

APPENDIX G

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

PROPOSED PARYS UP TO 200MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC
(PV) AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS)
HYBRID PROJECT NEAR THE TOWN OF PARYS, FREE
STATE PROVINCE

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT
FINAL SCOPING REPORT

OCTOBER 2022



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1 INTRODUCTION

Genesis Eco-Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd (the Applicant) has proposed the development of the Parys up to 200MW Solar PV Project and BESS near the town of Parys, in the Free State Province (the "Project"). The electricity generated by the Project will be injected into the existing Eskom 132 kV distribution system.

The Applicant intends to bid for the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) bid windows and /or other renewable energy markets within SA, such as the Corporate and Industrial (C&I) Sector.

2 SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS

An Application for Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 (as amended) has been made for the proposed Project. In terms of the aforementioned Act, the lead decision-making authority for the environmental assessment is the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE).

The process for seeking authorisation is being undertaken in accordance with Government Notice No. R. 982 of 4 December 2014 (as amended). Based on the types of activities involved, the requisite environmental assessment for the Project is a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) Process.

Nemai Green was appointed by the Applicant as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the S&EIR Process for the proposed Project.

3 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

This Comments and Responses Report (CRR), which accompanies the final Scoping Report, serves to record the comments received from authorities and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) during the:

- Announcement Phase of the S&EIR Process; and
- Draft Scoping Report Review Phase.

This CRR also attempts to address these comments through responses and input provided by the Applicant, project team, EAP and environmental specialists (as relevant).

The following is noted:

- The CRR will be updated during the course of the S&EIR process.
- All written comments received are included verbatim in the CRR.

4 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES – ANNOUNCEMENT PHASE

The Announcement Phase, which was undertaken from 31 March to 5 May 2022, served to obtain upfront comments from authorities and I&APs regarding the proposed Project to understand potential concerns and to guide the environmental assessment.

No.	COMMENT / QUERY / ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE BY	RESPONSE
1.	Can you please send the title deeds to enable the Department to consider the application?	A. Geertsema (DALRRD)	Email (01-04-22)	Nemai Green	<p>The title deed information (in the form of a Windeed report) was submitted to A. Geertsema by Nemai Green.</p> <p>The Applicant will send the full title deed. Furthermore, the Applicant will appoint an independent town planner to compile the application for the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act 70 of 1970 (SALA) and the title deeds will be included in that application.</p>
2.	<p>DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation would like to register as the I&AP for the mentioned project. Kindly notify and email us the link containing the report as soon as it becomes available.</p> <p>Please note that 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 for attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.</p>	BC Admin (Biodiversity Conservation, Mainstreaming EIA, DFFE)	Email (01-04-22)	Nemai Green	<p>We confirm that DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has been added as a registered I&AP for the Project. Mr. Seoka Lekota is included in the database of authorities.</p> <p>A copy of the draft Scoping Report will be submitted to the DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation.</p>
3.	<p>National Treasury has published an instruction (no. 15 of 2016/17) effective from the 1st of February 2017 that steel products and components for construction have been designated, to achieve job preservation and job creation. How will you ensure that a material used in this project will be procured from local manufacturers?</p> <p>Will BEE be a consideration for procurement of goods and services?</p> <p>Will the names of consulting engineers be made public?</p> <p>Will this be a turnkey project, or will goods & services be procured from companies who specialise in a specific product or service, to avoid overspending?</p> <p>To engage with reputable manufacturers of transmission and distribution line hardware, please visit Powerline Association of SA (POLASA). POLASA provides all the stakeholders in the power line industry with a common platform to address matters of common</p>	A. Gassiep (George Stott and Company)	Reply Form (05-04-22)	Genesis Eco-Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd	<p>We confirm that you and the additional contact person you provided have been added as registered I&APs for the Project.</p> <p>Thank you for your comments and queries.</p> <p>With regards to procurement of most components of PV systems and sub-systems, including grid line infrastructure and the fact that the Applicant will compete in the future DMRE EEIPPP programme, it is mandatory to ensure local goods are procured as much as possible. In addition, to qualify for the evaluation of tender submission, BBBEE companies need to be used as well as Socio Economic Development (SED) goals need to be met.</p>

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	<p>interest and concern. Core activities include continuous improvement of the industry in terms of quality, productivity, investment, job creation, skills development and retention, technological development, safety and social responsibility which could include assisting members to achieve their transformation aspirations.</p> <p>You can also request Eskom to provide you with the 'LAP LIST' which listed all of Eskom's approved suppliers that were vetted between 2010-2012.</p>				<p>Further, black women owned companies are encouraged to be used as well. Yes, from a grid line infrastructure scope of work and the fact that the Applicant chooses the self-build option, it is always mandatory to use Eskom's specifications. Hence, the Applicant will obtain the list of preferred suppliers as well as specifications from Eskom before any procurement of goods are achieved. Some solar PV modules and components are being manufactured locally as well as the steel for PV structures and components. It is always the Applicant's intent to achieve as high a localisation percentage as possible to ensure it has a big chance of being shortlisted as a preferred bidder.</p> <p>Thank you for the direction to obtain suppliers and the Applicant will access this information. The contracting strategy of the project will be that of an Engineering, Procurement. Construction (EPC).</p> <p>The name of consulting engineers and other contractors will be displayed on construction boards on site.</p>
4.	<p>The Department hereby acknowledge receipt of your application for Leeuwkuil 76 (Parys 360MW Solar Pv Project).</p> <p>The reference number for your application is: 2022_05_0104</p>	AgriLand System (DALRRD)	Email (26-05-22)	Nemai Green	<p>It is noted that the reference number is provided.</p> <p>It should be noted that the project capacity has been reduced to a maximum of 200MW for PV and BESS combined.</p>
5.	<p>RE: WAYLEAVE APPLICATION - Ref: PARYS 360MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) PROJECT PARYS, FREE STATE PROVINCE</p> <p>Your e-mail dated 31 March 2022 regarding above mentioned project hereby refers. Eskom Distribution (Dx) has no objection to the proposed project. Eskom services are affected as per the attached sketch. However, please adhere to Eskom's conditions and treat Eskom's powerlines as live at all times and keep a building restriction of 9 meters on either sides of the power line for 11Kv lines and 18 meters on either sides of power line for 132Kv lines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numerous 132 kV and 11kV lines are affected 	R de Bruin (Eskom SOC Ltd)	Letter (04-04-22)	Nemai Green	<p>It is noted that Eskom has no objection to the proposed project.</p> <p>The Project layout takes into consideration Eskom's existing distribution lines.</p> <p>The Applicant is to adhere to Eskom's requirements and conditions when working near existing distribution lines.</p>

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	<p>Please find Eskom's conditions which must always be respected when working near or closer to our services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eskom Dx shall at all times retain unobstructed access to and egress from its servitudes. 2. Eskom Dx's consent does not relieve the applicant from obtaining the necessary statutory, land owner or municipal approvals. 3. The applicant will adhere to all relevant environmental legislation. Any cost incurred by Eskom Dx as a result of non-compliance will be charged to the applicant. 4. No drilling shall take place within 11 metres from any Eskom Dx power line structure, 5. All work within Eskom Dx's servitude areas shall comply with the relevant Eskom earthing standards in force at the time. 6. If Eskom Dx has to incur any expenditure in order to comply with statutory clearances or other regulations as a result of the applicant's activities or because of the presence of his equipment or installation within the servitude area, the applicant shall pay such costs to Eskom Dx on demand. 7. The use of explosives of any type within 500metres of Eskom Dx's services shall only occur with Eskom Dx's prior written permission. If such permission is granted the applicant must give at least fourteen working days prior notice of the commencement of blasting. This allows time for arrangements to be made for supervision and/or precautionary instructions to be issued in terms of the blasting process. If blasting becomes necessary, application in this regard should be made separately. 8. Changes in ground level may not infringe statutory ground to conductor clearances or statutory visibility clearances. After any changes in ground level, the surface shall be rehabilitated and stabilised so as to prevent erosion. The measures taken shall be to Eskom Dx's requirements. 9. Eskom Dx shall not be liable for the death of or injury to any person or for the loss of or damage to any property whether as a result of the encroachment or of the use of the servitude area by the applicant, his/her agent, contractors, employees, successors in title, and assigns. The applicant indemnifies Eskom Dx against loss, claims or damages including claims pertaining to consequential damages by third parties and whether as a result of damage to or interruption of or interference with Eskom Dx's services or apparatus or otherwise. Eskom Dx will not be held responsible for damage to the applicant's equipment. 10. No mechanical equipment, including mechanical excavators or high lifting machinery, shall be used in the vicinity of Eskom Dx's 				

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	<p>apparatus and/or services, without prior written permission having been granted by Eskom. If such permission is granted the applicant must give at least seven working days prior notice of the commencement of work. This allows time for arrangements to be made for supervision and/or precautionary instructions to be issued by the relevant Technical Service Centre.</p> <p>11. No work shall commence unless Eskom Dx has received the applicant's written acceptance of the conditions specified in the letter of consent and/or permit.</p> <p>12. Eskom Dx's rights and duties in the servitude shall be accepted as having prior right at all times and shall not be obstructed or interfered with. Note: Where an electrical outage is required, at least fourteen work days are required to arrange same.</p> <p>13. Under no circumstances shall rubble, earth or other material be dumped within the servitude area. The applicant shall maintain the area concerned to Eskom Dx's satisfaction. The applicant shall be liable to Eskom Dx for the cost of any remedial action which has to be carried out by Eskom Dx.</p> <p>14. The clearances between Eskom Dx's live electrical equipment and the proposed construction work shall be observed as stipulated by Regulation 15 of the Electrical Machinery Regulations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993).</p> <p>15. Eskom shall be regarded electrically live and therefore dangerous at all times.</p> <p>16. In spite of the restrictions stipulated by Regulation 15 of the Electrical Machinery Regulations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993), as additional safety precaution, Eskom Dx will not approve the erection of houses or structures occupied or frequented by human beings under the power lines or within the servitude area.</p> <p>17. Eskom Dx may stipulate any additional requirements to illuminate any possible exposure to Customers or Public to coming into contact or be exposed to any dangers to Eskom plant.</p> <p>18. It is required of the applicant to familiarise him/herself with all safety hazards related to Electrical plant.</p> <p>Should the applicant or his/her contractor damage any of Eskom's services during execution of any work whatsoever, the incident must be reported to Eskom's Technical service centre, George Wilson @051-404 5001 and 076 903 0339 immediately. The same person must be contacted before commencement of the project as well.</p> <p>For the re-location of any Eskom's services, our customer service</p>				

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	<p>centre should be contacted on 051-404 2211.</p> <p>The above conditions should be accepted in writing before any work within Eskom Services commences and the Technical service centre must be informed of the future activities.</p> <p>For any further information please contact the writer at the above mentioned telephone number.</p>				
6.	<p>My name is Godfrey from Parys in schonkenville near the leeuwkuil farm, I would like to apply or propose for the site contracting, I'm confident that I meet the desired requirements for any job that can be offered, I'm available for any job offered to me, I'm available for the interview if required , my company name is Tyelinzima holdings Pty Ltd, I'm available for the interview if required my contact details are thank you</p>	G. Kelezema (Tyelinzima holdings Pty Ltd)	Email (11-05-22)	Nemai Green	<p>Our company is undertaking the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for this proposed Project. We are not involved with the construction phase or the appointment of contractors. Nonetheless, we take note of your correspondence.</p> <p>Your email will be provided to the Applicant.</p>
7.	<p>Toegangroetes van huis na dorp loop deur Leeukruil. Hou my op hoogte van alle besluite.</p>	G.H. vd Westhuizen (Adjacent Landowner)	Reply Form (27-04-22)	Nemai Green	<p>We confirm you have been added as a registered I&AP, and you will therefore be included in all Project related correspondence concerning the Scoping and EIA process.</p> <p>We note your comment regarding your entrance being through Leeukruil farm.</p>
8.	<p>Please send me KMZ files of the proposed development and grid connection. Please find attached Eskom requirements for work at or near Eskom infrastructure and servitudes, as well as the Eskom setbacks guideline for renewable energy developments.</p>	J. Geeringh (Grid Planning: Land and Rights Eskom Transmission Division)	Email (11-04-22)	Nemai Green	<p>A KMZ and PDF file of the Project layout was sent via email. It is proposed for the project to connect to the Parys Rural 132/11 Kv Substation.</p> <p>It should be noted that the layout of the Project has since been revised. Please refer to the Draft Scoping Report for the amended layout.</p> <p>The two documents you shared are noted and have been shared with the Project Applicant.</p> <p>The Applicant is to adhere to Eskom's requirements for working at or near Eskom infrastructure and servitudes, as well as the Eskom setbacks guideline for renewable energy developments.</p>
9.	<p>This is an acknowledgement mail, your ref for the application in PARYS is OPY0178-22 for further enquiries.</p>	L. Roestof (Mvelaphanda Wayleave Officer, Telkom)	Email (05-04-22)	Nemai Green	<p>Your email response is noted.</p>
10.	<p>Solar energy has significant environmental benefits compared to conventional coal based energy sources. However, loss of natural habitat, water pollution from hazardous materials, change in ecosystem due to change in land use pattern are few matters of</p>	M. Mkhathwa (Fezile Dabi District Municipality)	Reply Form (10-05-22)	Nemai Green	<p>Your comments have been received and each of those concerns will be included for assessment in the EIA Phase.</p> <p>We confirm you have been added as a</p>

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	interest.				registered I&AP.
11.	<p>Please note that all development applications are processed via our online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link: http://sahra.org.za/sahris/. We do not accept emailed, posted, hardcopy, faxed, website links or DropBox links as official submissions.</p> <p>Please create an application on SAHRIS and upload all documents pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation Application Process. As per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA.</p> <p>Once all documents including all appendices are uploaded to the case application, please ensure that the status of the case is changed from DRAFT to SUBMITTED. Please ensure that all documents produced as part of the EA process are submitted as part of the application.</p>	N. Higgitt (SAHRA)	Email (01-04-22)	Nemai Green	The SAHRA requirements are noted and will be followed.
12.	Please find attached is Google earth Snapshot showing the distance between the area of the proposed development and Transnet's nearest boundary line (In Green).	S. Lehloma (Transnet)	Email (05-04-22)	Nemai Green	It is noted that the Project does not impact on Transnet infrastructure following the Google Earth Snapshot shared.
13.	<p>Your wayleave application/background information document dated 31 March 2022 has reference.</p> <p>Transnet Pipelines, a division of Transnet SOC Limited, is not affected by the proposal.</p> <p>Your awareness of the existence of Transnet's pipeline servitudes and concern for their integrity is highly appreciated.</p> <p>This authorisation shall be valid for 48 months from the date - 01 April 2022.</p>	T. Hadebe (Transnet)	Email (01-04-22)	Nemai Green	It is noted that the Project does not impact on Transnet pipeline servitudes.

5 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES – DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PHASE

The draft Scoping Review Phase, which was undertaken from 09 September until 10 October 2022, served to obtain comments from authorities and I&APs regarding the proposed Project through the review of the draft Scoping Report, to understand potential concerns and to guide the environmental assessment.

No.	COMMENT / QUERY / ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE BY	RESPONSE
1.	<p>14/12/16/3/3/2/2201</p> <p>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED PARYS UP TO 200MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) HYBRID PROJECT NEAR THE TOWN OF PARYS, FREE STATE PROVINCE.</p> <p>The Department confirms having received the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 08 September 2022. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p>	EIA Applications (DFFE: Integrated Environmental Authorisations)	Email (09/09/2022)	Nemai Green	

No.	COMMENT / QUERY / ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE BY	RESPONSE
	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.</p>				
2.	<p>Free State Agriculture takes note of the EIA for Battery Storage in Parys area and encourage our members there (BCC'd) to participate in the Public Participation process (Comment sheet attached – sien https://nemui.co.za/proposed-parys-up-to-200mw-solar-photovoltaic-pv-and-battery-energy-storage-system-bess-hybrid-project-near-the-town-of-parys-free-state-province/ vir al die ander agtergrond dokumente).</p> <p>Kindly also keep us on you mailing list.</p>	J. Armour (Free State Agriculture)	Email (09-09-22)	Nemai Green	Thank you for your correspondence and for having forwarded the notice and reply form to your members.
3.	<p>Powerlines Hereby do we acknowledge your proposed project.</p> <p>For future reference please quote OTUE0557-22.</p>	C. Schutte (Telkom)	Email (13-09-22)	Nemai Green	The Applicant is to make use of this reference number when engaging with the Free State Department of Police, Roads and Transport (DPRT).
4.	<p>PV 1,2,3 Hereby do we acknowledge your proposed project.</p> <p>For future reference please quote OTUE0557-22.</p>	C. Schutte (Telkom)	Email (13-09-22)	Nemai Green	The Applicant is to make use of this reference number when engaging with the Free State Department of Police, Roads and Transport (DPRT).
5.	<p>This Department acknowledges receipt of your email. The application will be reviewed and a suitable response will be forwarded to you in good time.</p>	H. Maree (Department of Police, Roads and Transport)	Email (12-09-22)	Nemai Green	The DPRT acknowledgement is noted and any comments received will be incorporated into the CRR and final Scoping Report and/or EIA Report as necessary.
6.	<p>Please receive the attached wayleave as requested</p>	D. Monatisa (Eskom)	Email (13-09-22)	Nemai Green	
7.	<p>RE: WAYLEAVE APPLICATION FOR PROPOSED PARYS UP TO 200MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) PROJECT AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) HYBRID NEAR THE TOWN OF PARYS, FREE STATE PROVINCE</p> <p>Applicant/Client: Genesis Eco-Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd</p>	R. de Bruin (Eskom)	Letter (13/09/2022)	Nemai Green	<p>The Project layout takes into consideration Eskom's existing distribution lines.</p> <p>The Applicant is to adhere to Eskom's requirements and conditions when working near existing distribution lines.</p>

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	<p>Your e-mail dated 10 September 2022 regarding above mentioned project hereby refers. Eskom Distribution (Dx) has no objection to the proposed project. Eskom services are affected as per the attached sketch. However, please adhere to Eskom's conditions and treat Eskom's powerlines as live at all times and keep a building restriction of 9 meters on either side of the power line for 11kV lines and 18 meters on either side of the power line for 132kV lines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 kV and 132kV lines are affected <p>Please find Eskom's conditions which must always be respected when working near or closer to our services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eskom Dx shall at all times retain unobstructed access to and egress from its servitudes. 2. Eskom Dx's consent does not relieve the applicant from obtaining the necessary statutory, land owner or municipal approvals. 3. The applicant will adhere to all relevant environmental legislation. Any cost incurred by Eskom Dx as a result of non-compliance will be charged to the applicant. 4. No drilling shall take place within 11 metres from any Eskom Dx power line structure, 5. All work within Eskom Dx's servitude areas shall comply with the relevant Eskom earthing standards in force at the time. 6. If Eskom Dx has to incur any expenditure in order to comply with statutory clearances or other regulations as a result of the applicant's activities or because of the presence of his equipment or installation within the servitude area, the applicant shall pay such costs to Eskom Dx on demand. 7. The use of explosives of any type within 500metres of Eskom Dx's services shall only occur with Eskom Dx's prior written permission. If such permission is granted the applicant must give at least fourteen working days prior notice of the commencement of blasting. This allows time for arrangements to be made for supervision and/or precautionary instructions to be issued in terms of the blasting process. If blasting becomes necessary, application in this regard should be made separately. 8. Changes in ground level may not infringe statutory ground to conductor clearances or statutory visibility clearances. After any changes in ground level, the surface shall be rehabilitated and stabilised so as to prevent erosion. The measures taken shall be to Eskom Dx's requirements. 9. Eskom Dx shall not be liable for the death of or injury to any person or for the loss of or damage to any property whether as a result of the 				

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	<p>encroachment or of the use of the servitude area by the applicant, his/her agent, contractors, employees, successors in title, and assigns. The applicant indemnifies Eskom Dx against loss, claims or damages including claims pertaining to consequential damages by third parties and whether as a result of damage to or interruption of or interference with Eskom Dx's services or apparatus or otherwise. Eskom Dx will not be held responsible for damage to the applicant's equipment.</p> <p>10. No mechanical equipment, including mechanical excavators or high lifting machinery, shall be used in the vicinity of Eskom Dx's apparatus and/or services, without prior written permission having been granted by Eskom. If such permission is granted the applicant must give at least seven working days prior notice of the commencement of work. This allows time for arrangements to be made for supervision and/or precautionary instructions to be issued by the relevant Technical Service Centre.</p> <p>11. No work shall commence unless Eskom Dx has received the applicant's written acceptance of the conditions specified in the letter of consent and/or permit.</p> <p>12. Eskom Dx's rights and duties in the servitude shall be accepted as having prior right at all times and shall not be obstructed or interfered with. Note: Where an electrical outage is required, at least fourteen work days are required to arrange same.</p> <p>13. Under no circumstances shall rubble, earth or other material be dumped within the servitude area. The applicant shall maintain the area concerned to Eskom Dx's satisfaction. The applicant shall be liable to Eskom Dx for the cost of any remedial action which has to be carried out by Eskom Dx.</p> <p>14. The clearances between Eskom Dx's live electrical equipment and the proposed construction work shall be observed as stipulated by Regulation 15 of the Electrical Machinery Regulations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993).</p> <p>15. Eskom shall be regarded electrically live and therefore dangerous at all times.</p> <p>16. In spite of the restrictions stipulated by Regulation 15 of the Electrical Machinery Regulations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993), as additional safety precaution, Eskom Dx will not approve the erection of houses or structures occupied or frequented by human beings under the power lines or within the servitude area.</p> <p>17. Eskom Dx may stipulate any additional requirements to illuminate any possible exposure to Customers or Public to coming into contact or be exposed to any dangers to Eskom plant.</p>				

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	<p>18. It is required of the applicant to familiarise him/herself with all safety hazards related to Electrical plant.</p> <p>Should the applicant or his/her contractor damage any of Eskom's services during execution of any work whatsoever, the incident must be reported to Eskom's Technical service centre, George Mashee @051-404 2927 and 082 334 5486 immediately. The same person must be contacted before commencement of the project as well.</p> <p>For the re-location of any Eskom's services, our customer service centre should be contacted on 051-404 2211.</p> <p>The above conditions should be accepted in writing before any work within Eskom Services commences and the Technical service centre must be informed of the future activities.</p> <p>For any further information please contact the writer at the above mentioned telephone number.</p>				
8.	I hope that this communique finds you in good health. In order for this office to conduct a proper and accurate investigation, I will require a kml/z file of the whole area of concern.	S. Lehloma (Transnet)	Email (22/09/2022)	Nemai Green	<p>Thank you for your request. Please find attached the KML files for the various project components.</p> <p>If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me.</p>
9.	<p>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).</p> <p>Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries will be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota</p>	Mashudu (DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation)	Email (20/09/2022)	Nemai Green	Mr. Seoka Lekota and the officers included in the email correspondence are included in the database of authorities. A copy of the draft Scoping Report was submitted to the DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation for his attention.
10.	Parys is in the upper Vaal which is the responsibility of Gauteng Regional office. I have copied colleagues in Gauteng in this communication.	Z. Kumalo (FS Region DWS)	Email (08/09/2022)	Nemai Green	Your response regarding the project falling within the Upper Vaal and the responsible authority being the Gauteng Department is noted. See further response under point 11 below.
11.	Where necessary please obtain water use authorisation DWS Regional Office as entry and exit.	P. Ackerman (DWS IWU)	Email (09/09/2022)	Nemai Green	The Project may entail the following activities that constitute water uses in terms of Section 21 of the National Water Act (NWA) (Act No. 36 of

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					<p>1998), which will be confirmed in consultation with the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 21(c) - Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; and • Section 21(i) - Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse. <p>If the above water uses are triggered, then the process to seek authorisation will be initiated via DWS' Electronic Water Use Licence Application and Authorisation System (e-WULAAS).</p>
12.	Please submit to the relevant regional office as it may require a WUA.	R. Wietsche (DWS IWU)	Email (08/09/2022)	Nemai Green	We provided a copy of the draft Scoping Report to the following official in the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) Free State Regional Office: Dr Tseliso Ntili.
13.	<p>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED PARYS UP TO 200MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) HYBRID PROJECT NEAR THE TOWN OF PARYS, FREE STATE PROVINCE</p> <p>The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation reviewed and evaluated the report.</p> <p>Based on the information provided in the report, the Project falls predominantly over an area designated as 'other' and 'degraded', with a small section within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA2). No development will be permitted within areas considered as CBA's irreplaceable or no-go sensitive areas as these areas play a major role in meeting the biodiversity target.</p> <p>Therefore, the plan of study for the EIA for the Parys PV facility, that describes how the EIA phase will proceed, including details of the specialist studies required to be undertaken to assess the significance of those impacts identified within the scoping study, must be prepared and submitted. In addition, all the relevant National and Provincial biodiversity guidelines must be considered. As a result, the development may proceed to the next phase.</p> <p>In conclusion, please note that all Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate:</p>	S. Lekota (DFFE: Directorate Biodiversity Conservation)	Letter (10/10/2022)	Nemai Green	<p>Section 14.4.4.2 of the Scoping Report provides the ToR for the Terrestrial Ecological Impact Assessment. Provision is made in these ToR for assessing the Project's impacts to features identified in the Free State Biodiversity Plan (i.e., CBAs), and the ground truthing of the project footprint area in terms of their actual status.</p> <p>Section 14.4.4.3 of the Scoping Report provides the ToR for the Avifaunal Impact Assessment. Provision is made in these ToR for the study to comply with the Birdlife SA Guideline: Birds and Solar Energy Best Practice Guidelines.</p> <p>Mr. Seoka Lekota is included in the database of authorities. A copy of the draft EIA Report will be submitted to the DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation, for his attention.</p>

No.	COMMENT / QUERY / ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE BY	RESPONSE
	Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention Mr Seoka Lekota.				
14.	<p>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED PARYS UP TO 200MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) AND 40MW BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS) HYBRID PROJECT NEAR THE TOWN OF PARYS, FREE STATE PROVINCE</p> <p>The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated September 2022 and received by the Department on 8 September 2022, refer.</p> <p>This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final SR:</p>	M. Solomons (DFFE Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations)	Letter (23/09/2022)	Nemai Green	Introductory section of letter. No response required.
15.	<p><u>1. Listed Activities</u></p> <p>a) It is noted that the proposed solar facility does not fall within any renewable energy development zones.</p> <p>b) Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.</p> <p>c) Please include the capacity of the proposed onsite substation in the project description under Activity 11 LN1. The substation must also be included in the project's technical description.</p> <p>d) You must choose a sub activity and provide specific thresholds for the activity for e.g. Act 28 (ii) a mixed-use development to occur on agricultural land, outside urban areas and have a development footprint of 7Ha.</p> <p>e) It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the environmental impact assessment process, as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of Listing Notice 3 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities (or proof of consultation if no comments were received) and submitted to this Department. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be</p>				<p>a) Yes, that is correct. The Project is not located within any Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZs). However the Project is located within the Central Strategic Transmission Corridor.</p> <p>b) Table 6 in the final Scoping Report reflects the triggered activities and their associated sub-activities. The details of activities, as they relate to the Project, have also been elaborated on in Table 3.</p> <p>c) Table 6 in the final Scoping Report has been updated to indicate that the capacity of proposed on-site substation is 132 kV/22kV (134MW) in relation to Activity 11 LN1. Please refer to Table 9 for the substation capacity under the Project Description.</p> <p>d) The activity description has been updated under Table 6 in the final Scoping Report, and the Application Form.</p> <p>e) The EAP has been engaging with the Free State Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEA) since the Announcement Phase. A copy of the Application Form was also</p>

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	<p>provided. Please also ensure that the potential impacts on the affected Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas are fully assessed in the final EIAR.</p> <p>f) It is noted that certain activities under listing Notice 3 are triggered due to being within 10km of a World Heritage site. Ensure that comments are received from the Departments World Heritage Unit. Include the name of the world heritage site under the description of the activity.</p> <p>g) If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, 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.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms.</p> <p>h) Kindly confirm whether all 3 PV areas contribute to the overall up to 200MW capacity of the project and include motivation for the project not requiring an approval in terms of Regulation 11 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p>				<p>submitted to this authority.</p> <p>The footprint of the Project in relation to specific identified geographical areas in terms of Listing Notice 3 was also confirmed via GIS screening and by using DFFE's National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool.</p> <p>Refer to the following associated sections of the final Scoping Report (amongst others):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 11.6 - location of the Project Area in relation to watercourses (including wetlands); • Section 11.7.2 - location of the Project Area in relation to Threatened Terrestrial Ecosystems; and • Section 11.7.4 - location of the Project Area in relation to the Free State Biodiversity Plan, including Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs). <p>Section 14.4.4.2 of the final Scoping Report provides the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Terrestrial Ecological Impact Assessment. Provision is made in these ToR for assessing the Project's impacts to features identified in the Free State Biodiversity Plan (i.e., CBAs and ESAs).</p> <p>f) The World Heritage Site name (the Vredefort Dome World Heritage Site) has been included under the description of the relevant listed activities under Table 6 in the final Scoping Report and the Application Form.</p> <p>g) The amended Application Form will be submitted to DFFE together with the final Scoping Report. The Activities have not changed but the descriptions have been amended as per the comments received.</p> <p>h) It is confirmed that all 3 PV sites contribute to the 200MW capacity. Regulation 11 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended does not apply given that the proposed Project, although with a</p>

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16.	<p><u>2. Layout & Sensitivity Maps</u></p> <p>a) Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each PV development area/portion, clearly denoted (western, eastern and central portion); • The proposed location of the PV array and associated infrastructure of the proposed Parys Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facility; • The proposed grid infrastructure connecting the PV facility to the existing Substation, overlain by the sensitivity map; • All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed); • The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected; • Buffer areas; and • All “no-go” areas. <p>b) The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure.</p> <p>c) Ensure that similar colours are not used to differentiate between infrastructure. i.e. items must be easily distinguishable in the Legend. Figure 3 and 8 in the draft DR are difficult to navigate as many similar colours are used, and all the Legend Items consist of ‘lines’ of varying widths.</p> <p>d) Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.</p>				<p>divided footprint, comprises a single project on the same cadastral property.</p> <p>a) The layout of the proposed development footprint in relation to the factors listed can be found under Appendix A of the final Scoping Report.</p> <p>b) A sensitivity map is included under Appendix A of the final Scoping Report. The EIA Report will include updated sensitivity maps, based on the findings of the respective specialist studies. Buffer areas and no-go zones will also be determined as part of these studies. The EIA Report will also contain a consolidated sensitivity map.</p> <p>Figure 6 in the Scoping Report shows renewable energy applications within a 30km radius in relation to the Project. There are no renewable energy application within 30km of the Project. Cumulative impacts in terms of sensitive environmental features will be determined as part of the specialist studies, which will include mapping (as relevant).</p> <p>c) Figure 3 represents a locality map and is not intended as a clear layout map; it has been amended as per comment 2(a) above. Figure 8 has remained; however, 3 additional layout maps are included (Refer to Figure 9, 10, and 11) to better show the various project components and to ensure improved readability.</p> <p>d) Google maps have not been used.</p>
17.	<p><u>3. Needs and desirability</u></p> <p>Please expand on Section 8 of the report. Include specific motivation for the project.</p>			Nemai Green	<p>A Project Motivation can be found under Section 3 of the Report. The Needs and Desirability section has been updated with further input from the Applicant. Please refer to Section 8 in the final Scoping Report.</p>
18.	<p><u>4. Project Overview:</u></p>			Nemai Green	<p>a) The dimensions per PV area have been included in Table 9.</p>

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	<p>a) Table 9 includes the details for the entire PV facility. Where possible, please include dimensions per PV area i.e. Eastern, Central/southern and Western site.</p> <p>b) Page 53, Grid Connection states: "One power line route is under consideration (see Figure 18 below) and connects to the existing Eskom Parys 132/22 kV Substation located to the north of the site through a 0.57 km single circuit twin conductor 132 kV line". Please confirm whether this line forms part of this application.</p>				<p>b) It is confirmed that this line forms part of this application.</p>
19.	<p>5. Public Participation Process</p> <p>a) Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received on the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za; World Heritage Unit) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the Final SR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof 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 the approved public participation plan and Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p> <p>b) A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments (pre and post submission of the draft SR) for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format which reflects the details of the I&APs and date of comments received, actual comments received, and response provided. Please ensure that comments made by I&APs are comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.</p>			Nemai Green	<p>a) Section 12.5 provides an overview of the public participation process undertaken as part of the review of the draft Scoping Report. Copies of the comments received from authorities and I&APs during the review period for the draft Scoping Report are contained in Appendix F of the final Scoping Report. These comments were incorporated into this CRR. Refer to Appendix F1 of the final Scoping Report for proof of notification emails. Copies of the draft Scoping Report were provided to the following parties, which include key regulatory and commenting authorities with jurisdiction over the receiving environment (refer to notification of respective organisations in Appendix F1 of the final Scoping Report):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFFE (including Biodiversity Conservation Unit); • DESTEA; • DWS: Free State Region; • Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE); • Free State DPRT; and • Local Municipality. <p>b) The CRR (this document) serves to record the following comments received from authorities and I&APs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments received during the Announcement Phase of the S&EIR Process; and • Comments received on the draft Scoping Report. <p>This CRR also attempts to address these</p>

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					<p>comments through responses and input provided by the Applicant, project team, EAP and environmental specialists (as relevant). The CRR will be updated during the course of the S&EIR process.</p>
20.	<p><u>6. Specialist Assessments to be conducted in the EIA Phase</u></p> <p>a) Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of PV arrays, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.</p> <p>b) The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation, will not be accepted.</p> <p>c) 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.</p> <p>d) It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols. Please note further that the protocols require the specialists' to be registered with SACNASP in their respective field.</p> <p>e) Please include a table in the report, summarising the specialist studies required by the Department's Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted. Please note that if any of the specialists' studies and requirements/protocols 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.</p>			Nemai Green	<p>a) The specialist studies will be aligned with these requirements.</p> <p>b) The relevant specialist studies with seasonal constraints will be undertaken during the appropriate season.</p> <p>c) Contradicting recommendations by specialists will be investigated and resolved by the EAP, in consultation with the relevant specialists.</p> <p>d) The Terms of Reference for the specialist studies (refer to Section 14.4.3 of the Scoping Report) indicates that all specialist reports will adhere to Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations or to the Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on Identified Environmental Themes (GN No. 1150 in Government Gazette No. 43855 of 30 October 2020), as relevant.</p> <p>e) Section 6.3 of the Scoping Report indicates that a Screening Report for the proposed Project was compiled by means of the National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool, which are appended to the Application Form (contained in Appendix B). Table 11 in the Scoping Report lists the specialist studies that were identified in these Screening Reports, but which were not deemed to be necessary.</p> <p>f) (a) The Specialist Studies undertaken will include a section that addresses the Screening Tool sensitivity and will provide the verified sensitivity map compiled by the Specialist</p>

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	<p>f) The screening tool output:</p> <p>a) The screening tool and the gazetted protocols (GN R320 of 20 March 2020 and GN R 1150 of 30 October 2020) require a site sensitivity verification to be completed to either confirm or dispute the findings and sensitivity ratings of the screening tool.</p> <p>b) The screening tool (Application form) identifies thirteen (13) Specialist reports. It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm this list and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist study including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation. You have not provided motivation in this regard for any of the specialist studies. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, have not been compiled and attached.</p> <p>g) 'An applicant intending to undertake an activity identified in the scope of this protocol, on a site identified on the screening tool as being of "very high sensitivity" for terrestrial biodiversity, must submit a Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment.' If the findings of the site verification differed from the screening tool and was found to be of a different sensitivity level, then a compliance statement would have been accepted.</p> <p>h) Site sensitivity verifications for all the identified specialist studies (according to the screening tool) must be provided.</p> <p>i) 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.</p> <p>j) 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.</p>				<p>based on the site verification undertaken during the process of their study.</p> <p>(b) Table 11 in the Scoping Report lists the specialist studies that were identified in these Screening Reports, but which were not deemed to be necessary. The motivations for not undertaking the studies have been amended with further detail and motivation based on site conditions.</p> <p>g) This is noted, and the Specialist's ToR prescribe that they follow the Protocols.</p> <p>h) The Specialist Studies undertaken will include a section that addresses the Screening Tool sensitivity and will provide the verified sensitivity map compiled by the Specialist based on the site verification undertaken during the process of their study. These studies will be provided with the EIA Report.</p> <p>i) See response to item d) above.</p> <p>j) See response to item c) above.</p>
21.	<p><u>7. Cumulative Assessment to be conducted in the EIA Phase</u></p> <p>Section 6.6 of the report states that no renewable energy applications exist within 30kms of the development and therefore no cumulative</p>			Nemai Green	Cumulative impacts associated with other renewable energy application within 30km of the Project will not be assessed. However, the EIA Report will include a cumulative impact

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	impact will be considered.				assessment that addresses cumulative impacts associated with other developments in the area and impacts on various aspects as undertaken by the Specialists.
22.	<p><u>8. Environmental Management Programme</u></p> <p>The EMPr must include the following:</p> <p>a) It is drawn to your attention that for substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the Generic Environmental Management Programme, must be used and submitted with the final report over and above the EMPr for the facility i.e. separate EMPr for the substation, powerline and the facility.</p> <p>b) Further to the above, you are required to comply with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p>				<p>Section 14.6 of the Scoping Report was updated to reflect that the following EMPr's will be developed for the Project -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generic EMPr for the development and expansion for overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure; • Generic EMPr for the development and expansion of substation infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity; and • Normal EMPr for the Solar PV Park that complies with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations.
23.	<p><u>General</u></p> <p>You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:</p> <p><i>"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 SR 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"</i></p> <p>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 SRs in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National</p>			Nemai Green	<p>The Application Form and draft Scoping Report were submitted to DFFE on 08 September 2022. The 30-day public review period ended on 10 October 2022. The final Scoping Report will be submitted to the Department before the lapsing of the 44 days.</p> <p>As a minimum, the Scoping Report aimed to satisfy the requirements stipulated in Appendix 2 of GN No. R 982 of 4 December 2014 (as amended). Table 1 (Document Roadmap) in the Scoping Report presents the document's composition in terms of the aforementioned regulatory requirements.</p>

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	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.				
24.	<p>DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW: PROPOSED PARYS UP TO 200MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) PROJECT AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) PROJECT NEAR PARYS, FREE STATE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your email dated 12 September 2022 pertaining to the above-mentioned project near Parys refers. 2. The following provincial roads are affected by the above-mentioned project (refer to the enclosed plan): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Secondary road S23 with a statutory road reserve width of 25 meters; and 2.2. Tertiary road T1610, with statutory road reserve widths of 16 meters. 3. This Department is unable to formulate a suitable response considering that the drawings that you provided are ambiguous. Please take note of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1. It is not clear where access from the proposed development to the provincial road network will be obtained. It is advised that the proposed point of access be clearly indicated by means of coordinates. 3.2. The drawings that you provided do not provide a clear indication where the proposed infrastructure will be located, especially in relation to the provincial road network. You attention is drawn thereto that no structures must be erected within 95,0 metres measured from the centre line of the provincial road listed in the above-mentioned paragraph 2 without the written approval issued by this Department for the relaxation of the building line (structures include any overhead power line that will be erected parallel with or across the alignment of the provincial road). The building line is imposed in terms of the provisions of sections 9 and 9A of the Advertising on Roads and Ribbon Development Act, 1940 (Act no. 1 of 1940). 3.3. All proposed PV infrastructure must be indicated on a drawing of at least AO-size paper, drawn to a scale of at least 1:250. This drawing must be submitted by and to this Department for consideration and approval. 3.4. An application must be submitted to this Department for consideration and approval of the proposed access from the 	H. Maree (Department of Police, Roads and Transport)	Letter (18-10-22)	Nemai Green	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Reference to communication, no response required. 2) The two provincial roads affected by the proposed Project, as outlined, are noted. 3) The drawings included in the application represent the current information available. Spatial data can be made available to your Department should you require. <p>3.1) Based on the current layout contemplated in the Scoping Report, the coordinates for the points of access are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access on T1610 for the western site: 26°57'47.75"S 27°29'30.05"E • Access on S23 for the central site: 26°57'55.69"S 27°30'10.02"E • Access on S23 for the eastern site: 26°58'4.11"S 27°30'41.42"E <p>3.2) An approximate 355 m section of the eastern boundary of the central PV site falls within 95 m of the T1610 road. The western powerline crosses the T1610, and the eastern powerline crosses the S23 and runs parallel for a section within 95 m of provincial roads.</p> <p>The Applicant will submit the necessary applications, including detailed drawings, to your Department in order to seek written approval for the relaxation of the building line.</p> <p>3.3) the Applicant will submit the required drawings to your Department for consideration and approval.</p>

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	<p>provincial road network. An application form is attached thereto which must be used for the application for an access, infrastructure related to the PV and the relaxation of the building lines.</p> <p>4. Any enquiries pertaining to the contents of this letter or to arrange a meeting in this regard, can be addressed to this Department's Me. B. Mancoe at Cell. No. 0789563075 or e-mail mancoeboitumelo@gmail.com.</p>				<p>3.4) The necessary application will be compiled and submitted by the Applicant to seek approval for access from the provincial road network for the Project, as well as building lines relaxation (see 3.2 above).</p> <p>4) The contact person for the Department, as provided, is noted for further engagement.</p>