



ENVIROROOTS

**ACWA POWER SOLARRESERVE REDSTONE SOLAR THERMAL
POWER PLANT RF (PTY) LTD**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

IN SUPPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATION PROCESS

FOR

**THE PROPOSED ACWA POWER SOLARRESERVE REDSTONE
SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER PLANT**

ON

**THE REMAINING EXTENT OF FARM NO. 469, HAY
REGISTRATION DIVISION, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

DATE: 6 JUNE 2018

Tel/Cell: 084 444 2414

Email: chantel.enviroroots@gmail.com

Reg No: 2017/322089/07

Director: C. Muller (B.Sc. Hons. Environmental Science)



PROJECT DETAILS:

PROJECT TITLE: Public Participation Report in support of the Environmental Application Process for the proposed ACWA Power SolarReserve Redstone Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant on the Remaining Extent of Farm No. 469, Hay Registration Division, Northern Cape Province

CONSULTANT: EnviroRoots (Pty) Ltd

CONTACT PERSON: Chantel Muller
690 Rubenstein Drive

ADDRESS: Moreleta Park
Pretoria

0181

MOBILE: 084 444 2414

EMAIL: chantel@enviroroots.co.za

SIGNATURE:

APPLICANT DETAILS:

APPLICANT: ACWA Power SolarReserve Redstone Solar Thermal Power Plant RF (Pty) Ltd

CONTACT PERSON: Krishnan Moonsamy (Terence) Govender
PO Box 650200

ADDRESS: Benmore
2010

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 011 582 6880

MOBILE: 083 449 0433

EMAIL: Terence.Govender@SolarReserve.com

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION:

PERSON/INSTITUTION:

DATE:

Environmental Management Assistance (Pty) Ltd

06 June 2018

ACWA Power SolarReserve Redstone Solar Thermal Power Plant RF (Pty) Ltd

06 June 2018



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND UNITS OF MEASURE

AC	Alternative Current
BA	Basic Assessment
BID	Background Information Document
CA	Competent Authority
CPA	Communal Property Association
C&RR	Comments and Responses Report
CSP	Concentrated Solar Power
DBAR	Draft Basic Assessment Report
DC	Direct Current
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EMA	Environmental Management Assistance (Pty) Ltd
GN	Government Notice
ha	Hectares
I&AP	Interested & Affected Party
km	Kilometres
m²	Square Metres
mm	Millimetres
MW	Megawatt
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)
NEMBA	National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No.10 of 2004)
PPP	Public Participation Process
PV	Photovoltaic
RE	Remaining Extent



1 INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT LOCALITY

The Applicant, ACWA Power SolarReserve Redstone Solar Thermal Power Plant RF (Pty) Ltd, proposes the development, construction and operation of the ACWA Power SolarReserve Redstone Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant ("PV Power Project") on the Remaining Extent of Farm No. 469, Hay Registration Division, Northern Cape Province ("Project Site"). The planned PV Power Project will be situated approximately 30 km east of Postmasburg in the Northern Cape Province, adjacent to the approved ACWA Power SolarReserve Redstone Solar Thermal Power Plant ("Redstone CSP Project"). The Project Site falls within the jurisdiction of the Tsantsabane Local Municipality and the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality. **Figure 1** indicates the Project Site within its regional setting whereas **Figure 2** indicates the PV Power Project locality in relation to the Redstone CSP Project.

The Applicant has received an Environmental Authorisation, with DEA reference number 12/12/20/2316, to construct and operate the Redstone CSP Project on the Project Site. The Redstone PV Power Project is designed to allow the Redstone CSP Power Project to generate renewable green energy for self-consumption in order to operate and run the auxiliary load requirements of the Redstone CSP Power Project.

The PV Power Project will have a generation capacity of up to 19.5 MW Peak (DC) which is a design capacity of ~15 MWAC, with up to 30 MW hours of battery storage. The proposed PV Power Plant utilises proven technology which produces energy by directly converting solar irradiation into electricity. Power is generated by the solar cells as long as they are exposed to sunlight. PV cell technology has been in continuous operation on earth as well as in space (satellites) for over 30 years. The technology is commercially proven and large multi-megawatt generation plants have been operating since the 1990s.

The development of the PV Power Project requires Environmental Authorisation (EA) by means of a Basic Assessment (BA) Process and triggers the following Listed Activities:

- Listing Notice 1 (GN No. 983 of 4 Dec '14 as amended by GN No. 327 of 7 Apr '17):
 - Activity 1: Construction of a PV Plant to generate up to 19.5 MW of power to supply the auxiliary load requirements for the Redstone CSP Project to avoid the usage of an external power source;
 - Activity 27: The clearing of more than 1 ha but less than 20 ha of indigenous vegetation;
 - Activity 30: There are potentially protected species and ecologically sensitive areas located on site which are considered important in terms of NEMBA;
- Listing Notice 3: (GN No. 985 of 4 Dec '14 as amended by GN No. 324 of 7 Apr '17):
 - Activity 12: The clearing of more than 300 m² of indigenous vegetation.

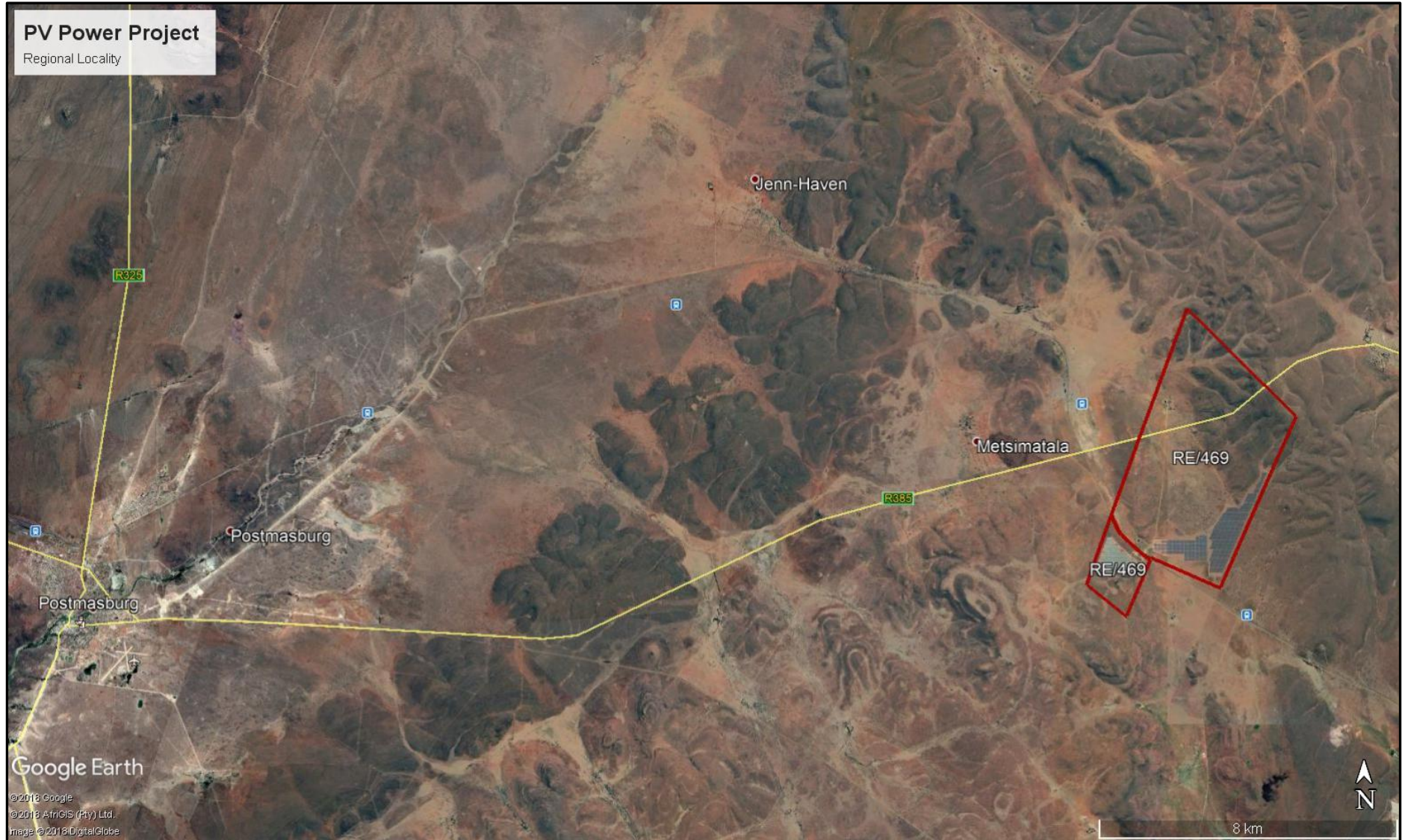


Figure 1: The proposed Project Site within its regional Locality

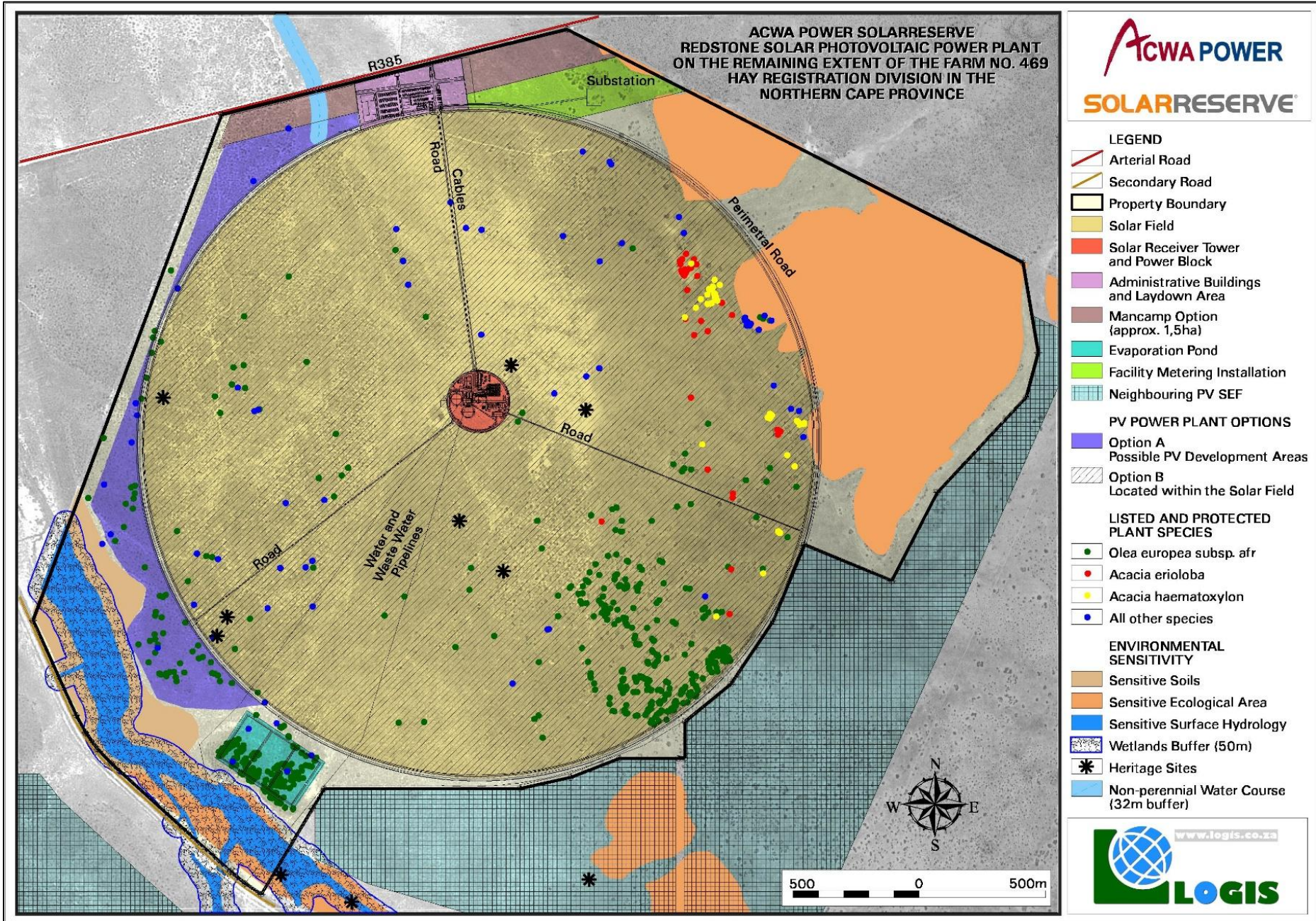


Figure 2: PV Power Project in relation to the approved Redstone CSP Project



2 OBJECTIVES OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The purpose of this Public Participation Process is:

- To provide Background Information to the proposed activity;
- To provide a locality map indicating the locality of the proposed activity;
- To notify potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) of the Environmental Process to be followed in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended;
- To obtain issues and concerns from potential I&APs regarding the Environmental Process to be followed and the proposed activity; and
- To address issues and concerns as part of the Public Participation Process (PPP).

Public Participation is important for the following reasons:

- It provides an opportunity for I&APs, Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) and the Competent Authority (CA) to obtain clear, accurate and understandable information about the environmental impacts of the proposed activity or implications of a decision;
- It provides I&APs with an opportunity to voice their support, concerns and questions regarding the project application or decision;
- It provides I&APs with the opportunity of suggesting ways for reducing or mitigating any negative impacts of the project and for enhancing its positive impacts;
- It enables an applicant to incorporate the needs, preferences and values of affected parties into its application;
- It provides opportunities for clearing up misunderstandings about technical issues, resolving disputes and reconciling conflicting interests;
- It is an important aspect of securing transparency and accountability in decision-making; and
- It contributes toward maintaining a healthy, vibrant democracy.

3 IDENTIFICATION OF I&APs

The following groups were identified as potential I&APs:

- Relevant Departmental Representatives;
- Relevant Institutional/Organisational Representatives;
- Relevant Municipal Representatives;
- The Ward Councillor; and
- Surrounding Landowners/Occupiers.

It should be noted that, following the project initiation, correspondence was directed to all registered I&APs. Accordingly, to ensure that all potential I&APs were made aware of the project and had the



opportunity to register, the initial notification process was as thorough as possible. For the list of identified I&APs refer to **APPENDIX 1**.

4 NOTIFICATION OF I&APs

4.1 SITE NOTICES

To inform surrounding and immediate communities, landowners and farm workers of the Redstone PV Power Project, six (6) A2 (600 mm x 420 mm) notices were erected at visible and accessible locations throughout the broader study area. Photographic evidence of the site notices erected on 24 April 2018 is attached as **APPENDIX 2**.

4.2 NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

To inform a broad base of individuals who might want to register as I&APs, newspaper advertisements were placed in two (2) separate newspapers. For proof of advertisements placed, refer to **APPENDIX 3**. Advertisements were placed in the following newspapers:

- Thursday, 26 April 2018: Page 58 of the Diamond Fields Advertiser
- Thursday, 26 April 2018: Page 11 of the Kalahari Bulletin

4.3 WRITTEN NOTIFICATIONS

Identified I&APs were directly informed of the application process by means of email of Background Information Documents (BIDs) and also by means of SMS's for those with no email access. Refer to **APPENDIX 4** for the BID. Proof of written notifications sent/provided is attached as follows:

- **APPENDIX 5** – I&APs were notified by means of email.
- **APPENDIX 6** – I&APs were notified by means of SMS.

5 CONSULTATIONS

5.1 REGULATORY CONSULTATION

A telephonic discussion was held with the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) case officer for the Project on 19 April 2018, to discuss the Redstone PV Power Project and its development alternatives. DEA indicated that a formal pre-application consultation meeting would not be required and provided the Applicant with a list of information required. A summary of the telephone discussion is attached as **APPENDIX 7**.

Copies of the Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) were provided to the Competent and Commenting Authorities indicated in **Table 1** below for their review and to provide them with the opportunity to comment on the draft documents. For proof of the DBAR delivered to the relevant entities refer to **APPENDIX 14**. Follow up telephone discussions were held with the contact person



from each Department as well as follow up emails sent to request comment on the DBAR (refer to **APPENDIX 15**). Support for the Redstone PV Power Project was received from the Tsantsabane Local Municipality, dated 05 June 2018 (refer to **APPENDIX 13**).

Table 1: Authorities provided with DBAR during public review period 4th of May 2018 to the 5th of June 2018

Entity	Contact Person	Comments received (Yes/No)
Department of Environmental Affairs	Ms. Mmamohale Kabasa	Yes (APPENDIX 16)
Department of Environmental Affairs and Nature Conservation (Northern Cape Province)	Mr. Bryan Fischer	No
Department of Water and Sanitation	Mr. Abe Abrahams	No
Tsantsabane Local Municipality	Mr. Elroy Phete/ Mr. Julius Theys	No

5.2 MUNICIPAL AND COMMUNAL PROPERTY ASSOCIATION MEETING

A meeting was held with the Tsantsabane Local Municipality, where the Ward Councillors for Ward 7 and Ward 3 as well as with the Chairperson and Secretary of the Groenwater Communal Property Association (CPA) as adjacent landowners (on Remaining Extent and Portion 4 of Farm No. 453, Hay Registration Division) to the proposed Redstone PV Power Project were present.

Information pertaining to the meeting held on 10 May 2018 is attached as **APPENDIX 8** and includes the following information:

- Meeting Minutes; and
- Attendance Register; and
- Meeting Presentation.

5.3 LANDOWNER CONSULTATION

A summary of the Land Owner consultations/notifications is provided in **Table 2** below.

Table 2: Summary of Land Owner Consultations

Property	Land Owner	Consultation
RE/469	Mr. Allan Scholtz	Summary of meeting attached as APPENDIX 9 followed up with email.
1/469	Mr. Andries de Klerk	Telephone consultation followed up with email (APPENDIX 9).
RE/468	Ms. Mavis Thele/Mr. Kgotso Moeketsi (State Representatives)	Email notifications sent to Ms. Thele (APPENDIX 5 & APPENDIX 11) followed by telephone discussion during which she indicated that the notification should be sent to Mr



Property	Land Owner	Consultation
		Moeketsi as well. Email notification was sent to Mr. Moeketsi (APPENDIX 9). No responses received.
RE/457	Mr. Jaap Steyn	Telephone consultation and meeting followed up with email (APPENDIX 9)
Farm 456	Mr. Gert Vermeulen	Telephone consultation followed up with email (APPENDIX 9)
1/455	Danielskuil Plaaslike Oorgangraad	Email notifications sent to Kgatelopele Local Municipality (APPENDIX 5 & APPENDIX 11). No responses received.
RE/453	Groenwater Communal Property Association	Summary of meeting attached as APPENDIX 8 .
4/453	Groenwater Communal Property Association	Summary of meeting attached as APPENDIX 8 .
2/469	Transnet	Email notification sent to Transnet (APPENDIX 5 & APPENDIX 11). No responses received.
3/469	Transnet	Email notification sent to Transnet (APPENDIX 5 & APPENDIX 11). No responses received.

6 REGISTRATIONS AND COMMENTS RECEIVED

Identified I&APs were encouraged to submit their Registration and Comment Sheets to Environmental Management Assistance (Pty) Ltd (EMA), the EAP for the Redstone PV Power Project, in order for them to receive further correspondence regarding the proposed Redstone PV Power Project. Over and above the Registration and Comment Sheets, I&AP registrations and comments were also received in the form of emails and text message. The registrations and comments received are attached as **APPENDIX 10**.

7 PROJECT SUPPORT

A letter of support via text message (SMS) was received from the Secretary for the Groenwater Communal Property Association. The Groenwater CPA, as adjacent landowner and community nearest to the Redstone PV Power Project, pledged their support to the Redstone PV Power Project, and reiterated that the community would like the development to proceed. Letters of support have furthermore been received from the Tsantsabane Local Municipality and from the land owner of the Project Site. These letters of support are provided in **APPENDIX 13**.

It should be noted that no objections to the Redstone PV Power Project has been received from any public entities/persons, including adjacent land owners.



8 I&AP NOTIFICATION OF REPORT AVAILABILITY

I&APs were informed of the availability of the Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) for Public Comment by means of email and text message (SMS). This was done in order to afford the public as well as I&APs with the opportunity to comment on the DBAR and provide their input, comments or questions in writing to the EAP. Refer to **APPENDIX 11** for the notifications.

9 ADDRESSING COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

A Comments and Response Report (C&RR) have been compiled as part of the PPP for the proposed Redstone PV Power Project. This document records the matters of concern, questions and suggestions contributed by stakeholders during the course of the Environmental Authorisation process in terms of the relevant legislation. The C&RR also captures the responses provided by relevant parties in relation to any matters raised or queries posed. The C&RR is attached as **APPENDIX 12**.

Please note:

- The C&RR is considered an active and dynamic document, which is updated throughout the PPP as more comments and concerns are raised.
- However, following submission of the final documents to the DEA, all additional comments should be directed directly to the DEA.

10 NOTIFYING I&APs OF THE DECISION

Following the verdict by the DEA on whether to grant or reject the application all registered I&APs will be informed of the decision as well as the appeal process and its timeframes for submission.



LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: I&AP REGISTER

APPENDIX 2: PROOF OF SITE NOTICES

APPENDIX 3: PROOF OF ADVERTISEMENTS PLACED

APPENDIX 4: NOTIFICATION LETTER AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

APPENDIX 5: NOTIFICATION BY MEANS OF EMAIL

APPENDIX 6: NOTIFICATION BY MEANS OF SMS

APPENDIX 7: SUMMARY OF DEA CONSULTATION

APPENDIX 8: MUNICIPAL AND GROENWATER COMMUNAL PROPERTY ASSOCIATION MEETING

APPENDIX 9: CONSULTATION WITH PROJECT SITE LAND OWNER AND OTHER SURROUNDING
LAND OWNERS

APPENDIX 10:I&AP REGISTRATIONS AND COMMENTS RECEIVED

APPENDIX 11:I&AP NOTIFICATION OF DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR COMMENTING

APPENDIX 12:COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

APPENDIX 13:PROJECT SUPPORT

APPENDIX 14:PROOF OF DRAFT BAR DELIVERED TO COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

APPENDIX 15:FOLLOW-UP EMAILS TO COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

APPENDIX 16:CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
AFFAIRS

APPENDIX 17:CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES
AGENCY



APPENDIX 1: I&AP REGISTER



APPENDIX 2: PROOF OF SITE NOTICES



APPENDIX 3: PROOF OF ADVERTISEMENTS PLACED



**APPENDIX 4:
NOTIFICATION LETTER AND BACKGROUND
INFORMATION DOCUMENT**



APPENDIX 5: NOTIFICATION BY MEANS OF EMAIL



APPENDIX 6: NOTIFICATION BY MEANS OF SMS



APPENDIX 7: SUMMARY OF DEA CONSULTATION



**APPENDIX 8:
MUNICIPAL AND GROENWATER COMMUNAL PROPERTY
ASSOCIATION MEETING**



**APPENDIX 9:
CONSULTATION WITH PROJECT SITE LAND OWNER
AND OTHER SURROUNDING LAND OWNERS**



APPENDIX 10: I&AP REGISTRATIONS AND COMMENTS RECEIVED



APPENDIX 11:
I&AP NOTIFICATION OF DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT
REPORT FOR COMMENTING



APPENDIX 12: COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT



APPENDIX 13: PROJECT SUPPORT



**APPENDIX 14:
PROOF OF DRAFT BAR DELIVERED TO COMPETENT
AUTHORITIES**



APPENDIX 15: FOLLOW-UP EMAILS TO COMPETENT AUTHORITIES



**APPENDIX 16:
CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**



APPENDIX 17:
CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM THE SOUTH
AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY