

Date: 10 August 2021

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) & WATER USE LICENSE APPLICATION (WULA)  
FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF BOSCH HOEK 33MW PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR PLANT,  
BALGOWAN, UMGENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, UMGUNGUNDLOVU DISTRICT, KWAZULU-NATAL  
MIDLANDS**

Fuze Business Initiative (Pty) Ltd (applicant) proposes to construct and operate a 33 Megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) solar plant with associated infrastructure at Balgowan approximately 7km east of Nottingham Road in Umgeni Local Municipality in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands. The application area is 60 hectares in extent and comprises Portions 69, 92, 93 (inclusive of 71-79) and 84 of the farm Bosch Hoek 1219FT.

In terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations of 2014 (GNR 326) and its associated listing notices (GNR 327, 324 and 327) the project requires environmental authorisation from the Kwazulu-Natal Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs (KZN EDTEA) through a full Scoping and EIA process. The application site is also situated within 500m of a wetland and requires a Water Use License for Section 21 (c) and (i) water uses triggered in terms of the National Water Act (Act 36/1998) (NWA) from the KZN Department of Water and Sanitation and is subject to a WULA Procedure in line with the NWA WULA Regulations of 2017. The applications are subject to a public participation process (PPP).

Naledzi Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd (Naledzi) has been appointed as the independent environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to undertake the EIA process and WULA Procedure and conduct the required PPP for the project.

This letter serves as notification of the development and we draw your attention to the following:

- An invitation to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP)
- The availability of a Background Information Document (BID) for comment

**Register as an I&AP**

You are hereby invited to register as an I&AP on the project and to participate in the process by completing the enclosed Comments and Registration Form sheet included with the attached BID.

**Background Information Document (BID) available for public review**

The enclosed BID provides an overview of the EIA and WUL Procedure and invites I&APs to participate and register on the process. A period of 30 day from **13 August to 13 September 2021** is provided to review the BID and submit comments and concerns regarding the application.

The BID and associated Comment and Registration Form, are available for public comment on the Naledzi website at [www.naledzi.co.za/publicdocuments](http://www.naledzi.co.za/publicdocuments)

Copies of the BID are also available in hard copy at the following public venues:

- Nottingham Farmer's Hall & Library (Open Wednesday, Friday 9:00-12:30; Saturday 9:00 – 11:30)
- The Indezi River Creamery Shop and at the 'The Reeds at Balgowan' Security Gate

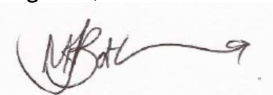
Please send your comments together with your name, contact details and interest in the project to the EAP, Marissa Botha (Naledzi) at [botham@naledzi.co.za](mailto:botham@naledzi.co.za) or contact us on 084-226-5584 / 012-003-93383 for more information. Registrations and comments must be submitted on or before **13 September 2021**.

**What's next?**

All comments and issues received during the public registration and comment period on the BID will be incorporated into an Issues and Response Report (IRR), and responded to. We will prepare a draft Scoping Report which will be made available for public review for 30 calendar days. The IRR will be attached to the Scoping Report. The report and supporting documentation will be made available on the Naledzi website and at public venues. A public meeting will be scheduled to facilitate comments on the Scoping Report. The details of these tasks will be communicated to I&APs via email.

Thank you for your participation.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Botha', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marissa Botha (*Pr. Sci. Nat*)  
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