



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

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DFFE Reference: 12/12/20/2126/AM6

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PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr De Villiers

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 25 JANUARY 2013, AS AMENDED, FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A 100MW COMMERCIAL SOLAR ELECTRICITY GENERATION FACILITY AND ITS INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING CONTAINERISED LITHIUM-ION BATTERY STORAGE, DUAL-FUEL BACKUP GENERATORS WITH ASSOCIATED FUEL STORAGE, ON FARM WASCHKLIP 183 (SOVENTIX SALDANHA 1) NEAR LANGEBAAN, WITHIN SALDANHA BAY DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the above-mentioned application by this Department on 25 January 2013, the subsequent amendments, your application for amendment of the EA received by the Department on 12 January 2021, the acknowledgement letter dated 19 January 2021, the draft amendment reports received by this Department for comment on 10 March 2021, the Department's comments on the draft amendment reports dated 12 March 2021, the notification in terms of Regulation 32(1)(b) received by the Department on 15 April 2021, the amended draft amendment reports received by the Department on 15 April 2021, the comments issued by the Department dated 14 May 2021 and the amended final amendment reports received by the Department on 31 May 2021, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended, has decided to amend the EA dated 25 January 2013, as amended, as follows:

Amendment 1: Amendment to the project description:

The following infrastructure is hereby added to the EA:

- Containerised Lithium-Ion battery storage;
- Nine (9) dual fuel generators (1kW each) with a combined generation capacity of approximately 9MW; and
- Aboveground storage of diesel and /or Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) of less than 30m³.

The table below shows the details of what was authorised to the proposed amendments:

Current details in the EA:	Amended to:
Cover page (page 1 of EA)	
Establishment of a 100MW commercial solar electricity generation facility and its infrastructure on farm Waschklip 183 (Soventix Saldanha 1) near Langebaan, within Saldanha Bay District Municipality in the Western Cape Province.	Establishment of a 100MW commercial solar electricity generation facility and its infrastructure, including containerised lithium-ion battery storage, dual-fuel backup generators with associated fuel storage, on farm Waschklip 183 (Soventix Saldanha 1) near Langebaan, within Saldanha Bay District Municipality in the Western Cape Province.
Project description: (page 4 of EA)	
Establishment of a 100MW commercial solar electricity generation facility and its infrastructure on farm Waschklip 183 (Soventix Saldanha 1) near Langebaan, within Saldanha Bay District Municipality in the Western Cape Province.	Establishment of a 100MW commercial solar electricity generation facility and its infrastructure, including containerised lithium-ion battery storage, dual-fuel backup generators with associated fuel storage, on farm Waschklip 183 (Soventix Saldanha 1) near Langebaan, within Saldanha Bay District Municipality in the Western Cape Province.
Project description relating to associated farm portions: (page 7 of EA)	
- for the establishment of a 100MW commercial solar electricity generation facility and its infrastructure on farm Waschklip 183 (Soventix Saldanha 1) near Langebaan, within Saldanha Bay District Municipality in the Western Cape Province, hereafter referred as "the property".	- for the establishment of a 100MW commercial solar electricity generation facility and its infrastructure, including containerised lithium-ion battery storage, dual-fuel backup generators with associated fuel storage, on farm Waschklip 183 (Soventix Saldanha 1) near Langebaan, within Saldanha Bay District Municipality in the Western Cape Province, hereafter referred as "the property".
The infrastructure associated with this facility includes: (page 7 of EA)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A substation with the necessary infrastructure to feed the electricity generated into the 132KV_a power lines traversing the property. • Solar panels arranged in units with a generating capacity of approximately 75MW per cadastre. • Offices and operations buildings. • An access road off the R233 to the site will be approximately 1.2 – 1.5 km in length and be less than 4m wide. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A substation with the necessary infrastructure to feed the electricity generated into the 132KV_a power lines traversing the property. • Solar panels arranged in units with a generating capacity of approximately 75MW per cadastre. • Offices and operations buildings. • An access road off the R233 to the site will be approximately 1.2 – 1.5 km in length and be less than 4m wide. • 167MWh of containerised Lithium-Ion battery storage equating to twenty-two (22) forty-foot (40') containers. Each shipping container is 12.2(l) x 2.43(w) x 2.59(h) in dimensions, with a total footprint of approximately 667m². • Nine (9) 1kW dual-fuel (diesel and/or LNG) backup generators with a combined generation capacity of approximately 9MW. • Above-ground diesel and/or LNG fuel storage with a combined storage capacity of less than 30m³.

Reasons for the amendment:

The proposed amendments are required in line with the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPPP), the Risk Mitigation IPP Procurement Programme and Bid Window 5 which has additional requirements in terms of generation assurance that necessitates the inclusion of containerised Lithium-Ion battery storage, fuel generators and associated fuel storage is to ensure the facility can meet its generation mandate irrespective of prevailing weather conditions.

The generators will provide output of approximately 9MW to augment the power supply when PV generation is diminished and battery banks are depleted. The development footprint of the additional infrastructure of the containerised Lithium-Ion battery storage, fuel generators and associated fuel storage will be approximately 700m² which will occur within the authorised development footprint. The proposed amendments will not trigger new listed activities.

This proposed amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 25 January 2013, as amended.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013) which stipulates that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuses or compromises your personal information in any way.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribe the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@environment.gov.za ;

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road
Arcadia
PRETORIA
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@environment.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 09/09/2021

cc:	Mr Justin Bowers	Ecoleges Environmental Consultants	Email: justin@ecoleges.co.za
	Mr Zaahir Toefy	DEA:DP	Email: zaahir.toefy@westerncape.gov.za

M. J