

Dale Holder

From: John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za>
Sent: 08 September 2020 10:14 AM
To: Dale Holder
Subject: RE: Notification of Amendment Assessment Report - Battery Energy Storage Bloemsmond Solar Projects

I have no specific comments on this one, but keep me informed along the way with all documentation and decisions.

Regards

John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat)(EAPASA)
Senior Consultant Environmental Management
Land and Rights
Eskom Transmission Division
Megawatt Park, D1Y42, Maxwell Drive, Sunninghill, Sandton.
P O Box 1091, Johannesburg, 2000.
Tel: 011 516 7233
Cell: 083 632 7663
Fax: 086 661 4064
E-mail: john.geeringh@eskom.co.za

From: Dale Holder [mailto:dale@cape-eaprac.co.za]
Sent: 07 September 2020 02:14 PM
To: jacotheun@hotmail.co.za; 'dyasons@totmail.co.za'; 'energy@birdlife.org.za'; Carolyn Ah Shene-Verdoorn; piet@karsten.co.za; 'mashuduma@daff.gov.za' (mashuduma@daff.gov.za); donaldl@gcis.gov.za; 'pheladi.masipa@energy.gov.za'; smancotywa@environment.gov.za; 'sundaymabaso@dmr.gov.za'; shibambus@dwa.gov.za; 'cloetes@dwa.gov.za'; cebekhulum@dwa.gov.za; t.kuhn@eazi.co.za; constanth@ewt.org.za; John Geeringh; jaco@it5.co.za; mayor@kaigarib.gov.za; 'clarkem@kaigarib.gov.za'; 'mackayj@kaigarib.gov.za'; 'mm@kaigarib.gov.za'; mcphersonv@kaigarib.gov.za; nicolenec@karsten.co.za; kstrauss@lantic.net; 'melaniem@l2b.co.za'; tamai.hore@nersa.org.za; siphwiwe.khumalo@nersa.org.za; 'ratha.timothy@gmail.com' (ratha.timothy@gmail.com); 'cfortune@agri.ncape.gov.za'; BFisher@ncpg.gov.za; oriba.denc@gmail.com; 'Elsabe Swart (elsabe.dtec@gmail.com)'; 'Samantha De la Fontaine (sdelafontaine@gmail.com)'; lucindavanwyk@ncpg.gov.za; Jan Fourie; koegelenbergJ@sentech.co.za; Wiehann van Zyl; 'strohl@cca.co.za'; 'phine@sahra.org.za' (phine@sahra.org.za); 'atiplady@ska.ac.za'; williesnyman@gmail.com
Subject: Notification of Amendment Assessment Report - Battery Energy Storage Bloemsmond Solar Projects

Dear Registered / Potential Interested and Affected Party.

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT AMENDMENT ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED PV PROJECTS ON PORTIONS 5 AND 14 OF THE FARM BLOEMSMOND 455.

DEFF Reference No Bloemsmond 1: 14/12/16/3/2/815
DEFF Reference No Bloemsmond 2: 14/12/16/3/2/816
DEFF Reference No Bloemsmond 3: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2042
DEFF Reference No Bloemsmond 4: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2043
DEFF Reference No Bloemsmond 5: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2044

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the availability of Draft Amendment Assessment Reports for the abovementioned projects authorised on portions 5 and 14 of the farm Bloemsmond 455.

Documentation is also available for download from the following dedicated download links:

Bloemsmond 1

https://eaprac-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/person/dale_cape-eaprac_co_za/E10FowWfiNIBqiCnf4IYX8EB-n-lpanKR9_U7V592zmtEA?e=lsapKH

Bloemsmond 2

https://eaprac-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/person/dale_cape-eaprac_co_za/EiilCJdkV-9Pkm92MBfk-A8BGRb9t6R3ShbZWsbXStBAGg?e=uUVeJS

Bloemsmond 3

https://eaprac-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/person/dale_cape-eaprac_co_za/Ej4TSMVJj9hOtfwYlckNNH0BOsX0vliWkiC8q2H-OEMbEw?e=xxkhTE

Bloemsmond 4

https://eaprac-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/person/dale_cape-eaprac_co_za/EriQ35isEahPkkzOOSKW-QsBx03_onerypoua3zNr82ZRg?e=1qyRBX

Bloemsmond 5

https://eaprac-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/person/dale_cape-eaprac_co_za/Eugc6hA2LEBMkdilLvEOd3wBC9BRRcPSj3epanS0PWWHcw?e=8aZJZe

Please contact this office should you have any further queries in this regard.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder | 082 448 9225
SENIOR CONSULTANT | ECO | GIS
Ndip Nat. Con. (Pretoria Tech)

T: 044 874 0365
F: 044 874 0432
17 Progress Street, George
P O Box 2070, George 6530



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Our advisers and staff are working remotely and are contactable via email or on their cellphones.



We will advise when physical meetings and office visits can resume. Our commitment to offering you service excellence remains unchanged.

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Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: 08 September 2020 03:09 PM
To: John Geeringh
Subject: RE: Notification of Amendment Assessment Report - Battery Energy Storage Bloemsmond Solar Projects

Dear John

Thank you for your mail.

I confirm, I will keep you registered and informed on all 5 of the Bloemsmond Amendments.

Regards,

Dale Holder | 082 448 9225
SENIOR CONSULTANT | ECO | GIS
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From: John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za>
Sent: 08 September 2020 10:14 AM
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: Notification of Amendment Assessment Report - Battery Energy Storage Bloemsmond Solar Projects

I have no specific comments on this one, but keep me informed along the way with all documentation and decisions.

Regards

John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat)(EAPASA)
Senior Consultant Environmental Management
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P O Box 1091, Johannesburg, 2000.
Tel: 011 516 7233
Cell: 083 632 7663
Fax: 086 661 4064
E-mail: john.geeringh@eskom.co.za

From: Dale Holder [<mailto:dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>]

Sent: 07 September 2020 02:14 PM

To: jacothleun@hotmail.co.za; 'dyasons@totmail.co.za'; 'energy@birdlife.org.za'; Carolyn Ah Shene-Verdoorn; piet@karsten.co.za; 'mashuduma@daff.gov.za' (mashuduma@daff.gov.za); donaldl@gcis.gov.za; 'pheladi.masipa@energy.gov.za'; smancotywa@environment.gov.za; 'sundaymabaso@dmr.gov.za'; shibambus@dwa.gov.za; 'cloetes@dwa.gov.za'; cebekhulum@dwa.gov.za; t.kuhn@eazi.co.za; constanth@ewt.org.za; John Geeringh; jaco@it5.co.za; mayor@kaigarib.gov.za; 'clarkem@kaigarib.gov.za'; 'mackayj@kaigarib.gov.za'; 'mm@kaigarib.gov.za'; mcpersonv@kaigarib.gov.za; nicolenec@karsten.co.za; kstrauss@lantic.net; 'melaniem@l2b.co.za'; tamai.hore@nersa.org.za; siphiwe.khumalo@nersa.org.za; 'ratha.timothy@gmail.com' (ratha.timothy@gmail.com); 'cfortune@agri.ncape.gov.za'; BFisher@ncpg.gov.za; oriba.denc@gmail.com; 'Elsabe Swart (elsabe.dtec@gmail.com)'; 'Samantha De la Fontaine (sdelafontaine@gmail.com)'; lucindavanwyk@ncpg.gov.za; Jan Fourie; koegelenbergJ@sentech.co.za; Wiehann van Zyl; 'strohl@cca.co.za'; 'phine@sahra.org.za' (phine@sahra.org.za); 'atiplady@ska.ac.za'; williesnyman@gmail.com

Subject: Notification of Amendment Assessment Report - Battery Energy Storage Bloemsmond Solar Projects

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Bloemsmond 2

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Bloemsmond 3

https://eaprac-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/dale_cape-eaprac_co_za/Ej4TSMVJj9hOtfwYlckNNH0BOsX0vliWKiC8q2H-OEMbEw?e=xxkhTE

Bloemsmond 4

https://eaprac-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/dale_cape-eaprac_co_za/EriQ35isEahPkkzOOSKW-QsBx03_onerypoua3zNr82ZRg?e=1qyRBX

Bloemsmond 5

https://eaprac-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/dale_cape-eaprac_co_za/Eugc6hA2LEBMkdilLvEOd3wBC9BRRcPSj3epanS0PWWHcw?e=8aZJZe

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Dale Holder

From: Seoka Lekota <SLekota@environment.gov.za>
Sent: 01 October 2020 12:09 AM
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Portia Makitla
Subject: Comments on the Amendment Assessment Report - Battery Energy Storage Bloemsmond Solar Projects
Attachments: Bloemsmond 1 BESS comments.pdf; Bloemsmond 2 BESS comments.pdf; Bloemsmond 3 BESS comments.pdf; Bloemsmond 4 BESS comments.pdf; Bloemsmond 5 BESS comments.pdf

Dear Dale

Please find attached our comments for implementation.



Seoka Lekota
Deputy Director: Biodiversity Mainstreaming EIA
Department of Environment Forestry & Fisheries
Tell: +27 (12) 399 9573
Email: SLekota@environment.gov.za

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Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/815

Enquiries: Ms Portia Makitla

Telephone: 012 399 9411 **E-mail:** pmakitla@environment.gov.za

Mr. Dale Holder
Cape EAPrac Environmental Assessment Practitioners
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Telephone Number: +27 (44) 874 0365
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT EA AND EMPr AMENDMENT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT APPLICATION FOR THE BLOEMSMOND 1 TO INCLUDE THE BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the aforementioned report.

According to different specialist updates, the construction of the proposed battery storage system will not result in any additional impacts. Therefore, the Directorate Biodiversity Conservation does not have any objection to the proposed amendment application provided that the original recommendations and mitigation measures will be complied of.

Yours faithfully

Mr Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Environmental affairs
Date: 25/09/2020



environment, forestry
& fisheries

Department: Environment, Forestry
and Fisheries
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Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/816

Enquiries: Ms Portia Makitla

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6530

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Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT EA AND EMPr AMENDMENT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT APPLICATION FOR THE BLOEMSMOND 2 TO INCLUDE THE BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS), NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the aforementioned report.

According to different specialist updates, the construction of the proposed battery storage system will not result in any additional risk due to the fact that the BESS consists of battery storage units in a containers and would not change the nature of impacts associated with the solar facility.

Therefore, the Directorate Biodiversity Conservation does not have any objection to the proposed amendment application provided that the original recommendations and mitigation measures will be complied of.

Yours faithfully

Mr Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Environmental affairs
Date: 25/09/2020



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Department: Environment, Forestry
and Fisheries
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Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2042

Enquiries: Ms Portia Makitla

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Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT EA AND EMPr AMENDMENT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT APPLICATION FOR THE BLOEMSMOND 3 TO INCLUDE THE BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS), NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the aforementioned report.

According to different specialist updates, the construction of the proposed battery storage system will not result in any additional risk due to the fact that the BESS consists of battery storage units in a containers and would not change the nature of impacts associated with the solar facility.

Therefore, the Directorate Biodiversity Conservation does not have any objection to the proposed amendment application provided that the original recommendations and mitigation measures will be complied of.

Yours faithfully

Mr Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Environmental affairs
Date: 25/09/2020



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Department: Environment, Forestry
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Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2043

Enquiries: Ms Portia Makitla

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Telephone Number: +27 (44) 874 0365
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT EA AND EMPr AMENDMENT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT APPLICATION FOR THE BLOEMSMOND 4 TO INCLUDE THE BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS), NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the aforementioned report.

According to different specialist updates, the total footprint of the study area is approximately 300ha and the BESS will occupy less than 5ha area therefore; construction of the proposed battery storage system will not result in any additional risk.

Therefore, the Directorate Biodiversity Conservation does not have any objection to the proposed amendment application provided that the original recommendations and mitigation measures will be complied of.

Yours faithfully

Mr Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Environmental affairs
Date: 25/09/2020



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Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2044

Enquiries: Ms Portia Makitla

Telephone: 012 399 9411 **E-mail:** pmakitla@environment.gov.za

Mr. Dale Holder
Cape EAPrac Environmental Assessment Practitioners
P O Box 2070
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Telephone Number: +27 (44) 874 0365
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT EA AND EMPr AMENDMENT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT APPLICATION FOR THE BLOEMSMOND 5 TO INCLUDE THE BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS), NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the aforementioned report.

According to different specialist updates, the construction of the proposed battery storage system will not result in any additional risk due to the fact that the BESS consists of battery storage units in a containers and would not change the nature of impacts associated with the solar facility.

Therefore, the Directorate Biodiversity Conservation does not have any objection to the proposed amendment application provided that the original recommendations and mitigation measures will be complied of.

Yours faithfully

Mr Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Environmental affairs
Date: 25/09/2020



environment, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/815/AM2

Enquirer: Zamelanga Langa

Telephone: (012) 399 9389 E-mail: zlanga@environment.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Telephone Number: (044) 874 0365
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / EMAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT AMENDMENT REPORT FOR THE APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 26 APRIL 2016 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 100MW AEP BLOEMSMOND SOLAR 1 PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY ON PORTION 5 AND 14 OF THE FARM BLOEMMOND 455, NORTH EAST OF THE TOWN OF KEIMOES WITHIN THE KAI IGARAB LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the above-mentioned project dated 26 April 2016, the application for amendment of the EA received 18 August 2020, the amended draft amendment report received by the Department on 07 September 2020 and the acknowledgement of receipt emailed on 07 September 2020, refer.

The Department has the following comments on the abovementioned amendment application:

(a) Alternatives

Please provide a description of any identified alternatives for the proposed activity (battery storage facility) that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected by the activity as per the requirements of GN R.982 of 2014, as amended. Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation. If no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist the motivation for not considering such must be provided

(b) Public Participation Process

- The following information must be submitted with the final Amendment Report:
 - A list of registered interested and affected parties as per Regulation 42 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended;
 - Copies of all comments received during the draft Amendment Report comment period; and
 - A comment and response report which contains all comments received and responses provided to all comments and issues raised during the public participation process for the draft BAR. Please note that comments received from this Department must also form part of the comment and response report.

- Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft Amendment Report from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final BAR.
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final Amendment Report. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

(c) Environmental Management Programme

The amended EMPr must also include the following:

- All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the Amendment Report and the specialist studies conducted.
- An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
- Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.
- The amended EMPr must include detailed fire management and protection plan.
- In addition to the above, the amended EMPr must comply with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

(d) Specialist Declaration of Interest and undertaking under Oath

The final amendment report must include the Specialist Declaration of Interest of all specialists who were commissioned for the amendment process and these must be submitted in the Department's template.

The latest available Departmental templates are available at:

<https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.

(e) EAP declaration of Interest and undertaking under oath

The submitted amendment report has included the EAP's declaration which was taken from the application for amendment of environmental authorisations. Please note that for submission of any report to the Department, there is a Department's template for Declaration of EAP which is inclusive of an undertaking under oath. You are therefore requested to submit the EAP's Declaration in the correct template and this template can be obtained from the Departmental website at:

<https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.

(f) Coordinates

Please ensure that the final Amendment report includes corner coordinates of the proposed battery storage facility.

(g) General

- Please ensure that all mitigation recommendations are in line with applicable and most recent guidelines.
- The draft amended EMPr and final facility layout map to be submitted with the final amendment motivation report must be updated to include and incorporate all mitigation measures recommended by the specialists.
- The applicant is required to comply with Regulation 39 (1) of EIA Regulations 2014, as amended and submits a written consent of the landowners for the amendment application.
- The EAP is to ensure that all the amendments applied for does not trigger any listed or specified activity as outlined in Regulation 31 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
- The final motivation report must include specialist input into a risk assessment for the Battery Energy Storage System, and updates to the EMPr to address these additional risks.

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 32(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: *"The applicant must within 90 days of receipt by the competent authority of the application made in terms of regulation 31, submit to the competent authority -*

- (a) *a report, reflecting—*
- (i) *an assessment of all impacts related to the proposed change;*
 - (ii) *advantages and disadvantages associated with the proposed change; and*
 - (iii) *measures to ensure avoidance, management and mitigation of impacts associated with such proposed change; and*
 - (iv) *any changes to the EMPr;*
 - (v) *which report-*
 - (aa) *had been subjected to a public participation process, which had been agreed to by the competent authority, and which was appropriate to bring the proposed change to the attention of potential and registered interested and affected parties, including organs of state, which have jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the relevant activity, and the competent authority, and*
 - (bb) *reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority."*

Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the motivation report or EMPr which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are required to comply with Regulation 32(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *"the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the report will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the report, which changes or information was not contained in the report consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in sub-regulation (1)(a) and that the revised report will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days".*

In the event where sub-regulation (1)(b) applies, the report, which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority, must be submitted to the competent authority within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority.

Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 32 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Dr Danie Smit

Designation: Deputy Director: National Infrastructure Projects (2)

Date: 01 October 2020

cc: David Michael Peinke | AEP Bloemsmond Solar 1 (Pty) Ltd | Email: david@allanicep.com



environment, forestry & fisheries

Department:
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PER MAIL / EMAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT AMENDMENT REPORT FOR THE APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 08 NOVEMBER 2019 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF 100MW BLOEMSMOND 3 PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR FACILITY ON PORTION 5 AND 14 OF THE FARM BLOEMMOND 455, NORTH EAST OF THE TOWN OF KEIMOES WITHIN THE KAI IGARAB LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the above-mentioned project dated 08 November 2019, the application for amendment of the EA received 18 August 2020, the amended draft amendment report received by the Department on 07 September 2020 and the acknowledgement of receipt emailed on 07 September 2020, refer.

The Department has the following comments on the abovementioned amendment application:

(a) Alternatives

Please provide a description of any identified alternatives for the proposed activity (battery storage facility) that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected by the activity as per the requirements of GN R.982 of 2014, as amended. Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation. If no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist the motivation for not considering such must be provided

(b) Public Participation Process

- The following information must be submitted with the final Amendment Report:
 - A list of registered interested and affected parties as per Regulation 42 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended;
 - Copies of all comments received during the draft Amendment Report comment period; and
 - A comment and response report which contains all comments received and responses provided to all comments and issues raised during the public participation process for the draft Amendment report. Please note that comments received from this Department must also form part of the comment and response report.

- Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft Amendment Report from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final Amendment Report.
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final Amendment Report. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

(c) Environmental Management Programme

The amended EMPr must also include the following:

- All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the Amendment Report and the specialist studies conducted.
- An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
- Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.
- The amended EMPr must include a detailed fire management and protection plan.
- In addition to the above, the amended EMPr must comply with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

(d) Specialist Declaration of Interest and undertaking under Oath

The final amendment report must include the Specialist Declaration of Interest of all specialists who were commissioned for the amendment process and these must be submitted in the Department's template. The latest available Departmental templates are available at <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>

(e) EAP declaration of Interest and undertaking under oath

The submitted amendment report has included the EAP's declaration which was taken from the application for amendment of environmental authorisation. Please note that for the purpose of submission of any Report to the Department, there is a Department's template for Declaration of EAP which is inclusive of an undertaking under oath. You are therefore requested to submit the EAP's Declaration in the correct template and this template can be obtained from the Departmental website at <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>

(f) Coordinates

Please ensure that the final Amendment report include corner coordinates of the proposed battery storage facility.

(g) General

- Please ensure that all mitigation recommendations are in line with applicable and most recent guidelines.
- The draft amended EMPr and final facility layout map to be submitted with the final amendment report must be updated to include and incorporate all mitigation measures recommended by the specialists.
- The applicant is required to comply with Regulation 39 (1) of EIA Regulations 2014, as amended and submit a written consent of the landowners for the amendment application.
- The EAP is to ensure that all the amendments applied for does not trigger any listed or specified activity as outlined in Regulation 31 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
- The final amendment report must include specialist input into a risk assessment for the Battery Energy Storage System, and updates to the EMPr to address these additional risks.

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 32(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: *"The applicant must within 90 days of receipt by the competent authority of the application made in terms of regulation 31, submit to the competent authority -*

- (a) a report, reflecting—
- (i) an assessment of all impacts related to the proposed change;
 - (ii) advantages and disadvantages associated with the proposed change; and
 - (iii) measures to ensure avoidance, management and mitigation of impacts associated with such proposed change; and
 - (iv) any changes to the EMPr;
 - (v) which report-
 - (aa) had been subjected to a public participation process, which had been agreed to by the competent authority, and which was appropriate to bring the proposed change to the attention of potential and registered interested and affected parties, including organs of state, which have jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the relevant activity, and the competent authority, and
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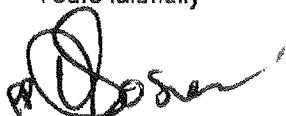
Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the amendment report or EMPr which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are required to comply with Regulation 32(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *"the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority - (b) a notification in writing that the report will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the report, which changes or information was not contained in the report consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in subregulation (1)(a) and that the revised report will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days".*

In the event where subregulation (1)(b) applies, the report, which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority, must be submitted to the competent authority within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority.

Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 32 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs
Letter signed by: Dr Danie Smit
Designation: Deputy Director: National Infrastructure Projects (2)
Date: 02 October 2020

cc: David Michael Peinke Bloemsmond Solar 3 (Pty) Ltd Email: david@alliantcep.com



environment, forestry & fisheries

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DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2044/AM1

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Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
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Telephone Number: (044) 874 0365
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / EMAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT AMENDMENT REPORT FOR THE APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 08 NOVEMBER 2019 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF 100MW BLOEMSMOND 4 PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR FACILITY ON PORTION 5 AND 14 OF THE FARM BLOEMMOND 455, NORTH EAST OF THE TOWN OF KEIMOES WITHIN THE KAI IGARAB LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the above-mentioned project dated 08 November 2019, the application for amendment of the EA received 18 August 2020, the amended draft amendment report received by the Department on 07 September 2020 and the acknowledgement email dated 07 September 2020, refer.

The Department has the following comments on the abovementioned amendment application:

(a) **Alternatives**

Please provide a description of any identified alternatives for the proposed activity (battery storage facility) that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected by the activity as per the requirements of GN R.982 of 2014, as amended. Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation. If no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist the motivation for not considering such must be provided

(b) **Public Participation Process**

- The following information must be submitted with the final Amendment Report:
 - A list of registered interested and affected parties as per Regulation 42 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended;
 - Copies of all comments received during the draft Amendment Report comment period; and
 - A comment and response report which contains all comments received and responses provided to all comments and issues raised during the public participation process for the draft Amendment Report. Please note that comments received from this Department must also form part of the comment and response report.
- Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft Amendment Report from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's

Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final Amendment Report.

- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final Amendment Report. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

(c) Environmental Management Programme

The amended EMPr must also include the following:

- All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the Amendment Report and the specialist studies conducted.
- An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
- Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.
- The amended EMPr must include a detailed fire management and protection plan.
- In addition to the above, the amended EMPr must comply with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

(d) Specialist Declaration of Interest and undertaking under Oath

The final amendment report must include the Specialist Declaration of Interest of all specialists who were commissioned for the amendment process and these must be submitted in the Department's template. The latest available Departmental templates are available at <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>

(e) EAP declaration of Interest and undertaking under oath

The submitted amendment report has included the EAP's declaration which was taken from the application for amendment of environmental authorisations. Please note that for the purpose of submission of any Report to the Department, there is a Department's template for Declaration of EAP which is inclusive of an undertaking under oath. You are therefore requested to submit the EAP's Declaration in the correct template and this template can be obtained from the Departmental website at <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>

(f) Coordinates

Please ensure that the final Amendment report include corner coordinates of the proposed battery storage facility.

(g) General

- Please ensure that all mitigation recommendations are in line with applicable and most recent guidelines.
- The amended EMPr and final facility layout map to be submitted with the final amendment report must be updated to include and incorporate all mitigation measures recommended by the specialists.
- The applicant is required to comply with Regulation 39 (1) of EIA Regulations 2014, as amended and submit a written consent of the landowners for the amendment application.
- The EAP is to ensure that all the amendments applied for does not trigger any listed or specified activity as outlined in Regulation 31 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
- The final amendment report must include specialist input into a risk assessment for the Battery Energy Storage System, and updates to the EMPr to address these additional risks.

55

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 32(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: *"The applicant must within 90 days of receipt by the competent authority of the application made in terms of regulation 31, submit to the competent authority -*

- (a) a report, reflecting—
 - (i) an assessment of all impacts related to the proposed change;
 - (ii) advantages and disadvantages associated with the proposed change; and
 - (iii) measures to ensure avoidance, management and mitigation of impacts associated with such proposed change; and
 - (iv) any changes to the EMPr;
 - (v) which report-
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Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the amendment report or EMPr which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are required to comply with Regulation 32(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *"the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the report will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the report, which changes or information was not contained in the report consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in subregulation (1)(a) and that the revised report will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days".*

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Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 32 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Dr Danie Smit

Designation: Deputy Director: National Infrastructure Projects (2)

Date: 02 October 2020

cc: David Michael Peinke | AEP Bloemsmond Solar 4 (Pty) Ltd | Email: david@atlanticep.com



environment, forestry & fisheries

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DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2043/AM1

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Telephone Number: (044) 874 0365
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / EMAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT AMENDMENT REPORT FOR THE APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 06 NOVEMBER 2019 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF 100MW BLOEMSMOND 5 PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR FACILITY ON PORTION 5 AND 14 OF THE FARM BLOEMMOND 455, NORTH EAST OF THE TOWN OF KEIMOES WITHIN THE KAI IGARAB LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the above-mentioned project dated 06 November 2019, the application for amendment of the EA received 18 August 2020, the draft amendment report received by the Department on 07 September 2020 and the acknowledgement of receipt emailed on 07 September 2020, refer.

The Department has the following comments on the abovementioned amendment application:

(a) Alternatives

Please provide a description of any identified alternatives for the proposed activity (battery storage facility) that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected by the activity as per the requirements of GN R.982 of 2014, as amended. Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation. If no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist the motivation for not considering such must be provided

(b) Public Participation Process

- The following information must be submitted with the final Amendment Report:
 - A list of registered interested and affected parties as per Regulation 42 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended;
 - Copies of all comments received during the draft Amendment Report comment period; and
 - A comment and response report which contains all comments received and responses provided to all comments and issues raised during the public participation process for the draft Amendment Report. Please note that comments received from this Department must also form part of the comment and response report.
- Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft Amendment Report from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's

Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final Amendment Report.

- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final Amendment Report. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

(c) Environmental Management Programme

The amended EMPr must also include the following:

- All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the Amendment Report and the specialist studies conducted.
- An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
- Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.
- The amended EMPr must include a detailed fire management and protection plan.
- In addition to the above, the amended EMPr must comply with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

(d) Specialist Declaration of Interest and undertaking under Oath

The final amendment report must include the Specialist Declaration of Interest of all specialists who were commissioned for the amendment process and these must be submitted in the Department's template. The latest available Departmental templates are available at <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>

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(f) Coordinates

Please ensure that the final Amendment Report include corner coordinates of the proposed battery storage facility.

(g) General

- Please ensure that all mitigation recommendations are in line with applicable and most recent guidelines.
- The draft amended EMPr and final facility layout map to be submitted with the final Amendment Report must be updated to include and incorporate all mitigation measures recommended by the specialists.
- The applicant is required to comply with Regulation 39 (1) of EIA Regulations 2014, as amended and submit a written consent of the landowners for the amendment application.
- The EAP is to ensure that all the amendments applied for does not trigger any listed or specified activity as outlined in Regulation 31 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
- The final Amendment Report must include specialist input into a risk assessment for the Battery Energy Storage System, and updates to the EMPr to address these additional risks.

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 32(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: *"The applicant must within 90 days of receipt by the competent authority of the application made in terms of regulation 31, submit to the competent authority -*

- (a) a report, reflecting—
 - (i) an assessment of all impacts related to the proposed change;
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 - (iii) measures to ensure avoidance, management and mitigation of impacts associated with such proposed change; and
 - (iv) any changes to the EMPr;
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Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the Amendment Report or EMPr which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are required to comply with Regulation 32(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: *"the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the report will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the report, which changes or information was not contained in the report consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in subregulation (1)(a) and that the revised report will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days".*

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Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Dr Danie Smit

Designation: Deputy Director: National Infrastructure Projects (2)

Date: 02 October 2020

cc: David Michael Pelnke Bloemsmond Solar 5 (Pty) Ltd Email: david@stanniceo.com



environment, forestry & fisheries

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DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/816/AM2

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Telephone Number: (044) 874 0365
Email Address: dale@cape-eapprac.co.za

PER MAIL / EMAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT AMENDMENT REPORT FOR THE APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 26 APRIL 2016 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 100MW AEP BLOEMSMOND SOLAR 2 PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY ON PORTION 5 AND 14 OF THE FARM BLOEMMOND 455, NORTH EAST OF THE TOWN OF KEIMOES WITHIN THE KAI IGARAB LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the above-mentioned project dated 26 April 2016, the application for amendment of the EA received 18 August 2020, the amended draft amendment report received by the Department on 07 September 2020 and the acknowledgement of receipt emailed on 07 September 2020, refer.

The Department has the following comments on the abovementioned amendment application:

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Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final amendment report.

- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final Amendment Report. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

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You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 32(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: *"The applicant must within 90 days of receipt by the competent authority of the application made in terms of regulation 31, submit to the competent authority -*

- (a) *a report, reflecting—*
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Date: 02 October 2020

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