

30 April 2021

Dear Stakeholder

RE: RELEASE OF UPDATED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE PROPOSED GEMSBOK SOLAR PV2, PV5 AND PV6 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES, NORTH-EAST OF KENHARDT, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE, Pre-Application Reference Number: 2021-03-0002

The Project Applicant, Mulilo Total Coega (Pty) Ltd (henceforth referred to as MTC), is proposing to construct the Gemsbok Solar Energy Facilities (SEFs) and associated electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) near Kenhardt in the Northern Cape. The details of the projects, reference numbers, original Project Applicant, planned amended Project Applicant, and affected farm portions (PV Facility, EGI and Associated Infrastructure) are noted in the table below:

Project Name	Reference Number	Original and Amended Project Applicant	Affected Farm Portions (PV Facility, EGI and Associated Infrastructure)
Gemsbok Solar PV2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 14/12/16/3/3/2/711 ▪ 14/12/16/3/3/2/711/AM1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Original</u>: Gemsbok Solar PV2 (Pty) Ltd ▪ <u>Amended</u>: Mulilo Total Coega (Pty) Ltd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remaining Extent of Portion 3 (Rooidam) of the Farm Gemsbok Bult No. 120
Gemsbok Solar PV5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 14/12/16/3/3/2/843 ▪ An amendment was also issued with the same reference number i.e. 14/12/16/3/3/2/843 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Original</u>: Gemsbok Solar PV5 (Pty) Ltd ▪ <u>Amended</u>: Mulilo Total Coega (Pty) Ltd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remaining Extent of Portion 8 (Rooidam) (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Gemsbok Bult No. 120 ▪ Remaining Extent of Portion 3 (Rooidam) of the Farm Gemsbok Bult No. 120
Gemsbok Solar PV6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 14/12/16/3/3/2/844 ▪ 14/12/16/3/3/2/844/AM1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Original</u>: Gemsbok Solar PV6 (Pty) Ltd ▪ <u>Amended</u>: Mulilo Total Coega (Pty) Ltd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remaining Extent of Portion 8 (Rooidam) (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Gemsbok Bult No. 120 ▪ Remaining Extent of Portion 3 (Rooidam) of the Farm Gemsbok Bult No. 120

Listed below is a brief summary of the background to the issuing of the EAs and amendments:

- The **Gemsbok Solar PV2** project was granted EA on 9 November 2015 (Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/711). An amended EA was granted on 23 July 2020 to extend the validity of the authorisation, change the preferred type of Energy Storage System (ESS) and to change the contact details of the holder of the EA (14/12/16/3/3/2/711/AM1).
- The **Gemsbok Solar PV5** project received EA on 19 November 2018 (Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/843) subsequent to the conclusion of an appeals process which followed the initial refusal to grant EA by the Department. An amendment to the EA was granted on 19 July 2019 (14/12/16/3/3/2/843) to remove one of the conditions included in the original EA.
- The **Gemsbok Solar PV6** project received EA on 10 September 2018 (Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/844) subsequent to the conclusion of an appeals process which followed the initial refusal to grant EA by the Department. An amendment to the EA was granted on 11 February 2019 (14/12/16/3/3/2/844/AM1) to remove one of the conditions included in the original EA.

With regards to the Environmental Management Programmes (EMPrs), the Environmental Authorisations (EAs) note that the EMPrs submitted as part of the Final EIA Reports are not approved and must be amended to include measures as dictated by the final site lay-out map and micro-siting, and the provisions of the EAs. The EAs further stipulate that the EMPrs must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and such comments must be considered in the finalisation of the EMPrs. The final EMPrs must then be submitted to the DFFE for written approval prior to commencement of the activity.

This correspondence therefore serves to inform you of the availability of the updated Draft EMPrs for comment. The updated Draft EMPrs for the proposed projects are hereby released for a 30-day commenting period, which extends from **30 April 2021 to 31 May 2021**. Kindly use the following **Google Drive Link** to access the Draft EMPr's (*Note: should you be unable to access the Google Drive Link, kindly email the EAP at the contact details below to make alternative arrangements*):

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1FoYxM2gdHVq9Ecc_mnNAq3iD-Up12Sig?usp=sharing

In this folder, you will find the following for your attention:

1. **Gemsbok Solar PV2 Updated EMPr:**
 - a. Part 1: Solar PV EMPr;
 - b. Part 2: Generic EMPr for the sub-station;

- c. Part 3: Generic EMPr for the powerlines.
- 2. Gemsbok Solar PV5 Updated EMPr:**
 - a. Part 1: Solar PV EMPr;
 - b. Part 2: Generic EMPr for the sub-station;
 - c. Part 3: Generic EMPr for the powerlines.
- 3. Gemsbok Solar PV6 EMPr:**
 - a. Part 1: Solar PV EMPr

Copies of all comments received from I&APs and stakeholders during the review of the updated Draft EMPrs will be included as an appendix to the Final EMPrs and in a Comments and Response Report. The Final EMPrs will then be submitted to the DFFE for decision-making.

You are kindly requested to submit any comments you may have on these updated Draft EMPrs to the EAP at the CSIR: **Kelly Stroebel**; E-mail: kstroebel@csir.co.za; Postal address: **PO Box 320, Stellenbosch, 7599**; Tel: **021 888 2432**; or Fax: **021 888 2693**.

Thank you very much for your assistance with these projects thus far. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any queries relating to the above.

Sincerely,



Paul Lochner
Project Leader and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services



Kelly Stroebel
Project Manager and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services