 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 EIA 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 EIA. 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 EIA. 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 EIA indicates when and where the draft SR and EIA 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 EIA. 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 EIA. 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 EIA. 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 EIA.
- 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 EIA 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 EIA to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIA 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 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 EIA’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.

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

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@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 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

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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forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
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 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 disadvantaged 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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