

GP Kriel

From: Azrah Essop <AEssop@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 18 January 2023 12:27
To: GP Kriel
Cc: EIA Applications; Wayne Hector; Lerato Mokoena; mark@mulilo.com
Subject: 12/12/20/2502/AM5

DFFE Reference: 12/12/20/2502/AM5
Enquiries: Ms Azrah Essop
Telephone: (012) 399 8529 **E-mail:** AEssop@dffe.gov.za

Mr Gideon Petrus Kriel
Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd
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PER MAIL / EMAIL

Dear Mr Kriel

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 02 JANUARY 2013 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 100MW PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY (PV2) ON THE FARM STRUISBULT (PORTION 1 OF FARM NO.104) IN THE SIYATHEMBA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY NEAR COPPERTON IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Department confirms having received the application for amendment of the Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 13 December 2022.

Please note that your application for amendment of the environmental authorisation falls within the ambit of amendments to be applied for in terms of Part 1 of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 30 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

The applicant applied for the extension of the commencement period of the Environmental Authorisation issued on 02 January 2013.

Please note that you are requested to submit the following additional information in terms of Regulation 30(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended for the Department to be able to process your application for amendment:

- A detailed motivation as to why the Department should extend the commencement period of the authorised development, including the advantages and disadvantages associated with the approval or refusal to the request for extension;
- The status (baseline) of the environment (social and biophysical) that was assessed during the initial assessment (by the relative specialist, if applicable);
- The current status of the assessed environment (social and biophysical) (by the relative specialist, if applicable);
- A review of all specialist studies undertaken, and a detailed assessment, including a site verification report providing an indication of the status of the receiving environment (by the relative specialist, if applicable);
- The terms of reference for the specialist reports and declaration of interest of each specialist must be provided;
- The report mentioned above, must indicate if the impact rating as provided in the initial assessment remains valid; if the mitigation measures provided in the initial assessment are still applicable; or if there are any new mitigation

measures which need to be included into the EA and EMPr, should the request to extend the commencement period be granted by the Department;

- An indication if there are any new assessments/guidelines which are now relevant to the authorised development which were not undertaken as part of the initial assessment, must be taken into consideration and addressed in the report;
- A description and an assessment of any changes to the environment (social and biophysical) that has occurred since the initial EA was issued;
- A description and an assessment of the surrounding environment, in relation to new developments or changes in land use which might impact on the authorised project, the assessment must consider the following:
 - o similar developments within a 30km radius;
 - o 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.
 - o 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.
 - o The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - o A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.
- Consent from all affected landowners (where applicable);
- The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended i.e. Regulation 39; 40;41; 42; 43 and 44.
- A comments and response report.

The outstanding information must be submitted within **90 days of the date of this letter** (on or before the **21 April 2023**).

The requested information must be sent via email to eiaapplications@environment.gov.za.

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.

Regards

Ms. Azrah Essop

Environmental Officer: Priority Infrastructure Projects

Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner: 2021/3915

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forestry, fisheries
and the environment

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