

Makoeaneng Solar Power Plant: Comments and Response Report (Appendix C7)

Comments received prior to the release of the Draft Scoping Report for the 30-day review and comment period

Date of comment, format of comment, name of organization/ I&AP	Issue or comment raised (See Appendix C5 & C6 of the Draft Scoping Report)	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
<p>17/03/23 Email SOLA Group (Abigail Forbes)</p>	<p>Dear Christia,</p> <p>I hope that you are well.</p> <p>May we please request the KMZ file of the project locality as well as grid connection route please?</p> <p>Best regards,</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Environamics has acknowledged the I&AP's request but cannot provide the KMZ file due to stipulations set by the developer of the Makoaneng SPP.</p> <p>The farm portion of the development was shared with the I&AP.</p>
<p>22/03/23 Email and Letter Eskom (John Geeringh)</p>	<p>Please find attached Eskom requirements for work at or near Eskom infrastructure as well as a setbacks guideline for renewable energy developments. Please send me KMZ files of the affected properties and proposed development footprint, as well as the proposed Grid connection.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>The attached letter in the aforementioned comments by ESKOM are outlined below:</p> <p>TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN</p> <p>Eskom requirements for work in or near Eskom servitudes.</p> <p>1. Eskom's rights and services must be acknowledged and respected at all times.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Environamics has taken note of the request and the KMZ files were sent to the stakeholder. The details provided on the Eskom requirements for work is acknowledged and will be adhered to.</p>

	<p>2. Eskom shall at all times retain unobstructed access to and egress from its servitudes.</p> <p>3. Eskom's consent does not relieve the developer from obtaining the necessary statutory, land owner or municipal approvals.</p> <p>4. Any cost incurred by Eskom as a result of non-compliance to any relevant environmental legislation will be charged to the developer.</p> <p>5. If Eskom has to incur any expenditure in order to comply with statutory clearances or other regulations as a result of the developer's activities or because of the presence of his equipment or installation within the servitude restriction area, the developer shall pay such costs to Eskom on demand.</p> <p>6. The use of explosives of any type within 500 metres of Eskom's services shall only occur with Eskom's previous written permission. If such permission is granted the developer 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. It is advisable to make application separately in this regard.</p> <p>7. 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's satisfaction.</p> <p>8. Eskom 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 developer,</p>	
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his/her agent, contractors, employees, successors in title, and assignees. The developer indemnifies Eskom 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's services or apparatus or otherwise. Eskom will not be held responsible for damage to the developer's equipment.

9. No mechanical equipment, including mechanical excavators or high lifting machinery, shall be used in the vicinity of Eskom's apparatus and/or services, without prior written permission having been granted by Eskom. If such permission is granted the developer must give at least seven working days' notice prior to the commencement of work. This allows time for arrangements to be made for supervision and/or precautionary instructions to be issued by the relevant Eskom Manager

Note: Where and electrical outage is required, at least fourteen work days are required to arrange it.

10. Eskom'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.

11. Under no circumstances shall rubble, earth or other material be dumped within the servitude restriction area. The developer shall maintain the area concerned to Eskom's satisfaction. The developer shall be liable to Eskom for the cost of any remedial action which has to be carried out by Eskom.

12. The clearances between Eskom'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>13. Equipment shall be regarded electrically live and therefore dangerous at all times.</p> <p>14. 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 an additional safety precaution, Eskom will not approve the erection of houses, or structures occupied or frequented by human beings, under the power lines or within the servitude restriction area.</p> <p>15. Eskom may stipulate any additional requirements to highlight any possible exposure to Customers or Public to coming into contact or be exposed to any dangers of Eskom plant.</p> <p>16. It is required of the developer to familiarise himself with all safety hazards related to Electrical plant.</p> <p>17. Any third party servitudes encroaching on Eskom servitudes shall be registered against Eskom's title deed at the developer's own cost. If such a servitude is brought into being, its existence should be endorsed on the Eskom servitude deed concerned, while the third party's servitude deed must also include the rights of the affected Eskom servitude.</p>	
<p>04/04/23 Email and Letter Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality (Motheo Poee)</p>	<p>Greetings Attached are comments for the above-mentioned application.</p> <p>The above email attachment is outlined below:</p> <p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MAKOANENG SOLAR POWER PLANT NEAR BLOEMFONTEIN, FREE STATE.</p> <p>Reference is made to your letter regarding the above-mentioned application as acknowledgement of being registered as an Interested</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Environamics has acknowledged the I&AP's email and has registered the General Manager to the I&AP database.</p> <p>In addition, the requirements outlined by the Mangaung Municipality to provide hard copies of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) will be accommodated.</p>

	<p>and Affected Party (I&AP). This office requests an invite of all meeting to be held and more information concerning the proposed solar plant. A hard copy or electronic, memory stick of the environmental reports must be submitted to this office for review and comments. In this report, it must clearly be demonstrated in which way the proposed activity will meet Sustainable Development and comply with all other environmental legislation as per requirement of NEMA No. 107 of 1998.</p> <p>Should more information be required, please contact the General Manager: Environmental Management, Mr. L. Lekhu on 051 405 8429, Lebogang.lekhu@mangaung.co.za</p> <p>Kind Regards.</p>	<p>Further, the DSR will provide a clear and comprehensive overview of how the proposed development will meet Sustainable Development and comply with all environmental legislation as per requirement of NEMA No. 107 of 1998.</p>
<p>20/07/2023</p> <p>South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) (Sityhilelo Ngcatasha)</p>	<p>Interim Comment</p> <p>In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)</p> <p>The activities entail the development of an up to 450MW photovoltaic solar facility and associated infrastructure on Portion 1 of the farm Avondzon No. 278 and Farm Nakob No. 750, Remainder of the farm Selborne No. 392, Farm Buxton No. 581 and Farm Goedehoop No. 251, Registration Division Brandfort and Thaba Nchu, situated within the Mangaung Local Municipal area of jurisdiction. The town of Bloemfontein is located approximately 35km southwest of the proposed development (refer to the attached locality maps). The project entails the generation of up to 450MW electrical power through photovoltaic (PV) panels. The total footprint of the project will be approximately 1260hectares (including supporting infrastructure on site). The property on which the facility is to be constructed will be leased by Makoaneng Solar Power Plant (RF) (Pty)</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The interim comment from SAHRA is acknowledged by the EAP.</p> <p>The Draft Scoping Report and subsequent appendices have been uploaded to CASE ID: 20932 on the SAHRIS portal for further review and commenting.</p>

	<p>Ltd from the property owner, for the lifespan of the project (minimum of 20 years).</p> <p>Thank you for notifying the SAHRA of the proposed development of the up to 450MW Makoaneng Solar Power Plant and associated infrastructure on Portion 1 of the farm Avondzon No. 278 and Farm Nakob No. 750, Remainder of the farm Selborne No. 392, Farm Buxton No. 581 and Farm Goedehoop No. 251, in Brandfort and Thaba Nchu, Free State Province.</p> <p>The project entails the generation of up to 450MW electrical power through photovoltaic (PV) panels. The total footprint of the project will be approximately 1260 hectares including supporting infrastructure on site.</p> <p>As the proposed development is undergoing an EA Application process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is done as per section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). This must include an archaeological component, palaeontological component and any other applicable heritage components. The HIA must be conducted as part of the EA Application in terms of NEMA and the NEMA EIA Regulations.</p> <p>The archaeological component of the HIA should follow the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological</p> <p>Component of Impact Assessment Report. The quickest process to follow for the archaeological component would be to contract a qualified archaeologist (see www.asapa.co.za or www.aphp.org.za).</p>	
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	<p>The proposed development area is located mostly within an area of very high and insignificant sensitivity in terms of palaeontological resources as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, a field based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist (See https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html for a list of qualified palaeontologists).</p> <p>The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments. Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.</p> <p>The NEMA EIA documents and appendices must be submitted at the start of the public review periods in order for an informed comment to be issued that can be incorporated into the final reports for submission to the competent authority.</p>	
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