



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/360/2/AM2

Enquiries: Ms Trisha Pillay

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Ms Léa Giroux
Sannaspos Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
Building 1 Country Club Estate
21 Woodlands Drive
WOODMEAD
2191

Telephone Number: (010) 612 0531
Email Address: lea.giroux@engie.com

PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms Giroux

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 20 OCTOBER 2021 AS AMENDED FOR THE ESKOM SWITCHING STATION AND GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE AS PART OF THE SANNASPOS PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY PHASE 1, FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 20 October 2021, the amendment to the EA dated 19 January 2023, your application for an amendment of the EA received by the Department on 09 June 2023, the acknowledgement letter dated 15 June 2023, the draft additional information received by the Department on 03 August 2023, the comments issued by this Department on 04 September 2023 and the final additional information received by Department on 08 September 2023, 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 20 October 2021, as amended as follows:

Amendment 1: Amendment to extend the validity period of the EA:

Condition 6 on page 4 of the EA dated 20 October 2021 is hereby amended:

From:

*“6. This activity must commence within a period of ten (10) years from the date of issue of the original authorisation **issued on the 26 June 2013 as amended (i.e. EA lapses on 26 June 2023)**. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.”*

To:

*"6. This activity must commence within a period of twelve (12) years from the date of issue of the original authorisation **issued on the 26 June 2013 as amended (i.e. EA lapses on 26 June 2025)**. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken."*

Reason for amendment:

The Sannaspos PV project (and associated grid connection infrastructure) has been granted a preferred bidder project under Round 5 of the REIPPPP in the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy Renewable Energy Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP). The applicant is working towards financial close, but this has been delayed for various reasons beyond the control of the applicant. It is anticipated that the construction will not commence before the EA validity expires. The applicant, Sannaspos Solar PV (Pty) Ltd, therefore requires the validity of the EA to be extended by an additional 2 years to ensure that the project can be implemented and all benefits to be realised.

This amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 20 October 2021, 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 fourteen (14) days of the date of the decision, of the Department's decision as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the 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 twenty (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@dffe.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.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



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

Date: 05/10/2023

cc:	Ms Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd	Email: joanne@savannahsa.com
	Dr M Nokwequ	Free State Department: Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs	Email: HOD_office@destea.gov.za
	Vivian Minnaar	Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality	Email: Vivian.minnaar@mangaung.co.za

