

# Appendix C

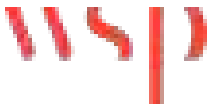
## MEETINGS



# Appendix C.1

## **DFFE PRE-APPLICATION MEETING**





## MEETING NOTES

<b>JOB TITLE</b>	Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PhotoVoltaic (PV) Facilities
<b>PROJECT NUMBER</b>	41104569
<b>DATE</b>	27 February 2023
<b>TIME</b>	10h00
<b>VENUE</b>	MS Teams
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) Pre-application Meeting
<b>CLIENT</b>	Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd
<b>PRESENT</b>	Ashlea Strong (AS) – WSP Megan Govender (MG) – WSP Ryan Collins (RC) – Red Rocket Janine Brasington (JB) – Red Rocket Makhosi Yeni (MY) - DFFE Mahlatse Shubane (MS) - DFFE Olivia Letlalo (OL) - DFFE Kevin Mathebula (KM) - DFFE Reitumetse Mokgele (RM) - DFFE
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Magdalena Logan – Red Rocket

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[www.wsp.com](http://www.wsp.com) \\corp.pbwan.net\za\Central\_Data\Projects\41100xxx\41104569 - Red Rocket Tournee Soalr\41 PA\01-Reports\02-Pre-App meeting\Minutes\41104569\_20230309\_Red Rocket\_Tournee\_Pre-App Meeting Minutes\_DFFE Submission.docx

## MEETING NOTES

### MATTERS ARISING

### ACTION

#### NOTE:

These notes constitute a summary of the key discussion points and decisions made during the discussion. They are not intended to reflect the exact discussions held.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

AS welcomed everyone to the meeting for the Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PhotoVoltaic (PV) Facilities. The recording of the meeting was approved by all attendees. The agenda was confirmed and all attendees introduced themselves. Magdalena Logan from Red Rocket sent her apologies.

#### 2.0 PROJECT PRESENTATION

AS proceeded with the presentation (included as **Appendix A**) of the proposed Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PV Facilities.

AS presented the project which covered the following:

- Project Background;
- Typical Infrastructure;
- Key Considerations;
- Environmental Authorisation (EA) Process;
- Specialist Studies;
- Public Participation (PP) Plan;
- Timeframes; and
- Specific Questions.

The following was discussed during the presentation:

- The proposed project is the planned development of two Solar PV facilities, at 150 MW each and neighbouring each other. The facilities are north-east of Tutuka Power Station.
- It was noted that the applicants will be the following SPV's:
  - Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd
  - Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd
- Features such as wetlands, have been identified and included in the layout as exclusion areas.
- OL requested confirmation if Tournée PV2 is located within the Tutuka Power Station Ash facility? AS confirmed that it is adjacent to the Ash Facility, and there is a fence between the Ash Facility and PV2.
- OL enquired if there are powerlines included in the applications. AS noted that there will be powerlines later but it is not included in the current scope of work. RC also confirmed that they are waiting for confirmation from Eskom on the powerline routes. Once the facility has been permitted and Eskom provides the available powerline route options, the powerline applications will proceed. OL highlighted that if associated infrastructure applications are submitted separately, the application goes to the Provincial Authorities not the DFFE. AS noted this and confirmed that the Powerline Applications will be separate as it will need to be transferred to Eskom for Operation.
- There are no terrestrial CBAs or ESAs within the site boundary.
- The Project Area does not fall within any Strategic Transmission Corridors or Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ).
- There will be two Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) Processes followed, one for each facility.
- MS requested that all exclusions for the listed activities are also included on the application form.
- MY requested that statements such as “likely” and “may be” must not be included to avoid confusion. AS confirmed that more detailed information will be provided in the application form.
- OL requested that if there is an activity triggered as a result of a CBA, it must be highlighted in the description if there is a systematic biodiversity plan or bioregional plan.
- OL enquired if there is an indication of what the “other natural areas” listed on the map refers to. AS confirmed that that the description comes from the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan (MBSP). But underneath these areas the land use is agriculture. OL requested that clarity on the term “other natural areas” be included in the application and indicate if it is threatened or vulnerable.

**MEETING NOTES**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— The DFFE Screening Tool was used to identify theme sensitivities and thus define the specialist studies to be undertaken. The avifauna sensitivity is low, but an avifauna specialist study and bat compliance statement has been commissioned. OL requested that motivation for the additional specialist studies be included in the Scoping Reports. AS confirmed that a Site Sensitivity Verification Section will be included in the Scoping Reports. The Project also needs to be International Finance Corporation (IFC) Compliant and the IFC requires bats and birds to be looked at to ensure there are no major impacts.</li> <li>— The Competent Authority is the minister because of activities related to the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and because the projects have Implications for the international environmental commitments and relations. The DFFE is therefore the competent authority.</li> <li>— OL requested that it should be made clear in the application whether the project is part of the Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP) or will be private off-take. JB clarified that Red Rocket is unsure which tender the projects will be bid in as yet, it may be REIPPP or private off-take. However, it is understood from previous project that it all falls under IRP and therefore the DFFE is the competent authority.</li> <li>— MS enquired if Zulu was considered as a language apart from Afrikaans and English for the PP material. AS confirmed that based on previous projects in the area there have only been requests for English or Afrikaans. However, WSP will confirm language requirements and if Zulu is required, the PP material will also be translated into Zulu.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>3.0 CLARIFICATION AND DISCUSSION</b></p> <p>AS noted that Regulation 11 is being considered, however two separate EAs are required, one for each of the projects. Would it be possible to submit two applications but one combined report and received two EAs. The projects are very close together and therefore there will be a lot of repeated information.</p> <p>MY: In terms of regulation 11, an application needs to be submitted beforehand for DFFE to approve. This will take at least 30 days to approve and you will still have to pay for two applications.</p> <p>JB confirmed that Red Rocket does not want to delay the project with a 30 day process to approve the Regulation 11 request therefor two applications will be submitted and two full S&amp;EIA processes will be followed.</p> <p>OL noted that there is a disadvantage with submitting combined applications. If there is an appeal for one project it will also affect the other and delay the EA for that project.</p> <p>AS confirmed that a Regulation 11 request will not be followed, and two applications and two reports will be submitted. There will be one combined PP Process with two separate Stakeholder Engagement Reports.</p>	<p>WSP to submit two application forms and follow two full S&amp;EIA processes.</p>
<p><b>4.0 WAY FORWARD</b></p> <p>WSP to compile and submit the meeting minutes to DFFE for approval.</p>	


**Approved:**

DFFE:  Olivia Letlalo 14/03/2023

WSP:  Digitally signed by Ashlea Strong  
DN: cn=Ashlea Strong, c=ZA,  
o=WSP Group Africa, ou=Earth  
and Environment,  
email=ashlea.strong@wsp.com  
Date: 2023.03.15 11:38:27 +02'00'

**APPENDIX A**


**MEETING PRESENTATION**



# DFFE Pre-Application Meeting

Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PhotoVoltaic (PV) Facilities

27 February 2023  
10:00



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## Agenda

- 1 **Introduction**  
Introduction
- 2 **Overview of Project**  
Project Description  
Project Information  
Key Deliverables
- 3 **Permitting Processes**  
Environmental & Historical Review  
Local Approval  
GHF Meeting Call  
NEMA 101 Studies
- 4 **Public Participation Plan**
- 5 **Timeframes**
- 6 **Discussion**  
Specific Clarification  
Questions and Comments



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## Introductions

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd</b> <b>Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd</b> <small>Apartment 101, 101          101 Street, Johannesburg          101 Street, Johannesburg</small>
<b>EAP</b>	<b>WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd</b> <small>101 Street, Johannesburg          101 Street, Johannesburg</small>
<b>Authority</b>	<b>Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)</b> <small>101 Street, Johannesburg          101 Street, Johannesburg          101 Street, Johannesburg          101 Street, Johannesburg          101 Street, Johannesburg</small>



### Overview of the Project

## Background

Red Rocket propose to construct the Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PV Facilities near Thuthukani in the Mpumalanga Province. The Tournée Solar PV Cluster will include two 150MW Solar Energy Facilities (SEFs). The development will be divided into two solar projects, namely:

- Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility (up to 150 MW)
- Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility (up to 150 MW)



**WSP**

Overview of the Project

## Background and Location

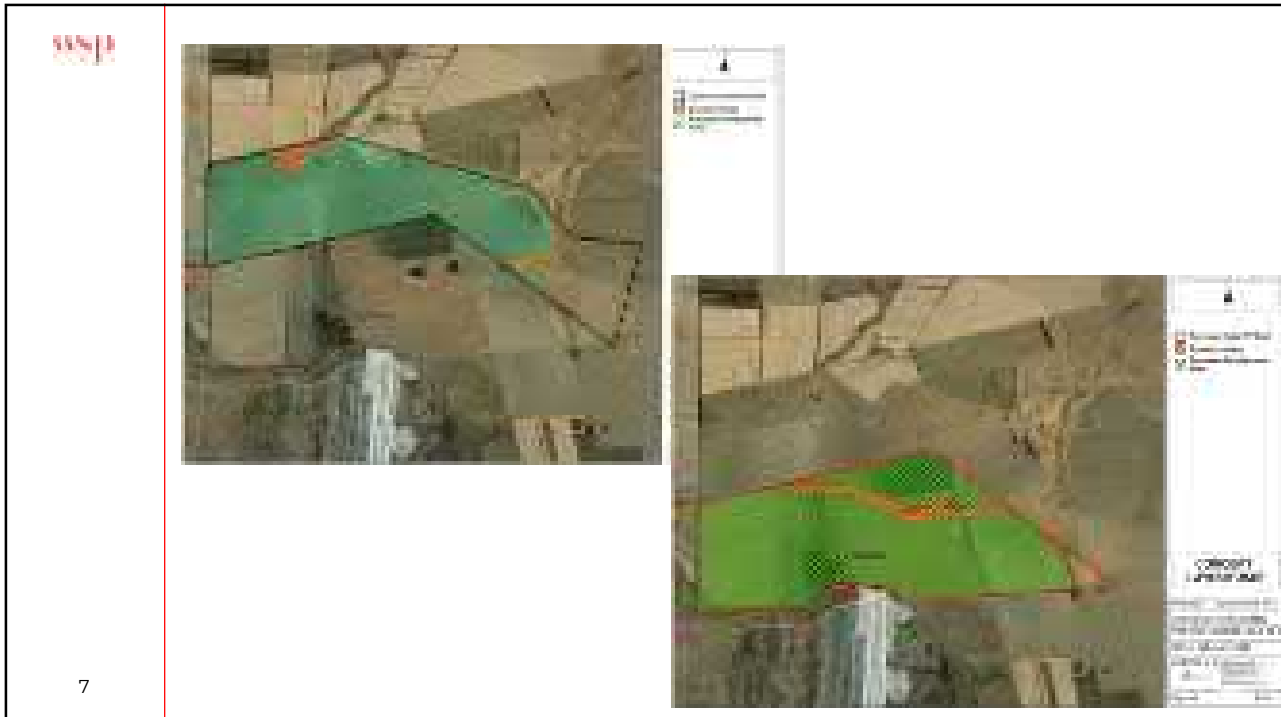
	Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility	Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility
Project Extent (Farm Boundary)	306.65 ha	505.15 ha
Buildable Area	Approximately 229 ha, subject to finalisation based on technical and environmental requirements	Approximately 297 ha, subject to finalisation based on technical and environmental requirements
Generation capacity	150 MW	150 MW
Province	Mpumalanga	
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	
Local Municipality	Lekwa Local Municipality	
Farms	Portion 7 (Portion of Portion 3) of Farm Dwars-in-die-Weg 350 IS  Portion 6 of Farm Dwars-in-die-Weg 350 IS	Remaining Portion of Portion 3 of Farm Dwars-in-die-Weg 350 IS  Portion 6 of Farm Dwars-in-die-Weg 350 IS

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**Overview of the Project**

## Typical Infrastructure

Each of the solar facilities will contain the following infrastructure:

- Solar Field
  - Maximum height of 6 m
  - PV Modules that are located on axis tracking structures or similar
- Solar Farm Substations
  - Two up to 4.5ha substation yards that will include:
    - Substation building
    - High voltage gantry
    - multiple (up to) 132kV feeder bays and transformers
    - Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) (up to 150MW/600MWh)
- Building Infrastructure
  - Operational and maintenance (O&M)/ control centre (including warehouse/workshop)
  - Construction camp and laydown areas
  - Ablution facilities
  - Converter/inverter stations
  - Internal and access roads
  - Cement batching plant

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Overview of the Project

### Key Considerations

- The Project Area does not traverse any **Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA)** (CBA 1)
- The Project Area does not fall within a **Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ)**
- The Project Area does not fall within a **Strategic Transmission Corridor**
- The Project Area is located directly adjacent to the Dry Ash Disposal Facility for the Tutuka Coal Fired Power Station
- The current land use is agriculture
- The Project Area is located within the **Air Quality Highveld Priority Area**






Permitting Processes

## Environmental Authorisation Applications

- **Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) Processes:**
  - Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility (up to 150 MW)
  - Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility (up to 150 MW)

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Permitting Processes

## Listed Activities – Listing Notice 1

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<b>Activity 11:</b> The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity— (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts	Both projects will include an Independent Power Producer (IPP) substation. The substation will consist of a high voltage substation yard to allow for multiple (up to) 132kV feeder bays and transformers, control building, telecommunication infrastructure, etc
<b>Activity 12:</b> The development of— (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs— (a) within a watercourse; or (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse	Both projects will require the development of internal roads and/or access roads around the site. The physical footprint of internal access roads and electrical cabling required to connect the various components of the Facility either traverse the delineated watercourses on site, or be located within 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourses on site.
<b>Activity 14:</b> The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or for the storage and handling, of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 80 cubic metres or more but not exceeding 500 cubic metres.	Both projects will require storage and handling of dangerous goods, including fuel (e.g. diesel), cement and chemical storage onsite, that will be greater than 80m <sup>3</sup> but not exceeding 500m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Activity 19:</b> The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse	Internal access roads and stormwater control infrastructure, as well as electrical cabling required to connect the various components of the Facilities will collectively require the excavation, infilling or removal of soil exceeding 10m <sup>3</sup> from delineated watercourses on site.
<b>Activity 28:</b> Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development: (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare;	Both projects are considered commercial and/or industrial developments, and are located on several farm portions outside an urban area, used for agricultural purposes. The total area to be developed for the Facilities (buildable area) are approximately 229 ha and 297 ha respectively (subject to finalization based on technical and environmental requirements) (i.e. greater than 1 ha).

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Permitting Processes

### Listed Activities – Listing Notice 1

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<p><b>Activity 30:</b> Any process or activity identified in terms of section 53(1) of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004).</p>	<p>Both projects are located within, and will require vegetation clearance or disturbance of the Soweto Highveld Grassland. The Soweto Highveld Grassland is confirmed to be listed in the National List of Ecosystems that are Threatened and in Need of Protection (as indicated in GNR 1002 of 9 December 2011). Due to the fact that this ecosystem is listed as threatened it is assumed that various threatened or protected species may be found within the development area.</p> <p>The restricted activity of "cutting, chopping off, uprooting, damaging or destroying, any specimen" has been identified in terms of Section 53(1) of the NEM:BA and is therefore applicable to the vegetation clearance that will be required to construct the development.</p>
<p><b>Activity 48:</b> The expansion of— (i) infrastructure or structures where the physical footprint is expanded by 100 square metres or more; where such expansion occurs— (a) within a watercourse; (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p>	<p>Transport of large infrastructure components related to both facilities will require the expansion of existing access and/or internal roads, culverts or similar drainage crossing infrastructure collectively exceeding 100m<sup>2</sup> or more beyond existing road or road reserves located within delineated watercourses on site, or within 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourses on site.</p>
<p><b>Activity 56:</b> The widening of a road by more than 6 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre— (i) where no reserve exists, where the existing road is wider than 8 metres;</p>	<p>Transport of large infrastructure components related to both facilities will require the widening of existing access and/or internal roads where no reserve exists and where such road is wider than 8 metres. Both facilities are located within a rural area.</p>



Permitting Processes

### Listed Activities – Listing Notice 2

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<p><b>Activity 1:</b> The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more, excluding where such development of facilities or infrastructure is for photovoltaic installations and occurs: (a) within an urban area; or (b) on existing infrastructure.</p>	<p>Both Facilities will generate up to 150 MW of electricity output from a renewable resource i.e. Solar.</p>
<p><b>Activity 15:</b> The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for— (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</p>	<p>Each of the projects will utilise a footprint of approximately 229 ha and 297 ha respectively. It is likely that at least 20 ha of indigenous vegetation will be removed.</p>

Permitting Processes	
<h2>Listed Activities – Listing Notice 3 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">RCO</span></h2>	
Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<p><b>Activity 4:</b> The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres.</p> <p>(i) Mpumalanga-</p> <p>(ii) areas outside urban areas</p> <p>(aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding disturbed areas;</p> <p>(bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas;</p> <p>(cc) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;</p> <p>(dd) Sites or areas identified in terms of an international convention;</p> <p>(ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;</p> <p>(ff) Core areas in biosphere reserves; or</p> <p>(gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas of a biosphere reserve, excluding disturbed areas, where such areas comprise indigenous vegetation;</p>	<p>Both projects will require access roads (of approximately 4m in width).</p>

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Permitting Processes	
<h2>Listed Activities – Listing Notice 3</h2>	
Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<p><b>Activity 10:</b> The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 30 but not exceeding 80 cubic metres.</p> <p>Mpumalanga</p> <p>i. Outside urban areas:</p> <p>(aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies;</p> <p>(bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas;</p> <p>(cc) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;</p> <p>(dd) Sites or areas identified in terms of an international convention;</p> <p>(ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;</p> <p>(ff) Core areas in biosphere reserves;</p> <p>(gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas of a biosphere reserve, where such areas comprise indigenous vegetation</p> <p>(hh) Areas within a watercourse or wetland, or within 100 metres of a watercourse or wetland;</p> <p><b>Activity 12 (i) and (ii):</b> The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation. Except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</p> <p>Mpumalanga</p> <p>i. Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004;</p> <p>ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans; or</p> <p>iii. On land, where, at the time of the coming into effect of this Notice or thereafter such land was zoned open space, conservation or had an equivalent zoning or proclamation in terms of NEMPAA.</p>	<p>Both projects will require storage and handling of dangerous goods, including fuel (e.g. diesel), cement and chemical storage onsite, that will be greater than 30m<sup>3</sup> but not exceeding 80m<sup>3</sup></p> <p>The construction of the on-site substations will require the clearance of more than 300m<sup>2</sup> of indigenous vegetation.</p>


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**RC0** We have discussed internally and think it would be best to include any applicable LN3 activities (relating to the activities identified above, e.g., storage of hazardous goods, water etc) for Mpumalanga Province.

We can always remove activities during the process if the DFFE advises they are not applicable. Might just be good to add more now to cover our bases as we wont be able to add these later on.

Ryan Collins, 2023-02-24T08:48:20.052


 <p style="text-align: right; margin-right: 20px;"><b>Permitting Processes</b></p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Listed Activities – Listing Notice 3</h2>	<b>Listed Activity</b>	<b>Description of Project Activity</b>
	<p><i>Activity 14:</i> The development of— (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more; where such development occurs— (a) within a watercourse; or (c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;.</p> <p><i>Mpumalanga</i> i. Outside urban areas: (aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies; (bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas; (cc) World Heritage Sites; (dd) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority; (ee) Sites or areas identified in terms of an international convention; (ff) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans; (gg) Core areas in biosphere reserves; or (hh) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve, where such areas comprise indigenous vegetation;.</p>	<p>There is the potential that access roads will transverse a watercourse (or drainage line).</p>
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 <p style="text-align: right; margin-right: 20px;"><b>Permitting Processes</b></p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Listed Activities – Listing Notice 3</h2>	<b>Listed Activity</b>	<b>Description of Project Activity</b>
	<p><i>Activity 18:</i> The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre.</p> <p><i>Mpumalanga</i> i. Outside urban areas (aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies; (bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas; (cc) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority; (dd) Sites or areas identified in terms of an international convention; (ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans; (ff) Core areas in biosphere reserves; or (gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve, where such areas comprise indigenous vegetation;.</p>	<p>Transport of large infrastructure components related to both facilities will require the widening of existing access and/or internal roads where no reserve exists and where such road is wider than 4 metres. Both facilities are located within a rural area.</p>
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Permitting Processes

## Listed Activities – Listing Notice 3

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<p><i>Activity 23:</i> The expansion of— (ii) infrastructure or structures where the physical footprint is expanded by 10 square metres or more; where such expansion occurs — (a) within a watercourse; (c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p> <p>f. Mpumalanga (aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies; (bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas; (cc) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority; (dd) Sites or areas identified in terms of an international convention; (ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans; (ff) Core areas in biosphere reserves; (gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core area of a biosphere reserve, where such areas comprise indigenous vegetation</p>	<p>Transport of large infrastructure components related to both facilities will require the expansion of existing access and/or internal roads, culverts or similar drainage crossing infrastructure collectively exceeding 10m<sup>2</sup> or more beyond existing road or road reserves located within delineated watercourses on site, or within 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourses on site.</p>

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Permitting Processes

## DFFE Screening Tool Identified Sensitivities – Solar PV Facilities

THEME	VERY HIGH SENSITIVITY	HIGH SENSITIVITY	MEDIUM SENSITIVITY	LOW SENSITIVITY
Agriculture Theme		X		
Animal Species Theme			X	
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme	X			
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				X
Avian Theme				X
Civil Aviation (Solar PV) Theme			X	
Defence Theme				X
Landscape (Solar) Theme	X			
Palaeontology Theme	X			
Plant Species Theme			X	
RFI Theme			X	
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	X			

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Permitting Processes

### Specialist Assessments Identified by the DFFE Screening Tool

Specialist Study	Tournée 1 and 2 Solar PV Facilities
Agricultural Impact Assessment	X
Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment	X
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	X
Palaeontology Impact Assessment	X
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	X
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	X
Civil Aviation Assessment	X
Defence Assessment	X
RFI Assessment	X
Geotechnical Assessment	X
Socio-Economic Assessment	X
Plant Species Assessment	X
Animal Species Assessment	X

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Permitting Processes

### Specialist Studies Commissioned

Specialist Study	Comment
Soils and Agricultural Potential Assessment	A soils and agricultural assessment will be undertaken
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	An archaeological and heritage impact assessment will be undertaken
Palaeontology Impact Assessment	A palaeontological impact assessment will be undertaken
Visual Impact Assessment	A visual impact assessment will therefore be undertaken
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	A terrestrial biodiversity assessment will be undertaken. This assessment will include both plant and animal aspects
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	An aquatic biodiversity assessment will be undertaken
Avifauna and Bats Impact Assessment	Even though the DFFE tool notes this to be of low sensitivity. An avifauna and Bat assessment will be undertaken
★ Social Impact Assessment	A socio-economic impact assessment will be undertaken
★ Traffic Assessment	A traffic assessment will be undertaken
★ Noise and Air Quality Assessment	A compliance statement will be undertaken
★ Desktop Geotechnical Assessment	A desktop geotechnical assessment will be undertaken
Civil Aviation Assessment	A compliance statement will be undertaken
RFI Assessment	A compliance statement will be undertaken

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**Permitting Processes**

## Specialist Studies NOT Commissioned

Specialist Study	Comment
<b>Geotechnical</b>	A detailed Geotechnical Assessment will not be undertaken as this will be undertaken during the design phase.
<b>Defence</b>	The Department of Defence will be included on the project stakeholder database. They will be informed of the proposed Project, and comment will be sought. As this theme has been identified as a low sensitivity, no compliance statement is required.

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**Permitting Processes**

## Competent Authority

- **Section 24C(2)(a) of NEMA**
  - The Minister must be identified as the Competent Authority (CA) if the activity has implications for international environmental commitments or relations
- **GN 779 of 01 July 2016**
  - Identifies the Minister as the CA for the consideration and processing of environmental authorisations and amendments thereto for activities related the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) 2010 – 2030
- **DFFE** is therefore deemed to be the Competent Authority

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#### Public Participation Process

## Public Participation Plan

- A Consolidated Public Participation Process is proposed for the two projects
- Formally announce project via:
  - Adverts (English and Afrikaans in local newspaper)
  - Site notices
  - Utilising existing stakeholder databases
- Compilation and management of I&AP Database
- Written notification:
  - Owners and occupiers on or adjacent to the proposed project site
  - Municipality Ward Councillor
  - District Municipality
  - Relevant State Departments
- Draft Reports Review for 30 days:
  - Online on the WSP website
  - Online on a data free website
  - Hard copies placed at local libraries

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#### Timeframes

## Timeframes

- Authority Timeframes
  - Authority decision making timeframe is 107 days for S&EIA
- Key Milestones
  - Submission of Application Forms – March 2023
  - Draft Scoping Report Public Review – March to April 2023
  - Submission of Final Scoping Reports – May 2023
  - Draft EIA Reports Public Review – August to September 2023
  - Submission of Final EIA Reports – November 2023

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Discussion

## Specific Clarification

- We would like to understand how a Regulation 11 request could potentially be applied to the project? Regulation 11 of the EIA Regulations (GNR 982, as amended), states that:

*“If a proponent or proponents intend to undertake one or more than one activity of the same type at different locations within the area of jurisdiction of a competent authority, the competent authority may, on written request, grant permission for the submission of a single application.”*

- Can one application process be undertaken with the option of receiving two environmental authorisations?

Or

- Can two application forms be submitted with combined reporting? Noting that the impacts would be assessed separately for each site?

27

27




Discussion

- Questions
- Way Forward




28

28



# Thank you

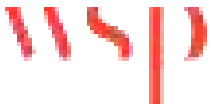


[wsp.com](http://wsp.com)

# Appendix C.2

## MEETING WITH I&AP





## MEETING NOTES

<b>JOB TITLE</b>	Tournée 1 & 2 Solar Photo Voltaic (PV) Facilities
<b>PROJECT NUMBER</b>	41104569
<b>DATE</b>	20 April 2023
<b>TIME</b>	09h00
<b>VENUE</b>	MS Teams
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PV Facility EIA Process
<b>CLIENT</b>	Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd
<b>PRESENT</b>	Ashlea Strong (AS) – WSP Megan Govender (MG) – WSP Ryan Collins (RC) – Red Rocket Janine Brasington (JB) – Red Rocket Magdalena Logan (ML) – Red Rocket Sharief Harris (SH) – Red Rocket Sizwe Dlamini (SD) – National African Federated Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NAFCOC)

Building C, Knightsbridge  
33 Sloane Street  
Bryanston, 2191  
South Africa

T: +27 11 361 1300  
F: +27 11 361 1301

[www.wsp.com](http://www.wsp.com) \\corp.pbwan.net\za\Central\_Data\Projects\41100xxx\41104569 - Red Rocket Tournee Soalr\41 PA\04-Public Participation\04-Presentations\41104569\_20230502\_Red Rocket\_Tournee\_I&AP Meeting\_Meeting Minutes.docx



## MEETING NOTES

### MATTERS ARISING

### ACTION

#### NOTE:

These notes constitute a summary of the key discussion points and decisions made during the discussion. They are not intended to reflect the exact discussions held.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

AS welcomed everyone to the meeting for the Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PhotoVoltaic (PV) Facilities. The recording of the meeting was approved by all attendees. The agenda was confirmed and all attendees introduced themselves. The purpose of the meeting was to take Sizwe Dlamini, an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) from the NAFCOOC Business Chamber, through the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PV Facilities.

#### 2.0 PROJECT PRESENTATION

AS proceeded with the presentation (included as **Appendix A**) of the proposed Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PV Facilities.

AS presented the project which covered the following:

- Project Background;
- Typical Infrastructure;
- Key Considerations;
- Environmental Authorisation (EA) Process;
- Specialist Studies;
- Public Participation (PP) Plan;
- Timeframes; and
- Specific Questions.

The following was noted and discussed during the presentation:

- The proposed project is the planned development of two Solar PV facilities, at 150 MW each and neighbouring each other.
- The facilities are adjacent to Tutuka Power Station.
- The facilities will be connected to an Eskom substation and will be developed in the context of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement program (REIPPPP) and/or Private off-take/Tenders, where possible. Due to this, the competent authority and decision maker is the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE).
- The solar facilities are located on Eskom-owned land. These particular land parcels were chosen out of a request for proposal (RFP) that came from Eskom that the applicant responded to.
- No-go areas were already identified at the beginning of the project and have been taken into consideration in the development of the facilities.
- In terms of the site selection, these sites were chosen on in terms of several factors which include:
  - being close to existing Eskom infrastructure so that there would be easy access to substations and interconnection points to transmit the electricity generated by the facilities to the grid;
  - having suitable open land for solar energy generating facilities;
  - having no exceedances of environmental sensitivities and
  - being able to contribute to the Just Energy Transition Program (JET). The JET programme is an initiative to replace the capacity from Eskom Power Stations which are scheduled to be decommissioned, and to do this with renewable energies rather than more coal and non-renewable energy facilities.
- In order to develop the projects, the applicant has to undertake an environmental impact assessment (EIA) process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act. This process includes the compilation of several reports, including the Scoping Report which has just gone out for public review. It also includes various specialist studies. This is being done in order for them to obtain an environmental authorisation (EA).
- WSP, as environmental assessment practitioners (EAPs), have been appointed to compile the reports and manage the process. The final reports go to the DFFE for decision-making. The DFFE will review it and either grant or reject their EA application.
- Specialist studies have identified preliminary sensitivity areas, which WSP have reviewed and marked some as no-go areas, where development cannot take place.

## MEETING NOTES

- In terms of the EIA Process, there is a lot of specialist studies and report writing, but the most important part is the stakeholder engagement. This included direct notification where we send e-mails or SMSs to everyone on our database notifying them of the start of the EIA Process, and we send communication throughout the project. So now that you (Sizwe Dlamini) are on our database, you will receive all the communication about the process going forward. Adverts were also put in newspapers, which is actually how you (Sizwe Dlamini) saw the advert and how you came to join the database. We put out site notices and we put out some draft reports in various libraries and at the power station and on the various websites.
- The fact that we are having this meeting means that that our notifications and advertising worked.
- In terms of time frames, the scoping reports that we put out will be finalised in May. The next round of reports, the EIA Reports, will come out in August / September. The final reports will be submitted to the DFFE towards the end of the year. There's still a bit of a road to walk and all of your questions and queries will be captured and responded to as best as possible with the information that we have available at this stage.
- When the public review process for the Draft Scoping Reports ends, WSP will incorporate all comments received during this timeframe, including yours (Sizwe Dlamini) into the Stakeholder Engagement Report and respond accordingly. The reports will be finalised and sent to the DFFE for decision-making. If the DFFE approves the Scoping Report, WSP will move onto the next phase, which is the EIA Phase.

### 3.0 CLARIFICATION AND DISCUSSION

SD noted that the NAFCOB Business Chamber welcomes any development that is taking place in the town as it provides job opportunities for the locals.

SD enquired if there any private farms involved in this project? ML responded that the lard parcels proposed for development are Eskom owned land parcels that were sent out in a tender for Independent Power Producers to develop on these specific land parcels identified by Eskom. Eskom is the custodian of the land. The applicant has been given permission to undertake the permitting process to allow the applicant development rights for solar on the property. This process being following is for the granting of an EA to allow development relating to the solar energy facility on the property.

SD requested a copy of the RFP from Eskom. The applicant confirmed that a link to the website where the RFP is located will be provided.

SD noted that in terms of stakeholder engagement, the only time the Business Chamber was consulted or notified about the proposed development was when the advert for the EIA Process came out. There was no prior engagement on the project with the community. There was mention of the decommissioning of the Tutuka Power Station, but there has been no engagement about this with the community.

ML clarified that the project is the environmental permitting stage to acquire rights to develop from an environmental perspective. In terms of NEMA, there is specific criteria that needs to be followed in terms of notifying the public and engaging them in the process. The project is still in the early phases and if the permit is granted and the development goes ahead, further engagement with the community will be undertaken. AS also noted that the purpose of EIA Process is to start the engagement with the community and build up the database for further engagement at a later stage. This is the start of the process and I&APs can contact WSP to register on the database for updates on the project. AS also clarified that DFFE will decide if the environmental authorisation is granted, but the EA does not guarantee that development will take place. SH clarified that in terms of the decommissioning of Tutuka Power Station, the decommissioning of Tutuka Power Station does not need to take place for this project to be developed. Both Tutuka and Tournée 1 & 2 can operate simultaneously.

SD: By Eskom putting out an RFP, it raises awareness that development will take place in the area. The undertaking of the EIA also raises awareness and can be a platform to raise issues and concerns that can be addressed at a later stage. AS noted that any additional information or registration requests from I&APs is welcome. However, it must be noted that the current stakeholder engagement process is specific to the Tournée 1 & 2 projects, and does not have anything to do with the Eskom RFP. If the applicant receives authorisation, it does not mean development will definitely take place. If any

## MEETING NOTES

additional people that should be on the database, please let WSP know or provide them with our contact details. All I&APs must also disclose what their interest in project is.

SD enquired if there is an opportunity for the developers to start engaging with the community and unions now and bring awareness that there will be a solar facility developed in the area in the new future. ML confirmed that further engagement, outside of what is required as per NEMA, will only be undertaken at a later stage when it can be confirmed that an EA has been granted and it can be confirmed that the project will be developed. SD noted that he will also try to get comments from other Business Chambers.

SD noted that the Draft Scoping Reports indicated that there are graves in the area. AS confirmed that the heritage specialist identified graves on the edge of the proposed development area. The specialist has put in a no-go 30 m buffer around the grave sites. SD advised that the community may want to visit the graves and enquired if they will still have access to the graves. AS confirmed that the graves are very close to the main road on the edge of the facility so there will still be access. The area of the grave site will be marked as a no-go area so no development will take place within that area. The community will still be allowed access to the graves. ML confirmed that the graves will be demarcated and access will not be denied.

SD suggested that consultation with the Ward Councillor should be undertaken to ensure that there are no land claims further down the line from community members in relation to the graves. ML highlighted that this is only the Scoping Phase and the grave site will be further investigated by the heritage specialist during the EIA Phase. If discussions need to be undertaken with families whom the grave sites belong to, this will be investigated in the EIA Phase. AS also noted that WSP is engaging with the Department of Land Affairs for land claims, however, no comments have been received back as yet. WSP have a ward councillor on the database that was provided by the municipality, however any additional ward councillors that should be notified is welcome. SD confirmed that he will send through details of the ward councillors.

AS: WSP will keep in touch to get more details of other I&APs that should be on the database.

Meeting was concluded.

### **4.0 WAY FORWARD**

WSP to compile the meeting minutes.

**APPENDIX A**

**MEETING PRESENTATION**




# Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PhotoVoltaic (PV) Facilities

Environmental Authorisation Process



1




## Introductions

**Applicant** Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd  
Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd

**EAP** W&S Group Africa (Pty) Ltd



2



## Background


The proposed project includes the development of the Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PV Parks near Thuthukani in the Mpumalanga Province. The Tournée Solar PV Cluster will be divided into two solar projects, namely:

- o Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility (up to 150 MW)
- o Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility (up to 150 MW)

The proposed Solar PV Facility will connect to a nearby Eskom substation (still to be confirmed) through an up to 132kV single or double circuit powerline. The powerline will be subject to a separate environmental assessment process.

The Cluster is being developed in the context of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPP), in conjunction with private off-take or wheeling agreements, where possible. The Solar PV Facilities are located on Eskom owned land and were selected in response to an Eskom Request For Proposal (RFP).

3

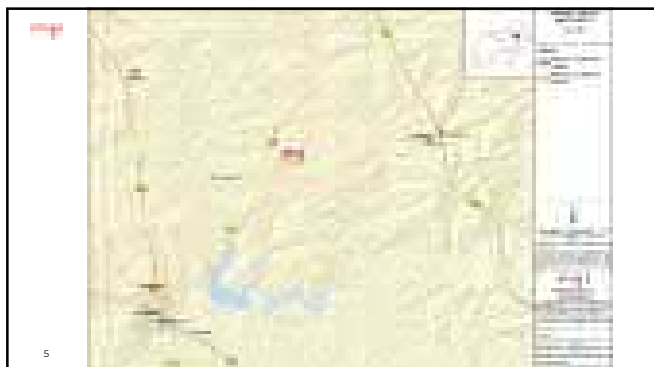


## Location

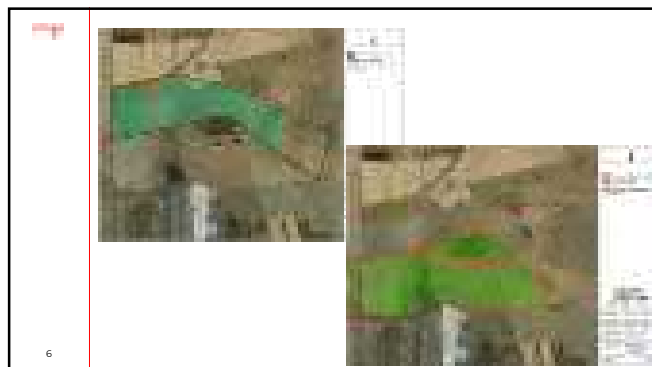
The proposed facilities are located within the Lekwa Local Municipality and Gert Sibande District Municipality, in the Mpumalanga Province near Tutuka Coal Fired Power Station.

	Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility	Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility
Project Extent (Farm Boundary)	306.65 ha	505.15 ha
Buildable Area	Approximately 229 ha, subject to finalisation based on technical and environmental requirements	Approximately 297 ha, subject to finalisation based on technical and environmental requirements
Generation capacity	150 MW	150 MW
Farms	Portion 7 (Portion of Portion 3) of Farm Dwars-in-die-Weg 350 IS Portion 6 of Farm Dwars-in-die-Weg 350 IS	Remaining Portion of Portion 3 of Farm Dwars-in-die-Weg 350 IS Portion 6 of Farm Dwars-in-die-Weg 350 IS
Land Owner	Eskom Holdings (SOC) Limited	

4



5



6

### Site Selection

The location of the proposed project is based on the site awarded to the applicant in response to an Eskom RFP. The following aspects were required by the RFP to be taken into consideration when selecting the location of the site:

- The selected location must be in close proximity to the existing Eskom infrastructure and interconnection points including substations;
- The site must be suitable open land for Solar PV development;
- The screening process for the selected location must not identify exceedances of environmental sensitivities; and
- The selected site must contribute to the Just Energy Transition (JET) Programme.

7

### Environmental Authorisation Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for each of the projects to meet the requirements under the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA).

The proposed projects are subject to a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

Project	Environmental Process	Listed Activities
Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 1(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 24 (i), 27, 28(ii), 30, 48(i)(a)(c) and 56(ii);</li> </ul>
Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984, as amended): Activity 1 and 15;</li> <li>• NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 4(i)(ii)(ee), 10(i)(i)(ee)(hh), 12(i)(i), 14 (ii)(a)(c)(f)(i)(ff), 18(i)(i)(ee) and 23 (i)(a)(c)(f)(ee).</li> </ul>

8

### Typical Infrastructure

Each of the solar facilities will contain the following infrastructure:

- Solar Field
  - Maximum height of 6 m
  - PV Modules that are located on axis tracking structures or similar
- Solar Farm Substations
  - Two up to 4-Site substation yards that will include:
    - Substation building
    - High voltage gantry
    - Multiple (up to) 132kV feeder bays and transformers
    - Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) (up to 150MWh/600MWh)
- Building Infrastructure
  - Operational and maintenance (O&M) control centre (including warehouse/workshop)
  - Construction camp and laydown areas
  - Ablution facilities
  - Converter/inverter stations
  - Internal and access roads
  - Cement batching plant

9

### Specialist Studies

The following specialist studies have been commissioned to support the EA Process:

- Agricultural Impact Assessment;
- Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment;
- Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment;
- Palaeontology Impact Assessment;
- Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment;
- Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment;
- Plant Species Assessment;
- Animal Species Assessment;
- Socio-Economic Assessment;
- Air Quality Compliance Statement;
- Noise Compliance Statement;
- Avifauna Assessment;
- Bats Assessment;
- Traffic and Transport Assessment;
- Geotechnical Desktop Study; and
- High-level Qualitative Risk Assessment.

10

### Site Sensitivity Verification

A summary of the specialist assessment protocol followed as well as the sensitivity verification for the project site is detailed

Theme	Assessment Protocol	Specialist Site Sensitivity Verification
Agricultural Compliance Statement	Protocol for the specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements of environmental impacts on agricultural resources by onshore wind and/or solar photovoltaic energy generation facilities where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more	High, Medium and Low Sensitivity
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Terrestrial Biodiversity	Low Sensitivity
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Aquatic Biodiversity	Very High Sensitivity
Plant Species	Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Terrestrial Plant Species	Low Sensitivity
Animal Species	Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Terrestrial Animal Species	Medium Sensitivity
Avifauna Impact Assessment	Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impacts on Terrestrial Animal Species	Low Sensitivity
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	Site Sensitivity Verification Requirements where a specialist Assessment is required but no Specific Assessment Protocol has been prescribed	Medium Sensitivity
Palaeontology Impact Assessment	Site Sensitivity Verification Requirements where a specialist Assessment is required but no Specific Assessment Protocol has been prescribed	Medium Sensitivity
Visual (Landscape) Impact Assessment	Site Sensitivity Verification Requirements where a specialist Assessment is required but no Specific Assessment Protocol has been prescribed	Low Sensitivity
Civil Aviation Assessment	Site Sensitivity Verification Requirements where a specialist Assessment is required but no Specific Assessment Protocol has been prescribed	Medium Sensitivity
Defence Assessment	Site Sensitivity Verification Requirements where a specialist Assessment is required but no Specific Assessment Protocol has been prescribed	Low Sensitivity
DR Assessment	Site Sensitivity Verification Requirements where a specialist Assessment is required but no Specific Assessment Protocol has been prescribed	Low Sensitivity

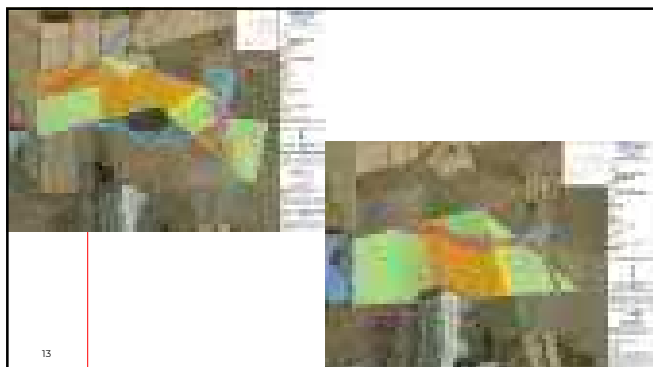
11

### Sensitive Mapping

A preliminary consolidated environmental sensitivity map has been compiled based on the sensitivities and buffers outlined in the following specialist studies

- Aquatic Biodiversity;
- Terrestrial Biodiversity;
- Heritage; and
- Visual.

12



13



14

**Stakeholder Engagement**

A Consolidated Public Participation Process is proposed for the two projects

- Direct Notification
  - Notification to potential and existing Stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e., site notices, emails, SMSs, etc.)
- Newspaper Advertisements
  - Standerton Advertiser
  - Standerton Bulletin
- Site Notices
  - Placed at strategic points in close proximity to the proposed Project site, as well as in public places.
- Availability of the draft Scoping reports for Public Review
  - Hard Copy: Standerton Public Library
  - Hard Copy: Sakhile Public Library
  - Hard Copy: Thuthukani Library
  - Hard Copy: Tutuka Power Station Security Office
  - Electronic Copy: WSP Website (<https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>)
  - Electronic Copy: Datafree Website (<https://wsp-engage.com/>)

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**High Level Timeframes**

- Authority Timeframes
  - Authority decision making timeframe is 107 days for S&EIA
- Key Milestones
  - Submission of Application Forms – March 2023
  - Draft Scoping Report Public Review – March to May 2023
  - Submission of Final Scoping Reports – May 2023
  - Draft EIA Reports Public Review – August to September 2023
  - Submission of Final EIA Reports – November 2023

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### Way Forward

The Draft Scoping Reports have been made available for review from **27 March 2023 to 02 May 2023**.


All issues and comments submitted to WSP will be incorporated in the Comments and Responses Table of the SER.

The Draft Reports will be updated with all comments and submitted as a Final Report to the DFFE.


An Environmental Impact Assessment will be undertaken between May 2023 and August 2023. An EIA Report will be compiled and made available for public review in August 2023.

17

17



# Thank you



wsp.com

18

# Appendix D

## COMMENTS



# Appendix D.1

## COMMENTS FOR BOTH PROJECTS



## Govender, Megan

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**From:** sdlamini [Redacted as per POPIA]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 05 April 2023 15:33  
**To:** Govender, Megan  
**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea  
**Subject:** RE: Objecion

Thanks I send date

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

**From:** "Govender, Megan" <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>  
**Date:** 2023/04/05 14:11 (GMT+02:00)  
**To:** sdlamini [Redacted as per POPIA]  
**Cc:** "Strong, Ashlea" <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Objecion

Good Day Sizwe

We can set up a virtual consultation to discuss the EIA Process as requested. Please advise on your availability after 18 April 2023.

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

[Redacted as per POPIA]

---

**From:** sdlamini [Redacted as per POPIA]  
**Sent:** Friday, 31 March 2023 13:31  
**To:** Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>  
**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Objecion

We asking to be taken through whole Eia consultation on virtual consultation

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: "Govender, Megan" <[Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)>

Date: 2023/03/31 12:51 (GMT+02:00)

To: Sizwe Dlamini Redacted as per POPIA

Cc: "Strong, Ashlea" <[Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)>

Subject: RE: Objecion

Good Day Sizwe

The advert was placed in advance before the release of the Environmental Scoping Reports for public review. As per the advert, the Environmental Scoping Reports were made available for public review from 27 March 2023 to 02 May 2023 at the following venues:

Area	Venue	Street Address
Standerton	Standerton Public Library	18 Calidon St, Standerton
	Sakhile Public Library	Cnr Mbonani and Maisela ,Beyers Nauder,Standerton
Thuthukani	Thuthukani Library	26°47'08.5"S 29°17'30.1"E
	Tutuka Power Station Security Office	
WSP Website	<a href="https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents">https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</a>	
Datafree Website	<a href="https://wsp-engage.com/">https://wsp-engage.com/</a>	

The purpose of the advert was to notify the public about the proposed project and invite them to register as an Interested and Affected Party to receive communication on the project. WSP can confirm that you have been registered as an I&AP on the project database and will receive all future communication on the project.

Kind Regards,

Megan Govender

Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA

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

From: Sizwe Dlamini Redacted as per POPIA

Sent: Wednesday, 22 March 2023 13:26

To: Govender, Megan <[Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)>

Subject: Objection

Good day please receive my objection for proposed Development of Tournee 1&2

I am a business. In town of Lekwa we want to put our objection for this project's reason we were not consulted as a community of Lekwa on the whole total project what will be the impact

1, All farms are going to be used by white farmers it benefits them 2, communities employment before and after project when it's finished 3, Business opportunity for local black supply.

4, What is its SLA for our community

5, We need in black and white how much you are offering this farmers and lease it for how long 6, what procurement procedure you took to appoint these farms 7, your solar were it's going to feed Lekwa Municipality benefiting in this 150w

With this submission I want to say we don't support this project that has already shown it benefits white farmers alone

Thanks Sizwe Dlamini

Redacted as per POPIA

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## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** sdlamini [Redacted as per POPIA]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 02 May 2023 14:09  
**To:** Govender, Megan  
**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea  
**Subject:** RE: Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PV Facilities\_Clarification

Please receive number of council as promised

THABANG [Redacted as per POPIA]

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

**From:** "Govender, Megan" <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>  
**Date:** 2023/05/02 13:52 (GMT+02:00)  
**To:** sdlamini [Redacted as per POPIA]  
**Cc:** "Strong, Ashlea" <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>  
**Subject:** Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PV Facilities\_Clarification

Good Day Sizwe

During the meeting held with you on 20 April 2023 you requested a copy of the Eskom RFP that the applicant responded to.

The direct link to the RFP doesn't seem to be working however, if you do a Google Search of "MWP1247GX" the Tender Bulletin page should come up (see attached). Please see the RFP attached which can be found in the Commercial folder on the website (screenshot attached for reference).

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

[Redacted as per POPIA]



WSP in Africa  
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand  
1685 South Africa

[wsp.com](http://wsp.com)



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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Govender, Megan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 11 April 2023 13:01  
**To:** Chelsea Damster  
**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea  
**Subject:** RE: Tournee 1 & 2 Solar PV Facility

Good Day Chelsea

Please may you confirm what town planning notice you are referring to? The only advert and notice that has gone out is for the environmental authorisation process being undertake for Tournee 1 and Tournee 2.

The Draft Environmental Scoping Reports have been made available at the venues below for review and comment from **27 March 2023** to **02 May 2023**.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Standerton	Standerton Public Library	18 Calidon St, Standerton
	Sakhile Public Library	Cnr Mbonani and Maisela ,Beyers Nauder,Standerton
Thuthukani	Thuthukani Library	26°47'08.5"S 29°17'30.1"E
	Tutuka Power Station Security Office	
WSP Website	<a href="https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents">https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</a>	
Datafree Website	<a href="https://wsp-engage.com/">https://wsp-engage.com/</a>	

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA

---

**From:** Chelsea Damster Redacted as per POPIA

**Sent:** Thursday, 06 April 2023 08:36

**To:** Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

**Subject:** Tournee 1 & 2 Solar PV Facility

Hello Megan,

I hope you are well. I came across a town planning notice for the Tournee 1 & 2 Solar PV Facility near Standerton in Mpumalanga.

I do not have any objections but would like to please be registered as an interested party.

I follow building and construction related projects from conceptual / feasibility up until completion.

Please can you email me a copy of the background information document or motivating memorandum or any other documents or reports for this project.

Please can you also provide me with the below.

- Client Company Name: Tournee Solar (Pty) Ltd ?

- EIA Company Name: WSP Group Africa

- Town Planning Company Name: ?

- Developer Company Name: ?

--

Kind Regards

**Chelsea Damster | Regional Content Researcher Projects**

Redacted as per POPIA



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## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Strong, Ashlea  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 19 April 2023 11:00  
**To:** Shonese Bloy  
**Cc:** Ansoné Esterhuizen; Skye Clarke-McLeod; Caryn Clarke; Colette Alisha Stander; Kathryn Winstanley; Govender, Megan  
**Subject:** RE: I&AP Registration: Tournee SEF 1 and 2

Dear Shonese

Thank you for your email.

WSP confirm that Caryn Clarke has been added to the I&AP database for the proposed Tournee Solar Facility Projects (1 and 2).

Please note that the Draft Environmental Scoping Reports are available for review and comment from **27 March 2023** to **02 May 2023** as follows:

Area	Venue	Street Address
WSP Website	<a href="https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents">https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</a>	
Datafree Website	<a href="https://wsp-engage.com/">https://wsp-engage.com/</a>	

Kind regards

Ashlea



**Ashlea Strong**  
Principal Associate

T +27 11 361-1302

Redacted as per POPIA

**From:** Shonese Bloy Redacted as per POPIA

**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 April 2023 16:30

**To:** Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Redacted as per POPIA

**Subject:** I&AP Registration: Tournee SEF 1 and 2

Hi Ashlea,

I hope you are well.

Could I please request that **Caryn Clarke** with email address Redacted as per POPIA be registered as an I&AP for the proposed Tournee Solar Facility Projects (1 and 2).

Could you also please send through any relevant documents and reply with confirmation of registration.

Thank you very much.

Kind Regards,



Shonese Bloy  
Environmental Intern

Redacted as per POPIA

G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd  
5th Floor, 125 Buitengracht Street  
Cape Town 8001, South Africa



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Redacted as per POPIA

## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Strong, Ashlea  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 19 April 2023 11:06  
**To:** Kholofelo Rameetse  
**Cc:** Stephnie Kot; Govender, Megan  
**Subject:** RE: Tournée PV Sites| I&AP Registration

Dear Kholofelo

Thank you for your email.

WSP confirm that you and Stephanie have been added to the I&AP database for the proposed Tournée Solar Facility Projects (1 and 2).

Please note that the Draft Environmental Scoping Reports are available for review and comment from **27 March 2023** to **02 May 2023** as follows:

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WSP Website	<a href="https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents">https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</a>	
Datafree Website	<a href="https://wsp-engage.com/">https://wsp-engage.com/</a>	

Kind regards

Ashlea



**Ashlea Strong**  
Principal Associate

T +27 11 361-1392

Redacted as per POPIA

**From:** Kholofelo Rameetse Redacted as per POPIA

**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 April 2023 12:40

**To:** Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

**Cc:** Stephnie Kot Redacted as per POPIA

**Subject:** Tournée PV Sites| I&AP Registration

Good day Ashlea,

Please register myself and Stephnie (copied) as I&APs for Red Rocket's Tournée's PV projects.

Thanks and regards,

**Kholofelo Rameetse**

**Land and Environmental Project Manager**

**African Clean Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd**

Redacted as per POPIA





## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Kamogelo Mathetja <KMathetja@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 30 March 2023 09:01  
**To:** Govender, Megan  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS REVIEW

Well received, Thank you.

Regards,  
Kamogelo

---

**From:** Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 11:56  
**To:** Kamogelo Mathetja <KMathetja@dffe.gov.za>; MMatlala Rabothata <MRABOTHATA@dffe.gov.za>  
**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day

Please find attached kmz files for the Tournee 1 and Tournee 2 Solar PV Facilities, as requested below.

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA

---

**From:** Kamogelo Mathetja <KMathetja@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 10:41  
**To:** Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>  
**Cc:** MMatlala Rabothata <MRABOTHATA@dffe.gov.za>; Kamogelo Mathetja <KMathetja@dffe.gov.za>  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Sir/Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs M Rabothata and Mr K Mathetja (Both copied on this email). In addition, kindly share the shapefiles of the development footprints/application site with the Case Officers.

Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: [BCAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:BCAdmin@environment.gov.za) for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota

Regards,  
Kamogelo



**From:** Govender, Megan <[Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:34 AM

**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <[Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)>

**Subject:** NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Commenting Authority,

**Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).**

Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd and Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd are proposing to develop two solar energy facilities (SEFs), namely Tournée 1 and Tournée 2 Solar PV Facilities, collectively known as the Tournée Solar PV Cluster near Standerton in the Lekwa Local Municipality and the Gert Sibande District Municipality in the Mpumalanga Provinces. The proposed Tournée Solar PV Cluster is located in close proximity to the Tutuka Power Station. The proposed authorisations include the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes::

- Tournée 1 150MW Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Tournée 2 150MW Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Rocket South Africa (Pty) Ltd, to manage the S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

**DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD**

The Draft Environmental Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment from **27 March 2023 to 02 May 2023**.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Standerton	Standerton Public Library	18 Calidon St, Standerton
	Sakhile Public Library	Cnr Mbonani and Maisela ,Beyers Nauder,Standerton
Thuthukani	Thuthukani Library	26°47'08.5"S 29°17'30.1"E
	Tutuka Power Station Security Office	
WSP Website	<a href="https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents">https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</a>	
Datafree Website	<a href="https://wsp-engage.com/">https://wsp-engage.com/</a>	

The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

<b>One Drive Link</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Tournée Solar PV Cluster For Public Review</a>
<b>One Drive Instruction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder</li></ul>

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender  
Tel: 011 361 1410  
Fax: 011 361 1381  
E-mail: [Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)

Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA



WSP in Africa  
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand  
1685 South Africa

[wsp.com](http://wsp.com)

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Kamogelo Mathetja <KMathetja@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 14:10  
**To:** Govender, Megan  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS REVIEW

Well received,

Regards,

---

**From:** Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 08:54  
**To:** Kamogelo Mathetja <KMathetja@dffe.gov.za>  
**Cc:** MMatlala Rabothata <MRABOTHATA@dffe.gov.za>  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day Kamogelo

Please may you confirm where you are downloading the reports from? I have checked the WSP Website, WSP Data free Website and One Drive Folder, and all Annexures are correct for Tournee 1 and 2.

Please use the link below to download the reports from We Transfer for Tournee 01:

Download link

<https://we.tl/t-MP6lmcaa76>

And Tournee 02:

Download link

<https://we.tl/t-nfaOgjs83W>

Please confirm successful download of the reports.

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA

---

**From:** Kamogelo Mathetja <KMathetja@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Friday, 14 April 2023 08:43  
**To:** Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>  
**Cc:** MMatlala Rabothata <MRABOTHATA@dffe.gov.za>  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Megan,

Kindly note that I attempted to download reports of both proposed development but I found that under Tournee 1, the following annexures are for Impumelelo WEF, thus Kindly share the correct annexures:

- Freshwater Scoping report
- Terrestrial Biodiversity Report
- Screening tool Report
- Maps

Regards,  
Kamogelo

---

**From:** Govender, Megan <[Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 11:56  
**To:** Kamogelo Mathetja <[KMathetja@dffe.gov.za](mailto:KMathetja@dffe.gov.za)>; MMatlala Rabothata <[MRABOTHATA@dffe.gov.za](mailto:MRABOTHATA@dffe.gov.za)>  
**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <[Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day

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Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

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**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 March 2023 10:41  
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**Cc:** MMatlala Rabothata <[MRABOTHATA@dffe.gov.za](mailto:MRABOTHATA@dffe.gov.za)>; Kamogelo Mathetja <[KMathetja@dffe.gov.za](mailto:KMathetja@dffe.gov.za)>  
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Regards,  
Kamogelo

---

**From:** Govender, Megan <[Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 9:34 AM  
**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <[Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)>  
**Subject:** NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS REVIEW

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	Tutuka Power Station Security Office	
WSP Website	<a href="https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents">https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</a>	
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<b>One Drive Link</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Tournée Solar PV Cluster For Public Review</a>
<b>One Drive Instruction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder</li> </ul>

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender  
 Tel: 011 361 1410  
 Fax: 011 361 1381  
 E-mail: [Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)  
 Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA



WSP in Africa  
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand  
1685 South Africa

[wsp.com](http://wsp.com)

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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## forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

Private Bag 9147, Pretoria, 0001, Environmental House, 473 Skye/Bloem Road, Pretoria, 0003 Tel: +27 12 359 6000, Fax: + 27 12 359 1043

**Reference:** Tournée 1 & 2 Solar PV Facilities

**Enquiries:** Ms M Rabothata / Mr K Mathetja

**Telephone:** (012) 359 9174 **E-mail:** [MRabothata@environment.gov.za](mailto:MRabothata@environment.gov.za)

Ms. Ashlea Strong  
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd  
PO Box 98867  
SLOANE PARK  
2151

Telephone Number: (+ 27)11 381 1392  
Email Address: [Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)

### PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms. Strong

### COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR TOURNÉE SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation reviewed and evaluated the draft report and doesn't have any objections to the Scoping Report and the Plan of Study. However, it is recommended that the PV facilities be placed in such a way that they avoid any highly sensitive biodiversity areas. Furthermore, the layout Plan overlaid with biodiversity sensitivities must be included and submitted during the next phase of the EIA.

All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: [BCAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:BCAdmin@environment.gov.za) for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota.

Yours faithfully

**Mr. Seoka Lekota**  
Control Biodiversity Grade B Officer: Biodiversity Conservation  
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment  
Date: 28/04/2023





13 De Jager, Ervode 2000, Mpumalanga Province  
Private Bag 62171, Ervode 2000  
Tel: +27 (0)11 811-4628, +27(0)11 811-2844

13 De Jager, Ervode 2000, Mpumalanga Province  
Private Bag 62171, Ervode 2000  
Tel: +27 (0)11 811-4628, +27(0)11 811-2844

De departement van Landboue  
Landboue, Landboue en  
Omgewingsake

Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development,  
Land and Environmental Affairs

English: 011 811 2844 / 011 811 4628  
Tel: +27 (0)11 811 2844 / 011 811 4628  
Afrikaans: 011 811 2844 / 011 811 4628

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd  
Building G, Knightlandga  
33 Bloem Street  
Brynaton  
2101

Attention: Ms. Ashlea Strong  
Email: Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

Dear Madam,

**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE TOURNEE SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 7 (PORTION OF PORTION 5) AND PORTION 6 OF THE FARM DWARS-OM-DE-WEG 381 IS, STANDERTON, LEMBA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY.**

The draft environmental impact assessment report which was submitted by you in response of the abovementioned application and received by the Department on 27 March 2023 refers. The Department has considered the content of the report, and has the following comments:

1. According to the Soil, Land-use and Land Capability Assessment dated February 2023 the site largely comprises grazing land as well as cultivated field with maize and soybeans as crops of choice. Furthermore, the proposed activities will result in the loss of growth medium (stripped soils), if change of land use is proposed for the above mentioned development a letter of 'no objection' for change in land use should be acquired before commencement of the project. Consultation should be made with the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) to ensure that the development will not affect future agricultural production.
2. The proposed development will lead to loss of floral communities which will impact on the terrestrial biodiversity within the proposed site and will result in the degradation of the surrounding Freshwater Ecosystem. The mitigation measures proposed on the Biodiversity Scoping Report must be implemented and strictly adhered to.
3. The applicant must ensure that the proposed development is prioritized in habitats of decreased sensitivity, to ensure that sensitive habitats are avoided.
4. According to the Freshwater Scoping Report dated February 2023 the proposed development may result in potential encroachment of three waterbodies, a sensitivity layout plan on aquatic assessment must be included in the final EIAR delineating all sensitivity

3/3



**REQUIREMENTS**

- areas and clearly showing all buffer zones between watercourses and development edges as well as wet and dry grass.
5. A heritage sensitivity layout map must be included in the final EIAR with the 60m buffer around the burial sites as advised on the Heritage Impact Assessment dated February 2023 to ensure that no development within the area.
  6. The recommendations and mitigation measures advised on the various assessment studies conducted must be incorporated on the Environmental Management Programme (EMP).
  7. The final EIAR must provide proof that all potential and registered ISAPs, including the Organs of State, were provided with access to and an opportunity to comment on the final EIAR following submission of the application form (Regulation 40(3)).
  8. The final EIAR must include issues and responses of the report, as well as copies of and responses to comments received from all ISAPs, including those comments

Do not hesitate to contact this office if there are any enquiries.

Yours sincerely,



**MS. S.J.L. MOUTYANE**

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT**

**DATE: 09/09/2023**

## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Govender, Megan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 May 2023 10:44  
**To:** John Geeringh  
**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: FINAL SCOPING REPORTS [Filed 16 May 2023 10:44]  
**Attachments:** Tournee 1 & 2 PVSEFs.kmz; 41104569\_20230327\_RedRocket Tournee\_Notification Letter\_English\_Final.pdf

Good Day John

Please find attached the following:

- Project KMZ
- Notification Letter

Please note that the Final Scoping Reports can be viewed on the following websites:

- WSP website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents>
- WSP datafree website - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA

---

**From:** John Geeringh Redacted as per POPIA

**Sent:** Monday, 08 May 2023 13:01

**To:** Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: FINAL SCOPING REPORTS

I seemed to have missed these projects announcement / BID's, Can you please forward to me as well as KMZ files indicating affected properties and proposed layouts?

Kind regards

John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat) Reg. EAP (EAPASA)  
Senior Consultant Environmental Management  
Grid Planning: Land and Rights  
Eskom Transmission Division  
Megawatt Park, D1Y42, Maxwell Drive, Sunninghill, Sandton.  
P O Box 1091, Johannesburg, 2000.

Redacted as per POPIA

**From:** Govender, Megan <[Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, 08 May 2023 12:39

**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <[Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)>

**Subject:** [CAUTION:EXTERNAL EMAIL] NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: FINAL SCOPING REPORTS

Dear Stakeholder

**NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

This notification is to inform you that the Final Environmental Scoping Report for the following projects were submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) on 05 May 2023 for their review and decision -making:

- Tournée 1 150MW Solar PV Facility (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339)
- Tournée 2 150MW Solar PV Facility (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340)

The Final Scoping Reports have been made available on the WSP website for your information:

WSP website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents>

WSP datafree website - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender

Tel: 011 361 1410

Fax: 011 361 1381

E-mail: [Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)

Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

**Protection of Personal Information:** WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I&AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,



**Megan Govender**

Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300



WSP in Africa

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand  
1685 South Africa

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## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Govender, Megan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 17 May 2023 09:35  
**To:** Nwabisa Ndaku  
**Subject:** RE: Register as I & AP for Tournee Solar 1 and Tournee Solar 2

Good Morning Nwabisa

I can confirm that you have been registered as an I&AP for Tournee 1 and Tournee 2.

Please note that the Final Scoping Reports can be viewed on the following websites:

- WSP website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents>
- WSP datafree website - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA

---

**From:** Nwabisa Ndaku Redacted as per POPIA

**Sent:** Thursday, 11 May 2023 13:12

**To:** Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

**Subject:** Register as I & AP for Tournee Solar 1 and Tournee Solar 2

Good day Megan,

I hope you are well.

May you please Register me as I & AP for Tournee Solar 1 and Tournee Solar 2 projects.

If possible may you please send me confirmation.

Best Regards

--

Nwabisa Ndaku | Project Assistant

Redacted as per POPIA

and delete the message. Thank you.

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa  
Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

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**Govender, Megan**

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**From:** Redacted as per POPIA  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 July 2023 08:58  
**To:** Strong, Ashlea  
**Cc:** Maharaj, Jashmika; Nadar, Thirushan; Scheepers, Anri; Govender, Megan  
**Subject:** RE: Registration as I&AP of WSP Renewable Energy Projects

Dear Ashlea,

Noted with thanks. Much appreciated.

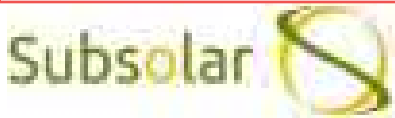
Working in this rapidly growing industry, the need to stay up to date with new developments is very important. Keeping up with all new developments also gives my team means of planning our own new developments in terms of grid capacity etc.

Kind regards,

Donné

**Donné Krause**  
*Environmental Manager*

**Subsolar Energy (Pty) Ltd**  
Redacted as per POPIA



---

**From:** Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 21, 2023 2:29 PM  
**To:** Redacted as per POPIA  
**Cc:** Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>; Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>; Scheepers, Anri <Anri.Scheepers@wsp.com>; Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Registration as I&AP of WSP Renewable Energy Projects

Dear Donne

Thank you for your email.

I can confirm that we have added you to our renewable projects – inclusive of those listed below.

For the record and in accordance with the requirements of the EIA Regulations – please will you respond to this email with a brief outline of your interest in these projects.

Furthermore, please see my comments below where I have provided some additional project information:

- Igolide Wind Energy Facility – **this project has just started and the Draft Scoping Report comes out of public review on 27 July 2023 – we will forward you the relevant information.**
- Proposed Hendrina Green Hydrogen & Ammonia Facility and Associated Infrastructure – **the FEIR has been submitted and we currently await the EA**
- Mukondeleli WEF – **The EA has been received for this project**
- Tournee 1 & 2 Solar PV facility – **The Draft EIAs will be made available for public review during the course of August 2023.**

Kind regards

Ashlea



**Ashlea Strong**  
Principal Associate

T +27 11 361-1392

Redacted as per POPIA

**From** Redacted as per POPIA

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 10:55 AM

**To:** Maharaj, Jashmika <[jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com](mailto:jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com)>; Nadar, Thirushan <[Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com](mailto:Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com)>; Strong, Ashlea <[Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)>; Scheepers, Anri <[Anri.Scheepers@wsp.com](mailto:Anri.Scheepers@wsp.com)>; Govender, Megan <[Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)>

**Subject:** Registration as I&AP of WSP Renewable Energy Projects

Dear WSP team,

I hope this email finds you well. Please consider this email as a request to register as an Interested and Affected party of the following projects:

- Igolide Wind Energy Facility – **this project has just started and the Draft Scoping Report comes out of public review on 27 July 2023 – we will forward you the relevant information.**
- Proposed Hendrina Green Hydrogen & Ammonia Facility and Associated Infrastructure – **the FEIR has been submitted and we currently await the EA**
- Impumelelo 132kV Overhead Powerline and Substation – **this application was withdrawn**
- Dalmanutha WEF
- Impumelelo WEF - **this application was withdrawn**
- Mukondeleli WEF – **The EA has been received for this project**
- Tournee 1 & 2 Solar PV facility – **The Draft EIAs will be made available for public review during the course of August 2023.**

I also hereby kindly request that I am included as an I&AP on all renewable energy projects in the country.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

**Donné Krause**

*Environmental Manager*

**Subsolar Energy (Pty) Ltd**

Redacted as per POPIA

Redacted as per POPIA



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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI



## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Govender, Megan  
**Sent:** Thursday, 31 August 2023 09:13  
**To:** Kamogelo Mathetja  
**Cc:** MMatlala Rabothata  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS  
**Attachments:** Tournee 2\_20230825.kmz; Tournee 1\_20230825.kmz

Good Day

Please see attached as requested.

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA

---

**From:** Kamogelo Mathetja <KMathetja@dffe.gov.za>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 8:35 AM

**To:** Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

**Cc:** Redacted as per POPIA

**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS

Dear Sir/Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs M Rabothata (copied on this email). In addition, kindly share the shapefiles of the development footprints/application site with the Case Officer.

Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email:

[BCAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:BCAdmin@environment.gov.za) for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota

Regards,  
Kamogelo.

---

**From:** Govender, Megan <[Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, 18 August 2023 09:13

**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <[Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)>

**Subject:** NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS

Dear Stakeholder

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd and Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd are proposing to develop two solar energy facilities (SEFs), namely Tournée 1 and Tournée 2 Solar PV Facilities, collectively known as the Tournée Solar PV Cluster near Standerton in the Lekwa Local Municipality and the Gert Sibande District Municipality in the Mpumalanga Provinces. The proposed Tournée Solar PV Cluster is located in close proximity to the Tutuka Power Station. The proposed authorisations include the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Tournée 1 150MW Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339)
- Tournée 2 150MW Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340)

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Rocket South Africa (Pty) Ltd, to manage the S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

**DRAFT EIA REPORT REVIEW PERIOD**

The Draft EIA Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment from **18 August to 18 September 2023**.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Standerton	Standerton Public Library	18 Calidon St, Standerton
	Sakhile Public Library	Cnr Mbonani and Maisela ,Beyers Nauder,Standerton
Thuthukani	Thuthukani Library	26°47'08.5"S 29°17'30.1"E
	Tutuka Power Station Security Office	
WSP Website	<a href="https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents">https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</a>	
Datafree Website	<a href="https://wsp-engage.com/">https://wsp-engage.com/</a>	

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender  
Tel: 011 361 1410  
Fax: 011 361 1381  
E-mail: [Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)  
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

**Protection of Personal Information:** WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I&AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,



**Megan Govender**

Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300



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Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand  
1685 South Africa

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## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Govender, Megan  
**Sent:** Monday, 18 September 2023 15:27  
**To:** Kamogelo Mathetja  
**Cc:** MMatlala Rabothata  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS

Good Day

Just a reminder that the public review period ends today. Please may you submit your comments should you have any.

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA

---

**From:** Govender, Megan  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 31, 2023 9:13 AM  
**To:** Redacted as per POPIA  
**Cc:** Redacted as per POPIA  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS

Good Day

Please see attached as requested.

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA

---

**From:** Kamogelo Mathetja Redacted as per POPIA  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 8:35 AM  
**To:** Govender, Megan <[Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)>  
**Cc:** MMatlala Rabothata Redacted as per POPIA  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS

Dear Sir/Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs M Rabothata (copied on this email). In addition, kindly share the shapefiles of the development footprints/application site with the Case Officer.

Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: [BCAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:BCAdmin@environment.gov.za) for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota

Regards,  
Kamogelo.

---

**From:** Govender, Megan <[Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, 18 August 2023 09:13

**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <[Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)>

**Subject:** NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS

Dear Stakeholder

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

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Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd and Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd are proposing to develop two solar energy facilities (SEFs), namely Tournée 1 and Tournée 2 Solar PV Facilities, collectively known as the Tournée Solar PV Cluster near Standerton in the Lekwa Local Municipality and the Gert Sibande District Municipality in the Mpumalanga Provinces. The proposed Tournée Solar PV Cluster is located in close proximity to the Tutuka Power Station. The proposed authorisations include the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Tournée 1 150MW Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339)
- Tournée 2 150MW Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340)

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Rocket South Africa (Pty) Ltd, to manage the S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

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	Sakhile Public Library	Cnr Mbonani and Maisela ,Beyers Nauder,Standerton
Thuthukani	Thuthukani Library	26°47'08.5"S 29°17'30.1"E
	Tutuka Power Station Security Office	
WSP Website	<a href="https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents">https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</a>	
Datafree Website	<a href="https://wsp-engage.com/">https://wsp-engage.com/</a>	

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender

Tel: 011 361 1410

Fax: 011 361 1381  
E-mail: [Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)  
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

**Protection of Personal Information:** WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I&AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300



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1685 South Africa

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Govender, Megan  
**Sent:** Monday, 18 September 2023 14:42  
**To:** 'Wonder Huma'  
**Cc:** Motsei Mothibi; Gabriel Kgaphola; Strong, Ashlea  
**Subject:** RE: Farm Dwars- In- Die Weg 350

Good Day Wonder

Please note that WSP is undertaking the Environmental Permitting Process for the Tournée 1 150MW Solar PV Facility (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339) and Tournée 2 150MW Solar PV Facility (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340), and not the Application for Rezoning as indicated in your letter. Furthermore, you have reference a letter dated 08 May 2023, please may you advise the subject and contents of the letter as WSP is not aware of this letter.

The Applicant has noted that the rezoning application has been submitted to Lekwa Local Municipality and is being undertaken by another consultancy.

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA

---

**From:** Wonder Huma

Redacted as per POPIA

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:11 AM

**To:** Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

**Cc:** Motsei Mothibi Redacted as per POPIA

**Subject:** Farm Dwars- In- Die Weg 350

Good morning

Kindly receive the finalized outcome of your application.

Kind regards  
Wonder

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## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Govender, Megan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 20 September 2023 09:35  
**To:** Redacted as per POPIA  
**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea  
**Subject:** FW: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS [Filed 20 Sep 2023 09:34]

Good Day

Please note, we have not received comments as yet from MDARDLEA on the Draft EIAs for the Tournée 1 150MW Solar PV Facility and Tournée 2 150MW Solar PV Facility. The commenting period ended yesterday. Please may you confirm if you will be submitting comments.

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300  
M +27 083 228 5288

---

**From:** Govender, Megan  
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 9:15 AM  
**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>  
**Subject:** NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS

Dear Commenting Authority

### **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

**Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).**

Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd and Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd are proposing to develop two solar energy facilities (SEFs), namely Tournée 1 and Tournée 2 Solar PV Facilities, collectively known as the Tournée Solar PV Cluster near Standerton in the Lekwa Local Municipality and the Gert Sibande District Municipality in the Mpumalanga Provinces. The proposed Tournée Solar PV Cluster is located in close proximity to the Tutuka Power Station. The proposed authorisations include the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Tournée 1 150MW Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339)
- Tournée 2 150MW Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340)

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Rocket South Africa (Pty) Ltd, to manage the S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

**DRAFT EIA REPORT REVIEW PERIOD**

The Draft EIA Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment from **18 August to 18 September 2023**.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Standerton	Standerton Public Library	18 Calidon St, Standerton
	Sakhile Public Library	Cnr Mbonani and Maisela ,Beyers Nauder,Standerton
Thuthukani	Thuthukani Library	26°47'08.5"S 29°17'30.1"E
	Tutuka Power Station Security Office	
WSP Website	<a href="https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents">https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</a>	
Datafree Website	<a href="https://wsp-engage.com/">https://wsp-engage.com/</a>	

The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

<b>One Drive Link</b>	<a href="#">📁 Tournee Solar PV Cluster For Public Review</a>
<b>One Drive Instruction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn’t seem to come through please check your “spam” folder</li> </ul>

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender  
 Tel: 011 361 1410  
 Fax: 011 361 1381  
 E-mail: [Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)  
 Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

**Protection of Personal Information:** WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I&AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

We look forward to your participation is this process.

Kind regards,



**Megan Govender**  
 Senior Consultant  
 T +27 011 361 1300



WSP in Africa  
 Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand

1685 South Africa

**wsp.com**

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

## Govender, Megan

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**From:** Govender, Megan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 20 September 2023 11:37  
**To:** Frans Krige; Redacted as per POPIA  
Malele; Tha  
**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea  
**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS [Filed 20 Sep 2023 11:37]

Good Day Frans

Thank you for the comments on the Draft Environmental Scoping Reports. Please note, the comment period for the Draft Scoping Reports ended on 02 May 2023. We will however include the comments in the Stakeholder Engagement Report for the Final Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report. Please send us the final signed version before Friday.

The commenting period for the Draft EIA Reports ended on Monday, 18 September 2023 and the Final EIA Reports are due to the DFFE on Tuesday, 26 September 2023. If you have any additional comments, please may you send the comments to us and the DFFE Case Officer (Olivia Letlalo - [oletlalo@dffe.gov.za](mailto:oletlalo@dffe.gov.za)).

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA

**From:** Frans Krige Redacted as per POPIA

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 11:06 AM

Redacted as per POPIA

**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

**Subject:** RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS



Dear Megan

I did comment , I can send you my draft documents – before signature.

I have the Final Tournee 1 and Tournee 2 with me which we only received at Lydenburg at the end of August. When must those comments be in?

Regards

Frans

**Disclaimer:**

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**From:** Govender, Megan [<mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 9:37 AM

Redacted as per POPIA

**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <[Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)>

**Subject:** FW: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS

Good Day

Please note, we have not received comments as yet from MTPA on the Draft EIAs for the Tournée 1 150MW Solar PV Facility and Tournée 2 150MW Solar PV Facility. The commenting period ended yesterday. Please may you confirm if you will be submitting comments.

Kind Regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA

---

**From:** Govender, Megan

**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 9:15 AM

**Cc:** Strong, Ashlea <[Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)>

**Subject:** NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF THE TOURNÉE 1 & 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES NEAR STANDERTON IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE: DRAFT EIA REPORTS

Dear Commenting Authority

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**environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).**

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Datafree Website	<a href="https://wsp-engage.com/">https://wsp-engage.com/</a>	

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<b>One Drive Link</b>	<a href="#">Tournee Solar PV Cluster For Public Review</a>
<b>One Drive Instruction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder</li> </ul>

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender  
 Tel: 011 361 1410  
 Fax: 011 361 1381  
 E-mail: [Megan.Govender@wsp.com](mailto:Megan.Govender@wsp.com)  
 Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

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We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,



**Megan Govender**  
Senior Consultant

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1685 South Africa

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa  
Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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# Appendix D.2

## COMMENTS FOR TOURNÉE 1



WSP



## **Govender, Megan**

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**From:** Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 28 March 2023 11:14  
**To:** Govender, Megan; Strong, Ashlea; Ryan Collins; Magdalena Logan; Janine Brasington  
**Cc:** Kevin Mathebula; EIAadmin; Salome Mambane  
**Subject:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339 [Filed 28 Mar 2023 11:15]

Dear Sir/Madam

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION FORM AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNÉE 1 SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR STANDERTON, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.**

The Department confirms having received the Application Form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 24 March 2023. 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](mailto:LKutu@dffe.gov.za)

*To God be the Glory!!!*

**DFFE Reference:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339

**Enquiries:** Ms Olivia Letlalo

**Telephone:** (012) 399 8815 **E-mail:** [oletlalo@dff.gov.za](mailto:oletlalo@dff.gov.za)

Ashlea Strong  
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd  
WSP House Building C Knightsbridge  
33 Sloane Street  
**BRYANSTON**  
2191

Telephone Number : 011 361 1381  
Email Address : [Ashlea.strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.strong@wsp.com)

## PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

### COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNÉE 1 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR STANDERTON WITHIN LEKWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

The application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) and draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2023 and received by the Competent Authority (CA) on 24 March 2023 refer.

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

#### **Application Form and Project Description**

- It has been noted that the project title and description from the application form differ with that of the draft SR. When submitting the final SR, please ensure that the project description and title from the amended application form are defined the same with that of the final SR.
- On Appendix 4 of the application form, please provide for the Lekwa Local Municipality Competent Authority representative, contact details in full and email address as well.

#### **Listed Activities**

- It has been noted that the exclusions on the triggered listed activities applied for are not included. Therefore, you are advised to include in the amended application form as well as final SR all the relevant exclusions related to the listed activities applied for. For instance, activity 11 of Listing Notice (LN) 1 have been applied for, however the exclusions have not been quoted in the application form.
- It has been noted that the word “**may be**” have been used in the description of activity 30 of Listing Notice (LN) 1. Please refrain from using such word/s, since it creates an uncertainty regarding the applicability of the listed activity applied for, for the proposed development. In addition, please note that the Project Description and Listed Activities are not based on a precautionary approach.
- The CA acknowledges that activity 56 of LN 1 will be triggered by the proposed development as the access roads will be widened by more than 6m and the existing roads does not have the reserve. However, the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates indicated that “*access road will*

*need to be widened by more than 6 meters*". Please ensure that the exact width is included in the updated application form and final SR to determine if the said activity is triggered by the proposed development or not.

- Activity 12 of LN 3 for the clearance of an area of 300 square meters or more of indigenous vegetation is applied for without specifying the exact total amount of vegetation to be cleared. The CA acknowledge that it has been indicated that more than 20ha of indigenous vegetation will be cleared for activity 15 of LN 2. However, you are advised to include the exact amount of vegetation to be cleared in the amended application form and final SR for activity 12 of LN 3.
- It has been noted that activities 4, 10, 12, 14, and 18 of LN 3 have been applied for. Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) has been indicated as the area to be affected by for the proposed development and the description of the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates indicated the area to be affected as Ecological Support Areas (ESA). However, the listed activities under Listing Notice 3 does not include ESA in for the development to trigger a listed activity. Therefore, you are requested to explain and provide evidence why the above-mentioned listed activities are triggered for the proposed development. In addition, the description of the proposed project must make reference to the systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the CA or in bioregional plans and proof of such must be obtained from the relevant CA and be part of the amended application form and final SR.
- 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. 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 and the final SR. 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 draft SR, an amended application form must be submitted with the final SR. 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>.

### **Alternatives**

- You are further required to provide details of the all the alternatives considered for this development and indicate the preferred alternatives as per Appendix 2 (2) (1) (g) (i) (v) (vi) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended in the final report.
- Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2.

### **Cumulative Impact**

- It has been noted on page 179 of the draft SR that, one (1) solar PV plant application have been approved within the geographic area of investigation. Further to this, the Tutuka PV Energy Facility and its associated infrastructures are within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, therefore, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:
  - Assess the cumulative impacts of the proposed (not yet authorised), authorised (not yet constructed) and existing solar energy facilities.
  - 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.

### **Specialist Assessments**

- According to the screening report, the Aquatic Biodiversity Theme, Landscape (solar) Theme, Paleontology Theme, and Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme are all very high sensitivity, Agricultural Theme has high sensitivity and Animal Species Theme, Civil Aviation Theme, Plant Species Theme and RFI Theme are all medium sensitivity, whereas Avian Theme, Defence Theme, Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme are all low sensitivity. Therefore, you are advised to submit a site verification report and motivation for the exclusions of any specialist studies identified by the screening tool.
- 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, have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols unless proof is provided to demonstrate that the specialist assessments were commissioned prior to 50 days after the promulgation of GN 320 and after promulgation of GN1150 (30 October 2020).
- The protocols require certain specialists’ to be registered with SACNASP. Refer to the relevant protocols in this regard.
- The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified 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 authorisation.
  - 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 Department’s 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.
  - 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.
  - Declaration forms must be provided for all specialist studies to be conducted.
  - Should it be determined that there is a need for additional specialist studies to be undertaken based on the outcome of public participation, these must be commissioned and be included in the draft EIA reports for public comment.

### **Layout & Sensitivity Maps**

- The CA had noted the following on Appendix E: Layout and sensitivity map and you are required to provide clarity in the final SR:
  - Considering that the proposed development will be located within high sensitivity in terms of Flora and intermediate sensitivity in terms of Fauna and as per activities under LN 3 applied for (e.g., CBAs). Please explain why the proposed development affects these sensitive areas (Fauna, Flora and CBAs) while there are areas not depicted as environmentally sensitive and cannot be considered for the location/placing of solar panels.
- Please be advised that a layout map to be submitted to the CA must indicate the following (but not limited to and the findings of the specialists must also be used for the finalisation of the layout).
  - The PV development area;

- Position of all infrastructure e.g., BESS, on-site HV/MV substation and 132kV switching station, grid connection etc;
  - Supporting infrastructure (i.e., operation and maintenance buildings including a gate house and security building, control centre, offices, warehouses and workshops for storage and maintenance)
  - Permanent and temporary laydown area footprint;
  - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed);
  - All existing infrastructure on the site;
  - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, ESAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
  - Buffer areas of the above sensitive areas; and
  - All “no-go” areas.
- Please ensure that the above map has a clear legend that communicate with details of the map.
  - 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.
  - 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.

### **Generic EMPr**

- The 132kV feeder bay is being mentioned as part of the infrastructure to form part of the proposed development in activity 11 of Listing Notice 1. Therefore, ensure that the generic EMPr that complies with the GN 435 of March 2022 is submitted in the final SR.
- The EMPr that complies with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, as amended, for the facility must be submitted with the final report.

### **Public Participation Process**

- Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the final SR. This includes but not limited to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE): Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness and Directorate: Biodiversity Planning and Conservation ([BCAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:BCAdmin@environment.gov.za)); Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA), MTPA, Telkom, South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), South African Civil Aviation Authority, Endangered Wildlife Trust, Birdlife South Africa, Department of Human Settlement, Water and Sanitation, South African National Defence Force, Local interest and affected groups, for example: Councillors and Rate Payers associations; Surrounding landowners, Farmer Organisations, Environmental Groups and NGOs; and Grassroots communities and structures as well as the affected district and local municipalities.
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended and the approved Public Participation Plan.
- The comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the Final SR. 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 Annexure 1 of this comments letter.
- 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 comments) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed. 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.

## **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



**Mr Sabelo Malaza**

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

**Letter signed by: Mahlatse Shubane**

**Designation: Acting Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects**

**Date: 18 April 2023**

cc	MGLM Brambilla	Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd	Tel:(0)21 418 3940	Email: <a href="mailto:m.logan@redrocket.energy">m.logan@redrocket.energy</a>
	Sindisiwe Mbuyane	Mpumalanga (DARDLEA)	Tel: 017 811 3951	Email: <a href="mailto:mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za">mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za</a>
	Tebogo Mogakabe	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Tel: 017 801 7140	Email: <a href="mailto:tebogom@gsibande.gov.za">tebogom@gsibande.gov.za</a>

**Annexure 1**

Format for Comments and Response Report:

Date of comment, format of comment name of organisation/I&AP,	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
27/03/2021 Email Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Priority Infrastructure Projects (Joe Soap)	Please record C&R trail report in this format.  Please update the contact details of the provincial environmental authority.	EAP: (Noted) The C&R trail report has been updated into the desired format, see Appendix K.  EAP: Details of provincial authority have been updated, see page 16 of the Application form.

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4503 | E: info@sahra.org.za  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 40697 | Cape Town | 8001  
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 20942

Date: Wednesday May 03, 2023  
Page No: 1

## **Interim Comment**

**In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd

**Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd propose to construct the Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility near Thuthukani in the Mpumalanga Province. The proposed Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility will be developed with a contracted capacity of 150 megawatt (MW), thus allowing for up to 150 MW for export from the facility.**

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, near Morgenzon, Mpumalanga Province.

A draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include a solar field, site substation and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), Operation and Maintenance Buildings, construction camp and laydown area, temporary cement batching plant, septic tanks, underground cables, fencing, stormwater infrastructure, water pipelines and other associated infrastructure within a development footprint of 306.65 ha.

CTS Heritage was appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process in terms of section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

*Lavin, J. 2023. Heritage Impact Assessment in terms of section 38(8) of the NHRA for the Proposed development of the Tournée 1 Solar PV Park near Standerton, Mpumalanga*

The HIA draws on the results of Archaeological Specialist Study (Lavin, J; Fivaz, H and Fairhurst, S. 2023) and Palaeontological report (Bamford, M. 2023).

The proposed development area is underlain by non-fossiliferous Jurassic Dolerite and potentially very highly fossiliferous Vryheid Formation. No fossils were identified during the site visit. A total of two heritage resources were identified within the proposed development area. These include two burial grounds of high heritage significance. The visual impact of the development is considered to be moderately low.



**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4503 | E: info@sahra.org.za  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 40697 | Cape Town | 8001  
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 20942

Date: Wednesday May 03, 2023  
Page No: 2

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The recommendation in the VIA are implemented;
- A no development buffer of 50m is implemented around the burial sites identified within the development area;
- On going community access to these burials, as well as their conservation into the future, must be ensured. This can be managed through the development of a Heritage Management Plan for the burials to be implemented for the duration of the project;
- The attached Chance Fossil Finds Procedure must be implemented for the duration of construction activities; and
- Should any buried archaeological resources or human remains or burials be uncovered during the course of development activities, work must cease in the vicinity of these finds. The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be contacted immediately in order to determine an appropriate way forward.

### **Interim Comment**

The SAHRA notes the submitted HIA and associated heritage specialist reports. SAHRA will provide further comments upon receipt of the Draft EIA and associated appendices.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natasha Higgitt', written over a horizontal line.

Natasha Higgitt  
Manager: Development Applications Unit  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

# Tournée 1 150 MW Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, near Standerton, Mpumalanga

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 402 4502 | F: +27 21 402 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 40697 | Cape Town | 8001  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 20942

Date: Wednesday May 03, 2023  
Page No: 3

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## ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/615440>  
(DFFE, Ref: )

## **Govender, Megan**

---

**From:** Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Friday, 05 May 2023 13:29  
**To:** Govender, Megan  
**Cc:** Kevin Mathebula; EIAadmin; Salome Mambane  
**Subject:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339

Dear Megan

14/12/16/3/3/2/2339

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNÉE 1 SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR STANDERTON, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.**

The Department confirms having received the Amended Application Form and final Scoping Report for the abovementioned project on 05 May 2023. 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.**

Yours sincerely

#### **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](mailto: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.*



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

**DFFE Reference:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339  
**Enquiries:** Ms Olivia Letlalo  
**Telephone:** (012) 399 8815 **E-mail:** [oletlalo@dfffe.gov.za](mailto:oletlalo@dfffe.gov.za)

Ashlea Strong  
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd  
WSP House Building C Knightsbridge  
33 Sloane Street  
**BRYANSTON**  
2191

Cellphone Number: 011 361 1381  
Email Address: [Ashlea.strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.strong@wsp.com)

## PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ashlea Strong

### **ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNÉE 1 SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR STANDERTON IN THE LEKWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

The final Scoping Report (FSR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated May 2023 and received by the Competent Authority (CA) on 05 May 2023, refer.

The CA has evaluated the submitted FSR and the PoSEIA dated May 2023 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 CA 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 PoSEIA as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

In addition, the following amendments and additional information are required for the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR):

#### **a) Listed Activities**

- It is noted that word such as “**likely, either and up to**” and abbreviation such as “**etc**”, have been used in the description of the triggered listed activities. Therefore, you are requested to refrain from using such words and abbreviation, since it creates uncertainty regarding the applicability of the listed activity.
- It has been noted that activity 12 of Listing Notice (LN) 1 have been applied for, however, the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates to, indicates that the physical footprint of internal access roads and electrical cabling required to connect the various components of the facility **will either** traverse the delineated watercourses on site. It must be noted that for activity 12 of LN 1 to be triggered, an infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more must be developed. Please note that the use of the word **either** raise uncertainty on whether this activity is triggered or not. Therefore, you are requested to indicate a specific infrastructure/structure to be developed with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more to ensure this activity is listed in the amended application form and final EIAR.
- For activity 24 of LN 1, you are requested to provide the length of the road in the description of the project.

- It has been noted that activity 27 of LN 1 has been applied for, however, the type of vegetation to be cleared has not been indicated. As such, you are requested to mention the type of vegetation to be cleared.
- For activity 56 of LN 1 it has been mentioned that *“the access road will need to be widened by between 6m and 8m”*. Please be advised that for this activity to be triggered, the road must be widened by more than 6 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre. Therefore, you are advised to provide relevant information that indicate that this activity is triggered by the proposed development.
- The EIA must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of each listed activity applied for.
- 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. In addition, the onus is thus 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 EIA, 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) Alternatives**

- The CA acknowledged that on page 34 and 42 of the final SR, it has been indicated that Lithium-ion batteries is considered the preferred technology and will be pre-assembled. Therefore, you are required to provide in the final EIA and the EMP a risk assessment for the preferred BESS technology alternative with a detailed identified impacts and mitigation methods.
- It has been noted that *“the Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility will utilise solar PV technology to generate power, therefore, no other technology alternatives are being considered for this project”*. You are advised to provide details of the alternatives considered for this development and indicate the preferred alternatives as per Appendix 2 (2) (1) (g) (i) (v) (vi) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended in the final report.
- Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2.

**c) Layout & Sensitivity Maps**

- According to the maps attached as Appendix E dated 06 and 14 March 2023, there is an area depicted as non-developable (visual) and no-go zone, however, it has been noted that the development footprint overlaps into the aforesaid area. Therefore, you are requested to revise the development layout plan and ensure no infrastructure in the abovementioned area.
- In addition, please note that comments dated 18 April 2023 are still valid, and must be included in the final EIA.

**d) Specialist assessments**

- The specialist assessments in the EIA must identify, assess impacts and provide mitigation measures and recommendations specific for the proposed development.
- The following Specialist Assessments will form part of the EIA:
  - Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment.
  - Avifauna Impact Assessment.
  - Freshwater Impact Assessment.
  - Heritage Impact Assessment.
  - Geotechnical Impact Assessment.
  - Visual Impact Assessment.
  - Soil, Land Use and Land Capability Impact Assessment.
  - Air Quality Compliance Statement.
  - Noise Compliance Statement; and
  - Social Impact Assessment.
- The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies 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 authorisation.

- 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 Department's 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 alternatives 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.
- 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.
- Please include a table in the final EIAr summarising the specialist studies required by the Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies will be conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies that will not be undertaken. Please note that if any of the specialists' studies and requirements recommended in the Department's Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation for such must be provided in the report, per the requirements of the Protocols.
- Should it be determined that there is a need for additional specialist studies to be undertaken based on the outcome of public participation, these must be commissioned and be included in the draft EIA reports for public comment.
- It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes (as per the Screening Report), which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e., "the Protocols"), have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with the requirements of these protocols.
- Please note further that the protocols require certain specialists' to be registered with SACNASP. Refer to the relevant protocols in this regard.

e) **Public Participation**

- 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 Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE): Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness Directorate, **Biodiversity Planning and Conservation** ([BCAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:BCAdmin@environment.gov.za)); Mpumalanga Province Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs, Telkom, South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), Endangered Wildlife Trust, Birdlife South Africa, Department of Human Settlement, Water and Sanitation, South African National Defence Force, Local interest groups, for example: Councillors and Rate Payers associations; Surrounding landowners, Farmer Organisations, Environmental Groups and NGOs; and Grassroots communities and structures as well as the affected district and local municipalities.
- Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR and final SR 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.
- A Comments and Response trail report (CRR) must be submitted with the final EIAr. The CRR must incorporate all comments for this development. The CRR must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter in chronological order. 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 Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

**f) Cumulative Impact Assessment**

- The CA acknowledge the response from appendix D and the cumulative impacts discussion on Section 95 of the final SR. When submitting the final EIAR, the cumulative impacts of the proposed development must be undertaken as per the requirements of the EIA Regulations.
- Based on the above, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:
  - The authorised but not yet commenced, authorised and constructed, proposed and not yet authorised similar development.
  - 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.

**g) Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)**

- On page 36 to 37 of Appendix D, it has been indicated that “a Site Specific EMPr and relevant Generic EMPr will be compiled in the EIA Phase and included in the Draft and Final EIA Reports”. Ensure that Part B: Section 2 of the Generic EMPr's are completed and the copy of original signed Generic EMPr submitted with the final EIAR. Please note that Point 7.1.1 in Part B: Section 2 needs to match the details of the applicant as contained in the application form.
- If any specific environmental sensitivities/attributes are present on the site which require more specific impact management outcomes and impact management actions, not included in the pre-approved generic EMPr template, to manage impacts, those impact management outcomes and actions must be included in section C of the generic EMPr.
- Please ensure that the EMPr of the facility comply with the requirements of Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

**h) General**

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.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amendment, regarding the time 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



**Mr Sabelo Malaza**  
**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**  
**Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**  
**Signed by: Ms Olivia Letlalo**  
**Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects**  
**Date: 19/06/2023**

cc	MGLM Brambilla	Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd	Tel:(0)21 418 3940	Email: <a href="mailto:m.logan@redrocket.energy">m.logan@redrocket.energy</a>
	Sindisiwe Mbuyane	Mpumalanga (DARDLEA)	Tel: 017 811 3951	Email: <a href="mailto:mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za">mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za</a>
	Tebogo Mogakabe	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Tel: 017 801 7140	Email: <a href="mailto:tebogom@gsibande.gov.za">tebogom@gsibande.gov.za</a>

**Annexure 1: Format for Comments and Response Trail Report:**

<b>Date of comment, format of comment name of organisation/I&amp;AP</b>	<b>Comment</b>	<b>Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist</b>
27/01/2016 Email Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries: Priority Infrastructure Projects (John Doe)	Please record C&R trail report in this format  Please update the contact details of the provincial environmental authority	EAP: (Noted) The C&R trail report has been updated into the desired format, see Appendix K  EAP: Details of provincial authority have been updated, see page 16 of the Application form

**Annexure 2: Sample of minimum technical details for the proposed facility**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Description / dimensions</b>
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	



## **Govender, Megan**

---

**From:** Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 August 2023 11:09  
**To:** Govender, Megan  
**Cc:** Kevin Mathebula; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin  
**Subject:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339 [Filed 21 Aug 2023 07:57]

Dear Megan.

14/12/16/3/3/2/2339

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNÉE 1 SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR STANDERTON, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.**

The Department confirms having received the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 17 August 2023. 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.

Please take note of Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that *“Potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in subregulation (1) prior to submission of an application but must be provided with an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the competent authority.”*

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

**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](mailto: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.*

## Govender, Megan

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**From:** Strong, Ashlea  
**Sent:** Thursday, 14 September 2023 08:45  
**To:** Govender, Megan  
**Subject:** FW: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339  
**Attachments:** 14-12-16-3-3-2-2339.pdf



**Ashlea Strong**  
Principal Associate  
T +27 11 361-1392  
M +27 82 786-7819

---

**From:** Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 8:35 AM  
**To:** Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; m.logan@redrocket.energy; 'mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za' <mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za>; letshego.mabena@dmre.gov.za  
**Cc:** Kevin Mathebula <KLMathebula@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>  
**Subject:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339

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  
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:  
Priority Infrastructure Developments  
Tel: (012) 399 9370  
Email: [LKutu@dffe.gov.za](mailto:LKutu@dffe.gov.za)

*To God be the Glory!!!*

**DFFE Reference:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339

**Enquiries:** Ms Olivia Letlalo

**Telephone:** (012) 399 8815 **E-mail:** [OLetlalo@dff.gov.za](mailto:OLetlalo@dff.gov.za)

Ashlea Strong  
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd  
WSP House Building C Knightsbridge  
33 Sloane Street  
**BRYANSTON**  
2191

Telephone Number: 011 361 1392  
Email Address: [Ashlea.strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.strong@wsp.com)

## PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ashlea Strong

### **COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNÉE 1 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR STANDERTON WITHIN THE LEKWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

The application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) and draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated June 2023 and received by the Competent Authority (CA) on 17 August 2023, refer.

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

#### **Listed Activities**

- It is noted that activity 12 of Listing Notice (LN) 1 has been applied for. However, in the project description there is no physical footprint in square metres. Please ensure that the type of the structure to be developed and physical footprint in square metres are included in the amended application form and final EIAR.
- For Activity 14 of LN 1, it has been noted that the storage capacity for dangerous goods will be a storage of no more than 500m<sup>3</sup>. However, for this listed activity to be triggered, the storage capacity must be of 80 cubic metres or more but not exceeding 500 cubic metres. When submitting the final EIAR please indicate the exact capacity of dangerous goods to be stored.
- For activity 24 of LN 1, it has been indicated that *“the Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility will require the development of internal roads up to 4m in width and/or access roads around the site that will be 8m wide”*. Please be reminded that for this activity to be triggered the proposed road must be wider than 8m.
- It has been noted that activity 27 of LN1 and activity 15 of LN2, for clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation and the clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation (respectively), have been applied for. Please provide exact hectares of indigenous vegetation to be cleared for both listed activities.
- It has been noted that the wording such as **“anticipated”** has been used in the description of the portion of the proposed project that relates to all the listed activities applied for. Please refrain from using such words since it creates uncertainty. You are requested to ensure that the exact capacity/threshold are indicated for all the listed activities applied for.
- Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. Only activities applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.

- 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>.

### **Project Description**

- It is noted that activity 14 of LN 1 and 10 of LN 3 have been applied for. However, page 6 of 33 (project description) does not include the storage of dangerous goods (i.e., diesel) as part of the project description. Please ensure that this component is included in the project description of the revised application form and final EIAr.

### **Specialist Assessments**

- It is acknowledged that specialists undertaken for the proposed development considered the 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). You are advised to ensure that specialist assessments to be included in the final EIAr are conducted in accordance with these protocols.
- 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.
- The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies 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. You are advised to provide a table listing all the specialist studies undertaken with the recommendation for the proposed development.
  - ✓ 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 Department's definition; this must be clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the 'no-go' area's buffer.
  - ✓ All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternatives 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.
  - ✓ 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.
  - ✓ 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. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and attached.
  - ✓ Please include a table that shows the proposed studies and the relevant specialists carrying out the study. In addition, a summary should be included of the specialist's recommendations in terms of the alternatives that are preferred based on the findings of their study.
  - ✓ 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.

### **Layout and Sensitivity Maps**

- The CA acknowledges the inclusion of maps in Appendix E, however, submits that the information is not clear and contradicts i.e., the grey colour in the optimized layout sensitivity map, which on the legend, the grey colour represent heritage sites buffer (50m), while in the optimized layout no-go zones, the aforesaid

areas is shown as infrastructure footprints and optimized layout indicate such areas as components of the proposed development. Please include in the final report an amended layout with a clear legend that communicates with details of the maps.

- Ensure that similar colours are not used to differentiate between infrastructures. i.e., items must be easily distinguishable in the legend.
- Please ensure that the final layout map and sensitivity map indicates the distance (buffer) from the infrastructure footprints and no-go zones.
- Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:
  - The PV development area.
  - Position of all infrastructure e.g., BESS, electrical distribution infrastructure as per page 6 to 7 of 33 of the application form.
  - Permanent laydown area footprint.
  - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed).
  - All existing infrastructure on the site.
  - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, ESAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected.
  - Buffer areas of the above sensitive areas; and
  - All “no-go” areas.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows all the components of the proposed development as well as neighbouring solar energy developments and existing grid infrastructure. 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.
- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

### **Public Participation Process**

- 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 Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE): Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness Directorate, Biodiversity Planning and Conservation (BCAdmin@environment.gov.za); Mpumalanga Province Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs, Telkom, South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), Endangered Wildlife Trust, Birdlife South Africa, Department of Human Settlement, Water and Sanitation, South African National Defence Force, Local interest groups, for example: Councillors and Rate Payers associations; Surrounding landowners, Farmer Organisations, Environmental Groups and NGOs; and Grassroots communities and structures as well as the affected district and local municipalities.
- 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.
- A Comments and Response trail report (CRR) must be submitted with the final EIAr. The CRR must incorporate all comments for this development. The CRR must be a separate document from the main report. 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 Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

### **Environmental Management Programme (EMPr**

- It has been noted that on Part A: Section 2, the project description refers to the development of Tournee 1 and 2, while this application is for Tournee 1 solar facility, therefore, you are advised to amend the project

description in the aforesaid section of the generic EMPr for the substation to reflect only the proposed development in this application.

- In addition, it has been noted that the description of the project for listed activity 11 of LN 1 indicate that the development includes a 132kV interconnecting overhead powerline, which the generic EMPr for the overhead powerline included in the draft EIAr also indicate the same. However, Part A: Section 2, the project description indicates that “the powerline will be subject to a separate Basic Assessment process for environmental authorisation”. Please ensure that activity 11 of LN 1 include the relevant information of the infrastructure applied for as well as the aforesaid part of the generic EMPr (inclusive of the amended application form and final EIAr i.e., components of the development). Furthermore, the description of the project in the generic EMPr for the overhead powerline refers to the development of Tournee 1 and 2, while this application is for Tournee 1 solar facility, therefore, you are advised to amend the project description in the aforesaid section of the generic EMPr for the overhead powerline to reflect only the proposed development in this application, should the powerline form part of this development.
- It has been noted that the generic EMPr for the substation and overhead powerline have been included in the draft EIAr. Please ensure that the generic EMPr complies with the GN 435 of March 2022.
- Ensure that the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations includes mitigation and monitoring measures for the Solar PV is submitted with the final EIAr.

### **Cumulative impacts**

- It has been noted on page 332 to 331 of the draft EIAr that reference to 1 (one) project within 30km of the proposed development is made and further indicate that “other planned or existing projects that can interact with the project will be identified during stakeholder engagement and finalisation of the S&EIA process”. Therefore, you are advised to provide the cumulative impacts considered by the proposed development in the final EIAr.

### **General**

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 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 submit to the competent authority -*

*(a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, an EMPr, 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 there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the EIAr 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 documents contemplated in sub-regulation 1(a) will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the competent authority or where regulation 21(2) applies, within 156 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the documents, which changes or information was not contained in the original documents consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in sub-regulation (1)(a), and that the revised documents contemplated in sub-regulation 1(a) will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days”.*

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



**Mr Sabelo Malaza**

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

**Signed by: Ms Olivia Letlalo**

**Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects**

**Date: 13/09/2023**

cc:	Matteo Giulio Luigi Maria Brambilla	Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd	Tel: 021 418 3940	Email: <a href="mailto:m.logan@redrocket.energy">m.logan@redrocket.energy</a>
	Sindisiwe Mbuyane	Mpumalanga (MDARDLEA)	Tel: 017 811 3951	Email: <a href="mailto:mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za">mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za</a>
	Mr Letshego Mabena	Lekwa Local Municipality	Tel: 013 658 1406	Email: <a href="mailto:letshego.mabena@dmre.gov.za">letshego.mabena@dmre.gov.za</a>

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 40697 | Cape Town | 8001  
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 20942

Date: Monday September 18, 2023  
Page No: 1

## **Final Comment**

**In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd

**Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd propose to construct the Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility near Thuthukani in the Mpumalanga Province. The proposed Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility will be developed with a contracted capacity of 150 megawatt (MW), thus allowing for up to 150 MW for export from the facility.**

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Tournée 1 Solar (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Tournée 1 Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, near Morgenzon, Mpumalanga Province.

A draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include a solar field, site substation and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), Operation and Maintenance Buildings, construction camp and laydown area, temporary cement batching plant, septic tanks, underground cables, fencing, stormwater infrastructure, water pipelines and other associated infrastructure within a development footprint of 306.65 ha.

CTS Heritage was appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process in terms of section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

*Lavin, J. 2023. Heritage Impact Assessment in terms of section 38(8) of the NHRA for the Proposed development of the Tournée 1 Solar PV Park near Standerton, Mpumalanga*

The HIA draws on the results of Archaeological Specialist Study (Lavin, J; Fivaz, H and Fairhurst, S. 2023) and Palaeontological report (Bamford, M. 2023).

The proposed development area is underlain by non-fossiliferous Jurassic Dolerite and potentially very highly fossiliferous Vryheid Formation. No fossils were identified during the site visit. A total of two heritage resources were identified within the proposed development area. These include two burial grounds of high heritage significance. The visual impact of the development is considered to be moderately low.



**Our Ref:**



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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 20942

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Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The recommendations in the VIA are implemented;
- A no development buffer of 50m is implemented around the burial sites identified within the development area;
- On going community access to these burials, as well as their conservation into the future, must be ensured. This can be managed through the development of a Heritage Management Plan for the burials to be implemented for the duration of the project;
- The attached Chance Fossil Finds Procedure must be implemented for the duration of construction activities; and
- Should any buried archaeological resources or human remains or burials be uncovered during the course of development activities, work must cease in the vicinity of these finds. The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be contacted immediately in order to determine an appropriate way forward.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 03/05/2023, SAHRA noted the submitted Heritage reports and stated that further comments would be issued upon receipt of the draft EIA. Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, the draft EIA has been submitted (18/08/2023). The DEIA has incorporated the results and recommendations of the Heritage Specialists.

### **Final Comment**

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final EIA and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development;
- The recommended Heritage Management Plan for the burial ground must be submitted to SAHRA prior to construction for approval;
- 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed

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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
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development, SAHRA DAU (Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660 / [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with this section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA DAU (Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660 / [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)) must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with this section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)d – See section 51 of the NHRA regarding offences;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
- If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
- The Final EIA and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natasha Higgitt', with a horizontal line drawn through it.

---

Natasha Higgitt  
Manager: Development Applications Unit  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

# Tournée 1 150 MW Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, near Standerton, Mpumalanga

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 20942

Date: Monday September 18, 2023  
Page No: 4

## ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/615440>  
(DFFE, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2339)

## Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.

## OFFICE OF THE CEO

**Ref: LUA 23/3433**

**Unit: LUA/SS**

**Enquiries: F.N. Krige**

**Email: [frans@mtpa.co.za](mailto:frans@mtpa.co.za)**

**Tel: 013- 0650286**

Ms. A. Strong  
**WSP Group Africa (PTY) Ltd**  
P.O. Box 98867  
Sloane Park  
**Bryanstone**  
2152

Email: [Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)

Dear Ms. Strong

**SUBJECT: THE MTPA COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNEE 1 SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 7 (POR. OF POR. 3) AND PORTION 6 OF THE FARM DWARS-IN –DIE WEG 350 IS NEAR STANDERTON IN MPUMALANGA PROVINCE. DFFE REFERENCE NUMBER ....**

With reference to your correspondence reference WPS ref: 41104569 of March 2023, the MTPA comments. The MTPA have limited concerns with regards to the terrestrial biodiversity on site (fig. 1.) The proposed locality lies within Other Natural Areas (ONA) and degraded fields. With regards to the Freshwater features (fig 2.) care should be taken to avoid the Ecological Support Area wetlands with a hundred meter buffer included.

The various specialist assessments are in order. The proposed PV facilities will be placed within largely degraded agricultural fields, but also partially within a ESA wetland system. The nearest Important Bird Area, will be more than 15 km away.

The fire hazard should be addressed with an effective fire suppression system, and the local firefighters made aware of the damage that excessive water and water hydrants and foam could cause. The prevention of contaminated water or siltation reaching any seepage wetlands must be mitigated by a pollution prevention water management system. The siltation of ground water during the construction phase must be managed.

No category 1 or 2 Alien invader plants will be allowed within the Tournee 1 Solar PV facilities., An alien invasive plant management plan should be drafted and implemented. The implementation of such a

management plan is typically the responsibility of the EMC officer for the project. In the event where existing alien trees are to be used as wind barriers it needs to be described in the EMP report. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if there are any enquiries.  
Kind Regards

**MR M.H. VILAKAZI**  
**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / 2023



Figure 1. MBSP based terrestrial biodiversity assessment map.



Figure 2. MBSP based freshwater biodiversity assessment map.

# Appendix D.3

## COMMENTS FOR TOURNÉE 2



115/1

## **Govender, Megan**

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**From:** Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 28 March 2023 11:17  
**To:** Govender, Megan; Strong, Ashlea; Ryan Collins; Magdalena Logan; Janine Brasington  
**Cc:** Kevin Mathebula; EIAadmin; Salome Mambane  
**Subject:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340 [Filed 28 Mar 2023 11:17]

Dear Sir/Madam

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION FORM AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNÉE 2 SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR STANDERTON, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.**

The Department confirms having received the Application Form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 24 March 2023. 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](mailto:LKutu@dffe.gov.za)

*To God be the Glory!!!*



**DFFE Reference:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340

**Enquiries:** Ms Olivia Letlalo

**Telephone:** (012) 399 8815 **E-mail:** [oletlalo@dff.gov.za](mailto:oletlalo@dff.gov.za)

Ashlea Strong  
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**BRYANSTON**  
2191

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Email Address : [Ashlea.strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.strong@wsp.com)

#### **PER MAIL / E-MAIL**

Dear Carli van Niekerk

#### **COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNÉE 2 SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR STANDERTON WITHIN LEKWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

The application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) and draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2023 and received by the Competent Authority (CA) on 24 March 2023, refer.

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

#### **Application Form and Project Description**

- It has been noted that the project title and description from the application form differ with that of the draft SR. When submitting the final SR, please ensure that the project description and title from the amended application form are defined the same with that of the final SR.
- On Appendix 4 of the application form, please provide for the Lekwa Local Municipality Competent Authority representative, contact details in full and email address as well.

#### **Listed Activities**

- It has been noted that the exclusions on the triggered listed activities applied for are not included. Therefore, you are advised to include in the amended application form as well as final SR all the relevant exclusions related to the listed activities applied for. For instance, activity 11 of Listing Notice (LN) 1 have been applied for, however the exclusions have not been quoted in the application form.
- It has been noted that the word “**may be**” have been used in the description of activity 30 of Listing Notice (LN) 1. Please refrain from using such word/s, since it creates an uncertainty regarding the applicability of the listed activity applied for, for the proposed development. In addition, please note that the Project Description and Listed Activities are not based on a precautionary approach.
- The CA acknowledges that activity 56 of LN 1 will be triggered by the proposed development as the access roads will be widened by more than 6m and the existing roads does not have the reserve. However, the

portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates indicated that “*access road will need to be widened by more than 6 meters*”. Please ensure that the exact width is included in the updated application form and final SR to determine if the said activity is triggered by the proposed development or not.

- Activity 12 of LN 3 for the clearance of an area of 300 square meters or more of indigenous vegetation is applied for without specifying the exact total amount of vegetation to be cleared. The CA acknowledge that it has been indicated that more than 20ha of indigenous vegetation will be cleared for activity 15 of LN 2. However, you are advised to include the exact amount of vegetation to be cleared in the amended application form and final SR for activity 12 of LN 3.
- It has been noted that activities 4, 10, 12, 14, and 18 of LN 3 have been applied for. Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) has been indicated as the area to be affected by for the proposed development and the description of the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates indicated the area to be affected as Ecological Support Areas (ESA). However, the listed activities under Listing Notice 3 does not include ESA in for the development to trigger a listed activity. Therefore, you are requested to explain and provide evidence why the above-mentioned listed activities are triggered for the proposed development. In addition, the description of the proposed project must make reference to the systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the CA or in bioregional plans and proof of such must be obtained from the relevant CA and be part of the amended application form and final SR.
- 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. 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 and the final SR. 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 draft SR, an amended application form must be submitted with the final SR. 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>.

### **Alternatives**

- You are further required to provide details of the all the alternatives considered for this development and indicate the preferred alternatives as per Appendix 2 (2) (1) (g) (i) (v) (vi) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended in the final report.
- Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2.

### **Cumulative Impact**

- It has been noted on page 192 of the draft SR that one (1) solar PV plant application have been approved within the geographic area of investigation. Further to this, the Tutuka PV Energy Facility and its associated infrastructures are within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, therefore, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:
  - Assess the cumulative impacts of the proposed (not yet authorised), authorised (not yet constructed) and existing solar energy facilities.
  - 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.

### **Specialist Assessments**

- According to the screening report, the Aquatic Biodiversity Theme, Landscape (solar) Theme, Paleontology Theme, and Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme are all very high sensitivity, Agricultural Theme has high sensitivity and Animal Species Theme, Civil Aviation Theme, Plant Species Theme and RFI theme are all medium sensitivity, whereas Avian Theme, Defence Theme, Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme are all low sensitivity. Therefore, you are advised to submit a site verification report and motivation for the exclusions of any specialist studies identified by the screening tool.
- 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, have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols unless proof is provided to demonstrate that the specialist assessments were commissioned prior to 50 days after the promulgation of GN 320 and after promulgation of GN1150 (30 October 2020).
- The protocols require certain specialists’ to be registered with SACNASP. Refer to the relevant protocols in this regard.
- The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified 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 authorisation.
  - 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 Department’s 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.
  - 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.
  - Declaration forms must be provided for all specialist studies to be conducted.
  - Should it be determined that there is a need for additional specialist studies to be undertaken based on the outcome of public participation, these must be commissioned and be included in the draft EIA reports for public comment.

### **Layout & Sensitivity Maps**

- The CA had noted the following on Appendix E: Layout and sensitivity map and you are required to provide clarity in the final SR:
  - Considering that the proposed development will be located within high sensitivity in terms of Flora and intermediate sensitivity in terms of Fauna and as per activities under LN 3 applied for (e.g., CBAs). Please explain why the proposed development affects these sensitive areas (Fauna, Flora and CBAs) while there are areas not depicted as environmentally sensitive and cannot be considered for the location/placing of solar panels.
- Please be advised that a layout map to be submitted to the CA must indicate the following (but not limited to and the findings of the specialists must also be used for the finalisation of the layout).
  - The PV development area.

- Position of all infrastructure e.g., BESS, on-site HV/MV substation and 132kV switching station, grid connection etc.
  - Supporting infrastructure (i.e., operation and maintenance buildings including a gate house and security building, control centre, offices, warehouses and workshops for storage and maintenance)
  - Permanent and temporary laydown area footprint.
  - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed).
  - All existing infrastructure on the site; and
  - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, ESAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected.
  - Buffer areas of the above sensitive areas; and
  - All “no-go” areas.
- Please ensure that the above map has a clear legend that communicate with details of the map.
  - 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.
  - 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.

### **Generic EMPr**

- The 132kV feeder bay is being mentioned as part of the infrastructure to form part of the proposed development in activity 11 of Listing Notice 1. Therefore, ensure that the generic EMPr that complies with the GN 435 of March 2022 is submitted in the final SR.
- The EMPr that complies with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, as amended, for the facility must be submitted with the final report.

### **Public Participation Process**

- Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the final SR. This includes but not limited to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE): Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness and Directorate: Biodiversity Planning and Conservation ([BCAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:BCAdmin@environment.gov.za)); Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA), MTPA, Telkom, South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), South African Civil Aviation Authority, Endangered Wildlife Trust, Birdlife South Africa, Department of Human Settlement, Water and Sanitation, South African National Defence Force, Local interest and affected groups, for example: Councillors and Rate Payers associations; Surrounding landowners, Farmer Organisations, Environmental Groups and NGOs; and Grassroots communities and structures as well as the affected district and local municipalities.
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended and the approved Public Participation Plan.
- The comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the Final SR. 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 Annexure 1 of this comments letter.
- 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 comments) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed. 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.

## **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



**Mr Sabelo Malaza**

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**

**Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment**

**Letter signed by: Mahlatse Shubane**

**Designation: Acting Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects**

**Date: 19 April 2023**

cc	MGLM Brambilla	Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd	Tel:(0)21 418 3940	Email: <a href="mailto:m.logan@redrocket.energy">m.logan@redrocket.energy</a>
	Sindisiwe Mbuyane	Mpumalanga (DARDLEA)	Tel: 017 811 3951	Email: <a href="mailto:mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za">mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za</a>
	Tebogo Mogakabe	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Tel: 017 801 7140	Email: <a href="mailto:tebogom@gsibande.gov.za">tebogom@gsibande.gov.za</a>

## **Annexure 1**

Format for Comments and Response Report:

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340

Comments on the draft Scoping Report for the proposed Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, near Standerton within Lekwa Local Municipality in Mpumalanga Province

Date of comment, format of comment name of organisation/I&AP,	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
27/03/2021 Email Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Priority Infrastructure Projects (Joe Soap)	Please record C&R trail report in this format.  Please update the contact details of the provincial environmental authority.	EAP: (Noted) The C&R trail report has been updated into the desired format, see Appendix K.  EAP: Details of provincial authority have been updated, see page 16 of the Application form.

**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4501 | E: info@sahra.org.za  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 40697 | Cape Town | 8001  
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 20943

Date: Wednesday May 03, 2023  
Page No: 1

## **Interim Comment**

**In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd

**Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd propose to construct the Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility near Thuthukani in the Mpumalanga Province. The proposed Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility will be developed with a contracted capacity of 150 megawatt (MW), thus allowing for up to 150 MW for export from the facility**

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, near Morgenzon, Mpumalanga Province.

A draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include a solar field, site substation and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), Operation and Maintenance Buildings, construction camp and laydown area, temporary cement batching plant, septic tanks, underground cables, fencing, stormwater infrastructure, water pipelines and other associated infrastructure within a development footprint of 505.15 ha.

CTS Heritage was appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process in terms of section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

*Lavin, J. 2023. Heritage Impact Assessment in terms of section 38(8) of the NHRA for the Proposed development of the Tournée 2 Solar PV Park near Standerton, Mpumalanga*

The HIA draws on the results of an Archaeological Specialist Study (Lavin, J; Fivaz, H and Fairhurst, S. 2023) and Palaeontological report (Bamford, M. 2023).

The proposed development area is underlain by non-fossiliferous Jurassic Dolerite and potentially very highly fossiliferous Vryheid Formation. No fossils were identified during the site visit. A total of three heritage resources were identified within the proposed development area. These include a demolished historical farmstead of negligible heritage significance and two burial grounds of high heritage significance. The visual impact of the development is considered to be moderately low.

**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4503 | E: info@sahra.org.za  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 40697 | Cape Town | 8001  
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 20943

Date: Wednesday May 03, 2023  
Page No: 2

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The recommendation in the VIA are implemented;
- A no development buffer of 50m is implemented around the burial sites identified within the development area;
- On going community access to these burials, as well as their conservation into the future, must be ensured. This can be managed through the development of a Heritage Management Plan for the burials to be implemented for the duration of the project;
- The attached Chance Fossil Finds Procedure must be implemented for the duration of construction activities; and
- Should any buried archaeological resources or human remains or burials be uncovered during the course of development activities, work must cease in the vicinity of these finds. The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be contacted immediately in order to determine an appropriate way forward.

### **Interim Comment**

The SAHRA notes the submitted HIA and associated heritage specialist reports. SAHRA will provide further comments upon receipt of the Draft EIA and associated appendices.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natasha Higgitt', written over a horizontal line.

Natasha Higgitt  
Manager: Development Applications Unit  
South African Heritage Resources Agency



**Tournée 2 150MW Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, near  
Standerton, Mpumalanga**

**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
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Email: [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 20943

Date: Wednesday May 03, 2023  
Page No: 3

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/615442>  
(DFFE, Ref: )

## **Govender, Megan**

---

**From:** Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Friday, 05 May 2023 13:32  
**To:** Govender, Megan  
**Cc:** Kevin Mathebula; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane  
**Subject:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340

Dear Megan

14/12/16/3/3/2/2340

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNÉE 2 SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR STANDERTON, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.**

The Department confirms having received the Amended Application Form and final Scoping Report for the abovementioned project on 05 May 2023. 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.**

Yours sincerely

#### **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](mailto: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.*



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

**DFFE Reference:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340

**Enquiries:** Ms Olivia Letlalo

**Telephone:** (012) 399 8815 **E-mail:** [OLetlalo@dff.gov.za](mailto:OLetlalo@dff.gov.za)

Ashlea Strong  
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd  
WSP House Building C Knightsbridge  
33 Sloane Street  
**BRYANSTON**  
2191

Cellphone Number: 011 361 1381  
Email Address: [Ashlea.strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.strong@wsp.com)

## **PER MAIL / E-MAIL**

Dear Ashlea Strong

### **ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNÉE 2 SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR STANDERTON, IN THE LEKWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.**

The final Scoping Report (FSR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated May 2023 and received by the Competent Authority (CA) on 05 May 2023, refer.

The CA has evaluated the submitted FSR and the PoSEIA dated May 2023 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 CA 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 PoSEIA as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

In addition, the following amendments and additional information are required for the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR):

#### **a) Project Description**

- Page 1 (project title) of the application form indicated that the project is located near Standerton whereas page 6 of 33 of the application form mentioned that the proposed project will be located near Thutukani. Please clarify?

#### **b) Application Form**

- It has been noted that the project description from the application form differ with that in the final SR. When submitting the final EIAR, please ensure that the project description and title from the amended application form are the same.
- It has been noted that the proposed development footprint (buildable area) is approximately 297 hectares (ha) (subject to finalisation based on technical and environmental requirements), and the extent of the project area is approximately 505.15 ha. Therefore, you are advised to provide a development footprint for the proposed

Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility with the associated infrastructure, identifying all the development area buffer zone considered as a no-go area in the final EIAR.

**c) Listed Activities**

- It is noted that words such as “**likely, up to and either**” and abbreviation such as “**etc**”, have been used in the description of the triggered listed activities. Therefore, you are requested to refrain from using such word and abbreviation, since it creates uncertainty regarding the applicability of listed activities.
- It has been noted that activity 12 of Listing Notice (LN) 1 have been applied for, however, the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates to, indicates that the physical footprint of internal access roads and electrical cabling required to connect the various components of the facility *will either* traverse the delineated watercourses on site. It must be noted that for activity 12 of LN 1 to be triggered, an infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more must be developed. Please note that the use of the word *either* create uncertainty on whether this activity is triggered or not. Therefore, you are requested to indicate a specific infrastructure/structure to be developed with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more to ensure this activity is listed in the amended application form and final EIAR.
- For activity 24 of LN 1, you are requested to provide the length of the road in the description of the project.
- It has been noted that activity 27 of LN 1 has been applied for, however, the type of vegetation to be cleared has not been indicated in the project description. As such, you are requested to mention the type of vegetation to be cleared.
- For activity 56 of LN 1, it has been mentioned that “*the access road will need to be widened by between 6m and 8m*”. Please be advised that for this activity to be triggered, the road must be widened by more than 6 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre. Therefore, you are advised to provide relevant information that indicate that this activity is triggered by the proposed development.
- The EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of each listed activity applied for.
- 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. In addition, the onus is thus 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 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>.

**d) Alternatives**

- The CA acknowledged that on page 42 of the final SR, it has been indicated that Lithium-ion batteries is considered the preferred technology. Therefore, you are required to provide a risk assessment for the preferred BESS technology alternative with a detailed identified impacts and mitigation methods and this information must be included in the final EIAR and the EMPr.
- It has been noted that “*the Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility will utilise solar PV technology to generate power, therefore, no other technology alternatives are being considered for this project*”. You are advised to provide details of the alternatives considered for this development and indicate the preferred alternatives as per Appendix 2 (2) (1) (g) (i) (v) (vi) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended in the final report.
- Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2.

**e) Layout & Sensitivity Maps**

- According to the maps attached as Appendix E dated 06 and 14 March 2023, there is an area depicted as non-developable (visual) and no-go zone, however, it has been noted that the development footprint overlaps into the aforesaid area. Therefore, you are requested to revise the development layout plan and ensure no infrastructure in the abovementioned area.
- In addition, please note that comments dated 19 April 2023 are still valid and must be included in the final EIAR.

f) **Specialist assessments**

- The specialist assessments in the EIA must identify and assess impacts and provide mitigation measures and recommendations specific for the proposed development.
- The following Specialist Assessments will form part of the EIA:
  - Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment.
  - Avifauna Impact Assessment.
  - Freshwater Impact Assessment.
  - Heritage Impact Assessment.
  - Geotechnical Impact Assessment.
  - Visual Impact Assessment.
  - Soil, Land Use and Land Capability Impact Assessment.
  - Air Quality Compliance Statement.
  - Bats Impact Assessment.
  - Transport Impact Assessment.
  - Noise Compliance Statement; and
  - Social Impact Assessment.
- The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies 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 authorisation.
  - 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 Department's 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 alternatives 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.
  - 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.
  - Please include a table in the final EIA summarising the specialist studies required by the Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies will be conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies that will not be undertaken. Please note that if any of the specialists' studies and requirements recommended in the Department's Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation for such must be provided in the report, per the requirements of the Protocols.
  - Should it be determined that there is a need for additional specialist studies to be undertaken based on the outcome of public participation, these must be commissioned and be included in the draft EIA reports for public comment.
  - It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes (as per the Screening Report), which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e., "the Protocols"), have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with the requirements of these protocols.
  - Please note further that the protocols require certain specialists' to be registered with SACNASP. Refer to the relevant protocols in this regard.

g) **Public Participation**

- Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIA. This includes but is not limited to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE): Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness Directorate, **Biodiversity Planning and Conservation**

([BCAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:BCAdmin@environment.gov.za)); Mpumalanga Province Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs, Telkom, South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), Endangered Wildlife Trust, Birdlife South Africa, Department of Human Settlement, Water and Sanitation, South African National Defence Force, Local interest groups, for example: Councillors and Rate Payers associations; Surrounding landowners, Farmer Organisations, Environmental Groups and NGOs; and Grassroots communities and structures as well as the affected district and local municipalities.

- Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR and final SR 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.
- A Comments and Response trail report (CRR) must be submitted with the final EIAr. The CRR must incorporate all comments for this development. The CRR must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter in chronological order. 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 Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

#### **h) Cumulative Impact Assessment**

- The CA acknowledge the response from appendix D and the cumulative impacts discussion on Section 95 of the final SR. When submitting the final EIAr, the cumulative impacts of the proposed development must be undertaken as per the requirements of the EIA Regulations.
- Based on the above, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:
  - The authorised but not yet commenced, authorised and constructed, proposed and not yet authorised similar development.
  - 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.

#### **i) Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)**

- On page 37 of Appendix D, it has been indicated that “a Site Specific EMPr and relevant Generic EMPr will be compiled in the EIA Phase and included in the Draft and Final EIA Reports”. Ensure that Part B: Section 2 of the Generic EMPr’s are completed and the copy of original signed Generic EMPr submitted with the draft EIAr. Please note that Point 7.1.1 in Part B: Section 2 needs to match the details of the applicant as contained in the application form.
- If any specific environmental sensitivities/attributes are present on the site which require more specific impact management outcomes and impact management actions, not included in the pre-approved generic EMPr template, to manage impacts, those impact management outcomes and actions must be included in section C of the generic EMPr.
- Please ensure that the EMPr of the facility comply with the requirements of Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

#### **h) General**

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.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amendment, regarding the time 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



**Mr Sabelo Malaza**

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**

**Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

**Signed by: Ms Olivia Letlalo**

**Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects**

**Date: 19/06/2023**

cc	MGLM Brambilla	Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd	Tel:(0)21 418 3940	Email: <a href="mailto:m.logan@redrocket.energy">m.logan@redrocket.energy</a>
	Sindisiwe Mbuyane	Mpumalanga (DARDLEA)	Tel: 017 811 3951	Email: <a href="mailto:mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za">mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za</a>
	Tebogo Mogakabe	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Tel: 017 801 7140	Email: <a href="mailto:tebogom@gsibande.gov.za">tebogom@gsibande.gov.za</a>

**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
27/01/2016 Email Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries: Priority Infrastructure Projects (John Doe)	Please record C&R trail report in this format  Please update the contact details of the provincial environmental authority	EAP: (Noted) The C&R trail report has been updated into the desired format, see Appendix K  EAP: Details of provincial authority have been updated, see page 16 of the Application form

**Annexure 2: Sample of minimum technical details for the proposed facility**

Component	Description / dimensions
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	



## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 August 2023 11:13  
**To:** Govender, Megan  
**Cc:** Kevin Mathebula; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin  
**Subject:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340 [Filed 21 Aug 2023 07:57]

Dear Megan.

14/12/16/3/3/2/2340

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNÉE 2 SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR STANDERTON, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.**

The Department confirms having received the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 17 August 2023. 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.

Please take note of Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that *“Potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in subregulation (1) prior to submission of an application but must be provided with an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the competent authority.”*

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

**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](mailto: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.*

## Govender, Megan

---

**From:** Strong, Ashlea  
**Sent:** Friday, 15 September 2023 10:47  
**To:** Govender, Megan  
**Subject:** FW: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340  
**Attachments:** 14-12-16-3-3-2-2340.pdf

Herewith the other Tournee comments



**Ashlea Strong**  
Principal Associate  
T +27 11 361-1392  
M +27 82 786-7819

---

**From:** Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 9:14 AM  
**To:** Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; m.logan@redrocket.energy; 'mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za' <mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za>; letshego.mabena@dmre.gov.za  
**Cc:** Kevin Mathebula <KLMathebula@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>  
**Subject:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340

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  
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:  
Priority Infrastructure Developments  
Tel: (012) 399 9370  
Email: [LKutu@dffe.gov.za](mailto:LKutu@dffe.gov.za)

*To God be the Glory!!!*

**DFFE Reference:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340

**Enquiries:** Ms Olivia Letlalo

**Telephone:** (012) 399 8815 **E-mail:** [OLetlalo@dff.gov.za](mailto:OLetlalo@dff.gov.za)

Ashlea Strong  
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd  
WSP House Building C Knightsbridge  
33 Sloane Street  
BRYANSTON  
2191

Telephone Number: 011 361 1381  
Email Address: [Ashlea.strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.strong@wsp.com)

#### PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ashlea Strong

#### **COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNÉE 2 SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR STANDERTON, IN THE LEKWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

The application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) and draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated August 2023 and received by the Competent Authority (CA) on 17 August 2023, refer.

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

#### **Listed Activities**

- It is noted that activity 12 of Listing Notice (LN) 1 has been applied for, however, in the project description there is no physical footprint in square metres. Please ensure that the type of the structure to be developed and physical footprint in square metres to determine the applicability of this listed activity.
- For Activity 14 of LN 1, it has been noted that the storage capacity for dangerous goods will be a storage of no more than 500 m<sup>3</sup>. However, for this listed activity to be triggered the storage capacity must be 80 cubic metres or more but not exceeding 500 cubic metres. When submitting the final EIAR please indicate the exact capacity of dangerous goods to be stored.
- For activity 24 of LN 1, it has been indicated that *“the Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility will require the development of internal roads up to 4m in width and/or access roads around the site that will be 8m wide”*. Please be reminded that for this activity to be triggered, the proposed road must be wider than 8m. Please note that listed activities are not based on precautionary approach.
- It has been noted that activity 27 of LN1 and Activity 15 of LN2, for clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation and the clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation (respectively), have been applied for. Please provide exact hectares of indigenous vegetation to be cleared for both listed activities.
- It has been noted that the wording such as **“anticipated”** has been used in the description of the portion of the proposed project that relates to all the listed activities applied for. Please refrain from using such words since it creates uncertainty. You are requested to ensure that the exact capacity/threshold are indicated for all the listed activities applied for.

- Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. Only activities applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.
- 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>.

### **Project Description**

- It is noted that activity 14 of LN 1 and 10 of LN 3 have been applied for. However, page 6 of 33 (project description) does not include the storage of dangerous goods (i.e., diesel) as part of the project description for the proposed development. Please ensure that this component is included in the project description of the revised application form and final EIAr as well as its location on the final layout plan.

### **Specialist Assessments**

- It is acknowledged that specialists undertaken for the proposed development considered the 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. You are advised to ensure that specialist assessments to be included in the final EIAr are conducted in accordance with these protocols.
- 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.
- The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies 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. You are advised to provide a table listing all the specialist studies undertaken with the recommendation for the proposed development.
  - ✓ 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 Department's definition; this must be clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the 'no-go' area's buffer.
  - ✓ All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternatives 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.
  - ✓ 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.
  - ✓ 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. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and attached.
  - ✓ Please include a table that shows the proposed studies and the relevant specialists carrying out the study. In addition, a summary should be included of the specialist's recommendations in terms of the alternatives that are preferred based on the findings of their study.
  - ✓ 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.

### **Layout and Sensitivity Maps**

- The CA acknowledges the inclusion of maps in Appendix E, however, submits that the information is not clear and contradicts i.e., the grey colour in the optimized layout sensitivity map, which on the legend, the grey colour represent heritage sites buffer (50m), while in the optimized layout no-go zones, the aforesaid areas is shown as infrastructure footprints and optimized layout indicate such areas as components of the proposed development. Please include in the final report an amended layout with a clear legend that communicates with details of the maps.
- Ensure that similar colours are not used to differentiate between infrastructures. i.e., items must be easily distinguishable in the legend.
- Please ensure that the final layout map and sensitivity map indicates the distance (buffer) from the infrastructure footprints and no-go zones.
- Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:
  - The PV development area.
  - Position of all infrastructure e.g., BESS, electrical distribution infrastructure as per page 6 to 7 of 33 of the application form.
  - Permanent laydown area footprint.
  - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed).
  - All existing infrastructure on the site.
  - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, ESAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected.
  - Buffer areas of the above sensitive areas; and
  - All “no-go” areas.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows all the components of the proposed development as well as neighbouring solar energy developments and existing grid infrastructure. 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.
- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

### **Public Participation Process**

- 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 Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE): Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness Directorate, Biodiversity Planning and Conservation (BCAdmin@environment.gov.za); Mpumalanga Province Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs, Telkom, South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), Endangered Wildlife Trust, Birdlife South Africa, Department of Human Settlement, Water and Sanitation, South African National Defence Force, Local interest groups, for example: Councillors and Rate Payers associations; Surrounding landowners, Farmer Organisations, Environmental Groups and NGOs; and Grassroots communities and structures as well as the affected district and local municipalities.
- Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR and FSR 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.
- A Comments and Response trail report (CRR) must be submitted with the final EIAR. The CRR must incorporate all comments for this development. The CRR must be a separate document from the main report. 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 Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

### **Cumulative impacts**

- It has been noted on page 336 to 337 of the draft EIAr that reference to 1 (one) project within 30km of the proposed development is made. Therefore, you are requested to provide in the final EIAr, the cumulative impacts of the proposed renewable energy project (not yet authorised), authorised (existing and not yet constructed). Therefore, you are advised to provide the cumulative impacts considered by the proposed development in the final EIAr.

### **Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)**

- It has been noted that on Part A: Section 2, the project description refers to the development of Tournee 1 and 2, while this application is for Tournee 1 solar facility, therefore, you are advised to amend the project description in the aforesaid section of the generic EMPr for the substation to reflect only the proposed development in this application.
- In addition, it has been noted that the description of the project for listed activity 11 of LN 1 indicate that the development includes a 132kV interconnecting overhead powerline, which the generic EMPr for the overhead powerline included in the draft EIAr also indicate the same. However, Part A: Section 2, the project description indicates that “the powerline will be subject to a separate Basic Assessment process for environmental authorisation”. Please ensure that activity 11 of LN 1 include the relevant information of the infrastructure applied for as well as the aforesaid part of the generic EMPr (inclusive of the amended application form and final EIAr i.e., components of the development). Furthermore, the description of the project in the generic EMPr for the overhead powerline refers to the development of Tournee 1 and 2, while this application is for Tournee 1 solar facility, therefore, you are advised to amend the project description in the aforesaid section of the generic EMPr for the overhead powerline to reflect only the proposed development in this application, should the powerline form part of this development.
- It has been noted that the generic EMPr for the substation and overhead powerline have been included in the draft EIAr. Please ensure that the generic EMPrs complies with the GN 435 of March 2022.
- Ensure that the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations includes mitigation and monitoring measures for the Solar PV is submitted with the final EIAr.

### **General**

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 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 submit to the competent authority -*

*(a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, an EMPr, 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 there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the EIAr 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 documents contemplated in sub-regulation 1(a) will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the competent authority or where regulation 21(2) applies, within 156 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the documents, which changes or information*

was not contained in the original documents consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in sub-regulation (1)(a), and that the revised documents contemplated in sub-regulation 1(a) will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days”.

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



**Mr Sabelo Malaza**

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**

**Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

**Signed by: Ms Olivia Letlalo**

**Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects**

**Date: 14/09/2023**

cc:	Matteo Giulio Luigi Maria Brambilla	Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd	Tel: 021 418 3940	Email: <a href="mailto:m.logan@redrocket.energy">m.logan@redrocket.energy</a>
	Sindisiwe Mbuyane	Mpumalanga (MDARDLEA)	Tel: 017 811 3951	Email: <a href="mailto:mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za">mbuyanesb@mpg.gov.za</a>
	Mr Letshego Mabena	Lekwa Local Municipality	Tel: 013 658 1406	Email: <a href="mailto:letshego.mabena@dmre.gov.za">letshego.mabena@dmre.gov.za</a>

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 40697 | Cape Town | 8001  
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 20943

Date: Monday September 18, 2023  
Page No: 1

## **Final Comment**

**In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd

**Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd propose to construct the Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility near Thuthukani in the Mpumalanga Province. The proposed Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility will be developed with a contracted capacity of 150 megawatt (MW), thus allowing for up to 150 MW for export from the facility**

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Tournée 2 Solar (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Tournée 2 Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, near Morgenzon, Mpumalanga Province.

A draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include a solar field, site substation and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), Operation and Maintenance Buildings, construction camp and laydown area, temporary cement batching plant, septic tanks, underground cables, fencing, stormwater infrastructure, water pipelines and other associated infrastructure within a development footprint of 505.15 ha.

CTS Heritage was appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process in terms of section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

*Lavin, J. 2023. Heritage Impact Assessment in terms of section 38(8) of the NHRA for the Proposed development of the Tournée 2 Solar PV Park near Standerton, Mpumalanga*

The HIA draws on the results of an Archaeological Specialist Study (Lavin, J; Fivaz, H and Fairhurst, S. 2023) and Palaeontological report (Bamford, M. 2023).

The proposed development area is underlain by non-fossiliferous Jurassic Dolerite and potentially very highly fossiliferous Vryheid Formation. No fossils were identified during the site visit. A total of three heritage resources were identified within the proposed development area. These include a demolished historical farmstead of negligible heritage significance and two burial grounds of high heritage significance. The visual impact of the development is considered to be moderately low.



**Our Ref:**



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Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 40697 | Cape Town | 8001  
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 20943

Date: Monday September 18, 2023  
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Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The recommendations in the VIA are implemented;
- A no development buffer of 50m is implemented around the burial sites identified within the development area;
- On going community access to these burials, as well as their conservation into the future, must be ensured. This can be managed through the development of a Heritage Management Plan for the burials to be implemented for the duration of the project;
- The attached Chance Fossil Finds Procedure must be implemented for the duration of construction activities; and
- Should any buried archaeological resources or human remains or burials be uncovered during the course of development activities, work must cease in the vicinity of these finds. The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be contacted immediately in order to determine an appropriate way forward.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 03/05/2023, SAHRA noted the submitted Heritage reports and stated that further comments would be issued upon receipt of the draft EIA. Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, the draft EIA has been submitted (18/08/2023). The DEIA has incorporated the results and recommendations of the Heritage Specialists.

### **Final Comment**

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final EIA and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development;
- The recommended Heritage Management Plan for the burial grounds must be submitted to SAHRA prior to construction for approval;
- 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed

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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za

Date: Monday September 18, 2023  
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development, SAHRA DAU (Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660 / [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with this section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA DAU (Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660 / [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)) must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA.

Non-compliance with this section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

- 38(4)d – See section 51 of the NHRA regarding offences;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
- If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
- The Final EIA and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natasha Higgitt', with a horizontal line drawn through it.

---

Natasha Higgitt  
Manager: Development Applications Unit  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

# Tournée 2 150MW Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, near Standerton, Mpumalanga

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 402 4502 | F: +27 21 402 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Hamington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 40697 | Cape Town | 8001  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 20943

Date: Monday September 18, 2023  
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## ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/615442>  
(DFFE, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2340 )

## Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.

## OFFICE OF THE CEO

**Ref: LUA 23/3432**

**Unit: LUA/SS**

**Enquiries: F.N. Krige**

**Email: [frans@mtpa.co.za](mailto:frans@mtpa.co.za)**

**Tel: 013- 0650286**

Ms. A. Strong  
**WSP Group Africa (PTY) Ltd**  
P.O. Box 98867  
Sloane Park  
**Bryanstone**  
2152

Email: [Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com](mailto:Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com)

Dear Ms. Strong

**SUBJECT: THE MTPA COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED TOURNEE II SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON THE REMAINING PORTION OF PORTION 3 AND PORTION 6 OF THE FARM DWARS-IN DIE – WEG 350 IS NEAR STANDERTON IN MPUMALANGA PROVINCE. DFFE REFERENCE NUMBER ....**

With reference to your correspondence reference WPS ref: 41104569 of March 2023, the MTPA comments. The MTPA have limited concerns with regards to the terrestrial biodiversity on site (fig. 1.) The proposed locality lies within Other Natural Areas (ONA) and degraded fields. With regards to the Freshwater features (fig 2.) care should be taken to avoid the Ecological Support Area wetlands with a hundred meter buffer included.

The various specialist assessments are in order. The proposed PV facilities will be placed within largely degraded agricultural fields, but also partially within a ESA wetland system. The nearest Important Bird Area, will be more than 15 km away.

The fire hazard should be addressed with an effective fire suppression system, and the local firefighters made aware of the damage that excessive water and water hydrants and foam could cause. The prevention of contaminated water or siltation reaching any seepage wetlands must be mitigated by a pollution prevention water management system. The siltation of ground water during the construction phase must be managed.

No category 1 or 2 Alien invader plants will be allowed within the Tournee 1 Solar PV facilities., An alien invasive plant management plan should be drafted and implemented. The implementation of such a

management plan is typically the responsibility of the EMC officer for the project. In the event where existing alien trees are to be used as wind barriers it needs to be described in the EMP report. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if there are any enquiries.  
Kind Regards

**MR M.H. VILAKAZI**  
**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / 2023



Figure 1. MBSP based terrestrial biodiversity assessment map.

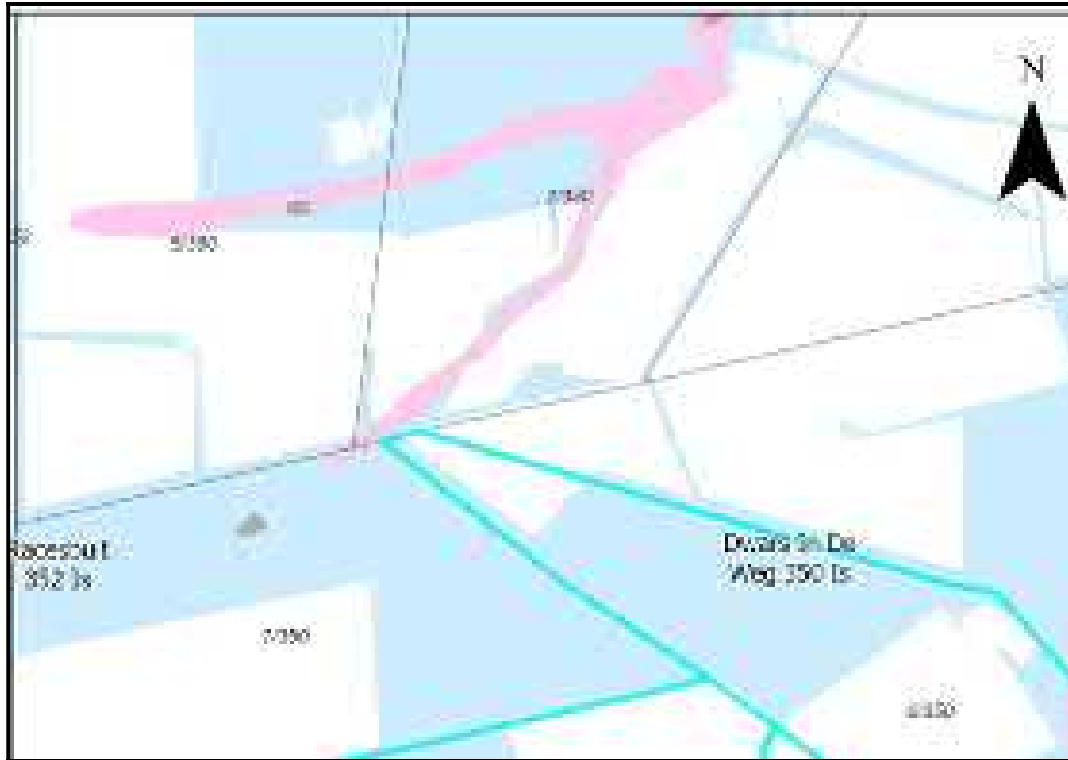


Figure 2. MBSP based freshwater biodiversity assessment map.



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