

# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR THE SOYUZ SOLAR PV CLUSTER 1-6 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR BRITSTOWN, PIXLEY KA SEME DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, EMTHANJENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

## Competent Authority Reference Number:

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Reference Number (DFFE): **2023-02-0019**

## Project Description and Location:

Red Rocket South Africa (Pty) Ltd intends to develop the Soyuz Solar PV Cluster 1-6 ("the Project") comprising of six (6) Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facilities (PVSEFs). The purpose of this Project is to generate clean electricity from a renewable energy source (i.e., solar radiation) with minimal environmental impact in order to contribute to the National energy grid and/or any Private off takers (where applicable).

This development is situated approximately 14km South-east of Britstown in the Northern Cape Province. Each of the six (6) PVSEFs will fall under a different applicant.

The applicant names with respective generating capacities are as follows:

- Soyuz 1 Solar PV Park (Pty) Ltd - 240MW
- Soyuz 2 Solar PV Park (Pty) Ltd – 300MW
- Soyuz 3 Solar PV Park (Pty) Ltd – 240MW
- Soyuz 4 Solar PV Park (Pty) Ltd – 300MW
- Soyuz 5 Solar PV Park (Pty) Ltd – 150MW
- Soyuz 6 Solar PV Park (Pty) Ltd – 240MW

The proposed PVSEFs consist of large arrays of solar panels, which are made up of individual solar cells that convert sunlight into electricity through a process called the photovoltaic effect. The panel design is based on bifacial solar photovoltaic modules installed on single axis tracker mounting structure at a height of up to 6 metres (m) above ground level. A Battery Energy Storage System ("BESS") will be installed to optimize the PVSEF's energy output and reduce curtailment. The Direct Current (DC) electricity generated via the solar arrays will be converted into alternating current (AC) electricity through an inverter. The on-site substation will manage the flow of electricity from the solar panels and battery energy storage system to the power grid. Supporting infrastructure includes an operations and maintenance (O&M) building, access roads, fencing, and security measures to protect the facility.

## Property Location:

The proposed development will be located on:

Portion 3 of Farm 145 - Soyuz 1 Solar PV Park (30°45'26.29"S; 23°32'9.10"E)

Portion 2 of Farm 97 Pettepot - Soyuz 2 Solar PV Park and Soyuz 3 Solar PV Park (30°42'28.41"S; 23°34'49.07"E)

Portion 5 of Farm 127 Twyfelhoek - Soyuz 4 Solar PV Park (30°41'33.54"S; 23°37'10.01"E)

Portion 1 of Farm 127 – Twyfelhoek Soyuz 5 Solar PV Park (30°43'36.85"S; 23°33'45.76"E)

Portion 1 of Farm 91 - Soyuz 6 Solar PV Park (30°40'32.67"S; 23°45'27.71"E)

## Project Progress and Participation:

Terramanzi Group (Pty) Ltd has been appointed to undertake the **Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment** (S&EIA) process to obtain environmental authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act ("NEMA") Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations (2014), as amended. The Project is in the Scoping Phase of the S&EIA Process.

**Stakeholders are hereby invited to register** as Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs") for this Project. I&APs should please use **221101** as the reference number when commenting. All comments must be accompanied by the name of the I&AP, contact details (preferred method of notification, e.g. e-mail address or fax number) and a disclosure of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application, to the contact persons indicated below.

The **draft Scoping Report** will be made available **electronically** for comment at the following website link for a period of 30 calendar days from **20 March 2023** up to and including **21 April 2023**.

<https://terramanzi.egnyte.com/fl/Eujj33H3DU>

Please submit all comments directly to the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), as follows:

- E-mail: [comments@terramanzi.co.za](mailto:comments@terramanzi.co.za)
- For Attention (the EAP): **Wendy Mey**
- Tel no: (021) 701 5228
- Visit us at [www.terramanzi.co.za](http://www.terramanzi.co.za)

