

Dale Holder

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 January 2022 09:38
To: Azrah Essop
Cc: Lerato Mokoena; Wayne Hector; Dale Holder
Subject: 2022-01-0009
Attachments: DIT724.01 Request for Pre Application Meeting Houthaalbooman PV Projects.pdf;
2022-01-0009 DB Output.pdf

Dear Azrah.

Please note that you have been allocated an application:

Type of Application: Pre-Application Meeting Request;
Reference Number: 2022-01-0009;
Date Received: 18/01/2022;
Action Required: Decide on meeting request.

Kindly let Ephron know which date the meeting is to be held, if it will be set.

*EAP/Applicant: please use this reference number when submitting the application for EA/amendment application (page 1 of the application form), as well as attach the approved PP Plan if the application requires a PP process.

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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You are advised that this mailbox has a 48 hour response time.

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.

From: Dale Holder [mailto:dale@cape-eaprac.co.za]
Sent: Tuesday, 18 January 2022 15:46
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: Request for Pre Application Meeting - Houthaalboomen North PV Projects.

Dear EIA Applications

Kindly find attached request for pre-application meeting for the Houthaalboomen PV projects on Portion 2, 3 and 4 of the Farm Houthaalboomen 31 near Lichtenburg in the North West Province. It is proposed to apply and assess a cluster of 3 PV developments on these properties (known as Setaria PV, Euphorbia PV and Hillardia PV).

Best 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

PO Box 2070, George 6530



Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you consent to the lawful processing of personal information for the intended purposes, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Your information will be used for this project, including the initial application as well as subsequent related appeals, amendments or audits, or any future project where you are identified as an I&AP. You also agree that by submitting comment to inform this process, your contact details will, where required by a public body, be reflected in our regulated reports that must be compiled and submitted to the general public, registered stakeholders, organs of state as well as the competent authority for consideration and decision-making.

Kindly view our Privacy Statement for more information.

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Dale Holder

From: Azrah Essop <AEssop@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 January 2022 09:55
To: Dale Holder
Subject: RE: 2022-01-0009

Dear Dale

I have read through the pre-application form and do not see a need for a meeting. Please confirm. In addition, please send through a Public Participation plan for approval prior to lodging an application

Regards

Ms. Azrah Essop

Environmental Officer: Priority Infrastructure Projects

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Environment House

473 Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Streets

PRETORIA

Tel: (012) 399 8529

Cell: 060 904 8402

E-mail: aessop@dffe.gov.za

Call Centre: 086 111 2468



forestry, fisheries
and the environment
Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
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Cc: Lerato Mokoena <LMOKOENA@dffe.gov.za>; Wayne Hector <WHECTOR@dffe.gov.za>; Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
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Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 20 January 2022 13:03
To: Azrah Essop
Subject: RE: 2022-01-0009
Attachments: DIT724.02 PPP Plan Houthaalbomen North PV Projects.pdf

Dear Azrah

Thank you for the email.

I agree with the Department that that a pre-application meeting is not necessary in this instance.

Kindly find attached Public Participation Plan for your consideration.

Best Regards,

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SENIOR CONSULTANT | ECO | GIS
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Environmental Officer: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Environment House
473 Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Streets
PRETORIA

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Cell: 060 904 8402
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Dale Holder

From: Lerato Mokoena <LMOKOENA@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 24 January 2022 12:05
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Azrah Essop; Wayne Hector
Subject: Approval PPP: Establishment of 3 x 100MW PV projects and associated infrastructure (Seteria PV; Ephorbia PV & Hillardia PV) Ref: (2022-01-0009)
Attachments: DIT724.02 PPP Plan Houthaalbomen North PV Projects.pdf

Dear Dale

The Public Participation (PP) Plan for the Proposed 3 x 100MW PV projects and associated infrastructure (Seteria PV; Ephorbia PV & Hillardia PV)–refers.

Based on the information provided this Department decided to **approve** the PP Plan for the proposed project. You may proceed with the PP process in accordance with tasks contemplated in the PP plan. Should you wish to deviate from the submitted PP Plan, the amended PP Plan must be submitted to the Department for approval prior commencement.

A copy of the PP Plan and this approval must be submitted as part of the application form when the application is lodged.

Also note that submission of a PP Plan and approval thereof do not negate your responsibility to comply with the requirements for public participation in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Kind Regards

Mr. Lerato Mokoena

Environmental Control Officer: Grade A

Priority Infrastructure Projects

☎ (012) 399 9418/072 759 2181 | ✉ lmokoena@dffe.gov.za

🌐 dffe.gov.za

📍 Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, Pretoria



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 07 March 2022 21:22
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Application Form and Draft Scoping Report Euphorbia PV
Attachments: Document Control Form Euphorbia PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications

Please find the attached document control form for the submission of the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for the proposed Euphorbia PV

The Pre application reference number is 2022-01-0009 and the allocated case officer is Ms Azrah Essop.

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Name		Size	Modified
<input type="checkbox"/>	Draft EIA report_Botterblom WEF_7March2022 rar		109,385 KB	Mar 7, 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Euphorbia PV Application and DSR.zip		46,895 KB	Mar 7, 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Euphorbia PV Application and DSR.zip - Personal footprint- Ref No. 14_12_16_3_3_2_2124.zip		33,442 KB	Mar 4, 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Central Basin OEMP amendment.zip		15,350 KB	Mar 7, 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eastern Basin Application for Amendment of EMPr.zip		12,965 KB	Mar 7, 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Final Application to Amend EA_Proposed Upgrade of the N1 Section 4 (14-12-16-3-3-1-2084-AM1).zip		12,046 KB	Mar 7, 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Application for Amendment for the Drennan PV facility 14_12_16_3_3_2_359.zip		3,502 KB	Mar 4, 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	14-12-16-3-3-1-2305_Dwarsrug-Loenes Grid Part 1 Amendment Application Form & Appendices.zip		3,060 KB	Mar 7, 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kannikwa Vlake PV solar facility.zip		2,736 KB	Mar 7, 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	00 Allocated PLEASE DO NOT UPLOAD INTO OR DELETE THIS FOLDER			Mar 7, 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amendment for Venus Sigma 765kV EIA deff 12 12 20 13971			Mar 7, 2

1-11 of 11

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Type here to search

Best Regards,

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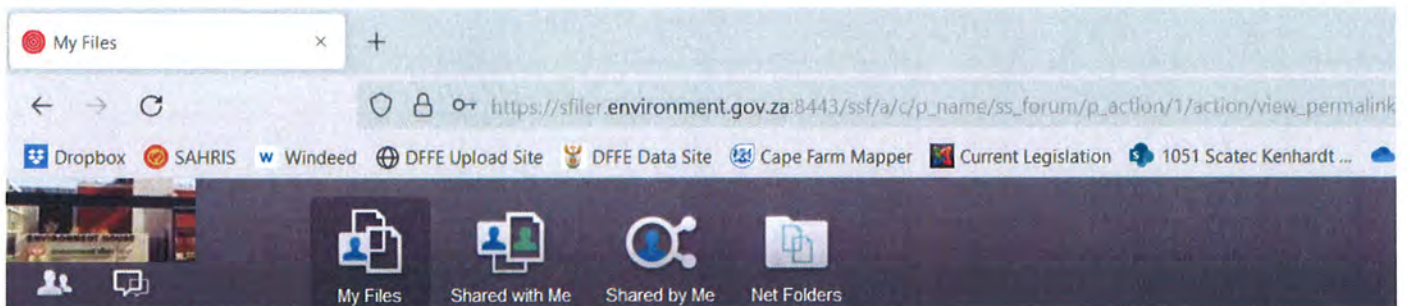
Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 07 March 2022 21:33
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Application form and Draft Scoping Report Hillardia PV
Attachments: Document Control Form Hillardia PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications

Please find the attached document control form for the submission of the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for the proposed Hillardia PV

The Pre application reference number is 2022-01-0009 and the allocated case officer is Ms Azrah Essop.



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<input type="checkbox"/>	Name		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Draft EIA report_Botterblom WEF_7March2022 rar		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hillardia PV Application and DSR.zip		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hillardia PV Application and DSR.zip		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Application for the Engie Graspan PV additional footprint Ref No 14_12_16_3_3_2_2124 zip		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Central Basin OEMP amendment zip		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eastern Basin Application for Amendment of EMPr zip		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Final Application to Amend EA_Proposed Upgrade of the N1 Section 4 (14-12-16-3-3-1-2084-AM1) zip		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Application for Amendment for the Drennan PV facility 14_12_16_3_3_2_359 zip		
<input type="checkbox"/>	14-12-16-3-3-1-2305_Dwarsrug-Loeries Grid Part 1 Amendment Application Form & Appendices zip		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kannikwa Vlake PV solar facility.zip		
<input type="checkbox"/>	00 Allocated - PLEASE DO NOT UPLOAD INTO OR DELETE THIS FOLDER		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amendment for Venus Sigma 765kV EIA deff 12 12 20 13971		

1-12 of 12

<https://sfiler.environment.gov.za:8443/ssf/s/readFile/folderEntry/49352/8afbc1c77f1bb7ca017f65f7438f0a5f/1646683177739/last/Hillardia PV Application and DSR.zip>



Best Regards,

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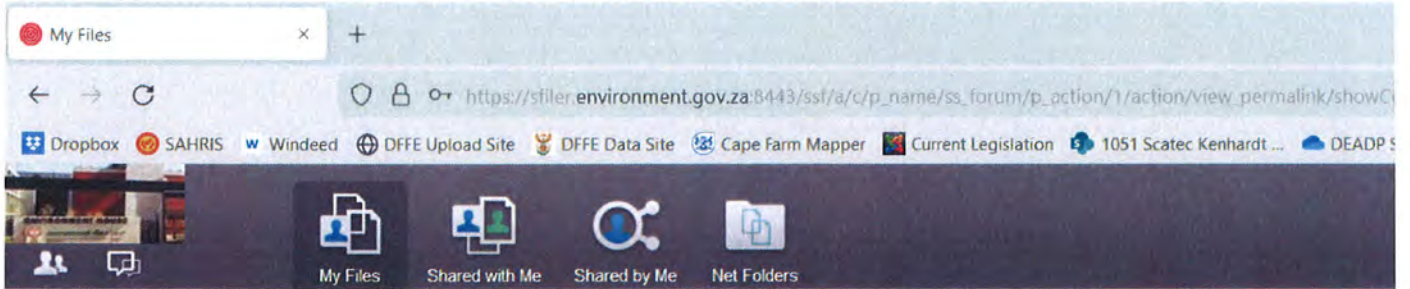
Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 07 March 2022 21:47
To: EIA Applications
Subject: Submission of Application form and Draft Scoping Report Verbena PV
Attachments: Document Control Form Verbena PV.docx

Dear EIA Applications

Please find the attached document control form for the submission of the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for the proposed Verbena PV

The Pre application reference number is 2022-01-0009 and the allocated case officer is Ms Azrah Essop.

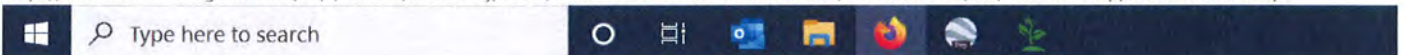


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<input type="checkbox"/>	Name		Size
<input type="checkbox"/>	Draft EIA report_Botterblom WEF 7March2022 rar		109,385
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Verbena PV Application and DSR.zip		47,063 K
<input type="checkbox"/>	Verbena PV Application and DSR.zip		46,936 K
<input type="checkbox"/>	Euphorbia PV Application and DSR.zip		46,895 K
<input type="checkbox"/>	Application for the Engie Graspan PV additional footprint- Ref No 14_12_16_3_3_2_2124.zip		33,442 K
<input type="checkbox"/>	Central Basin OEMP amendment.zip		15,350 K
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Final Application to Amend EA_Proposed Upgrade of the N1 Section 4 (14-12-16-3-3-1-2084-AM1).zip		12,046 K
<input type="checkbox"/>	Application for Amendment for the Drennan PV facility 14_12_16_3_3_2_359.zip		3,502 KE
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Dale Holder

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 08 March 2022 13:37
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Azrah Essop; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2141

Dear Dale

14/12/16/3/3/2/2141

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED EUPHORBIA PV, DITSBOTLA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTH WEST PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 07 March 2022. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Kindly note that your application for Environmental Authorisation falls within the ambit of an application applied for in terms of Part 3 of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

Please take note of Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that potential Interested & Affected Parties, including the Competent Authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, prior to the submission of an application but must be provided an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the Competent Authority.

Note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted by the Department in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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.

Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

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From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 08 March 2022 13:39
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Azrah Essop; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2142

Dear Dale

14/12/16/3/3/2/2142

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED HILLARDIA PV, DITSOBOTLA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTH WEST PROVINCE.

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From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 08 March 2022 13:43
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Azrah Essop; Salome Mambane; EIAAdmin
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2143

Dear Dale

14/12/16/3/3/2/2143

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED VERBENA PV, DITSBOTLA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTH WEST PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 07 March 2022. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Kindly note that your application for Environmental Authorisation falls within the ambit of an application applied for in terms of Part 3 of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

Please take note of Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that potential Interested & Affected Parties, including the Competent Authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, prior to the submission of an application but must be provided an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the Competent Authority.

Note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted by the Department in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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.

Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Please note that this email is for the receipt and processing of online applications only, and is not monitored for responses. All queries must be directed to EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za.

You are advised that this mailbox has a 48 hour response time.

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2141

Enquiries: Ms Azrah Essop

Telephone: (012) 399 8529 E-mail: AEssop@dfpe.gov.za

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

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

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE EUPHORBIA SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR LICHTENBURG IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2022, received by the Department on 7 March 2022 and acknowledged on the 8 March 2022, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the Final Scoping Report:

(a) Listed Activities

- i. Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.
- ii. For each listed activity, where possible, provide the proposed threshold/footprint and as much detail associated with the listed activity i.e. the footprint of infrastructure in m², number of BESS on site (each individual unit, if applicable), the storage of hazardous goods in m³, the clearance of land in m² etc.
- iii. If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.
- iv. Please elaborate *Section 1. Competent Authority* which asks for a *Reason(s) in terms of S24C of NEMA*, please the correct wording and not only the Government number. Indicate whether the proposed project will form part of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) or the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement programme (REIPPP).

(b) Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- i. Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:

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- a. The proposed Euphorbia PV, Hillardia PV and Verbena PV with associated infrastructure for each development;
 - b. The proposed grid infrastructure for each of the above PV facilities, overlain by the sensitivity map;
 - c. All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g. roads (existing and proposed);
 - d. The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
 - e. Buffer areas; and
 - f. All "no-go" areas.
- ii. The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure.
 - iii. Google maps will not be accepted.

(c) Public Participation Process

- i. Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the SR 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 SR.
- ii. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- iii. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- iv. A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.
- v. The final SR must provide evidence that all identified and relevant competent authorities have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposed development; particularly the South African Astronomical Observatory (if applicable), the North West Provincial Department, the District and Local Municipalities.

(d) Specialist Assessments

- i. Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of turbine positions, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.
- ii. The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation, will not be accepted.
- iii. Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.

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- iv. Original signed Specialist Declaration of Interest forms (completed in full) for each specialist study conducted. The forms have been updated and are available on Department's website (please use the Department's template).
- v. It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. **Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.**

(e) Cumulative Assessment

- i. Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:
 - a. Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
 - b. Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.
 - c. The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - d. A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

(f) Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)

- i. A generic EMPr is required for the substation as per GG No.435. Please consult the gazette to determine the requirements thereof.
- ii. For the facility and associated infrastructure, the EMPr must fully comply with all the requirements as stipulated in Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014), as amended. It must include the following:
 - a. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the BAR and the specialist studies conducted.
 - b. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmentally sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
 - c. Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, etc. and other environmentally sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.
 - d. A detailed fire management and protection plan.
- iii. In addition to the above, the EMPr must comply with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

General

When providing coordinates as part of the information submitted regarding the location of an activity as part of an application for environmental authorisation, such coordinates must be provided in degrees, minutes and seconds using the Hartebeesthoek94 WGS84 coordinate system as per regulation 5(6) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:

"If S&EIR must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 44 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority a scoping report which has been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority"

You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping Reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).

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 sincerely



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Letter signed by: Mr Wayne Hector
Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Date: 04/04/22

cc:	Anthony de Graaf	Euphorbia PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Anthony@atlanticep.com
	Ouma Skosana (Registry)	North West DEDECT	Email: oskosana@nwpg.gov.za
	Mr. Tshepo Mosane	Ditsobotla Local Municipality	Email: tmosane@ditsobotla.co.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2142
Enquiries: Ms Azrah Essop
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Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Cape EAPrac)
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

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

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE HILLARDIA SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR LICHTENBURG IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2022, received by the Department on 7 March 2022 and acknowledged on the 8 March 2022, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the Final Scoping Report:

(a) Listed Activities

- i. Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.
- ii. For each listed activity, where possible, provide the proposed threshold/footprint and as much detail associated with the listed activity i.e. the footprint of infrastructure in m², number of BESS on site (each individual unit, if applicable), the storage of hazardous goods in m³, the clearance of land in m² etc.
- iii. If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.
- iv. Please elaborate Section 1. Competent Authority which asks for a Reason(s) in terms of S24C of NEMA, please the correct wording and not only the Government number. Indicate whether the proposed project will form part of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) or the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement programme (REIPPP).

(b) Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- i. Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:

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- a. The proposed Euphorbia PV, Hillardia PV and Verbena PV with associated infrastructure for each development;
 - b. The proposed grid infrastructure for each of the above PV facilities, overlain by the sensitivity map;
 - c. All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g. roads (existing and proposed);
 - d. The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
 - e. Buffer areas; and
 - f. All "no-go" areas.
- ii. The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure.
 - iii. Google maps will not be accepted.

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- i. Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the SR 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 SR.
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- v. The final SR must provide evidence that all identified and relevant competent authorities have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposed development; particularly the South African Astronomical Observatory (if applicable), the North West Provincial Department, the District and Local Municipalities.

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- iv. Original signed Specialist Declaration of Interest forms (completed in full) for each specialist study conducted. The forms have been updated and are available on Department's website (please use the Department's template).
- v. It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. **Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.**

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Yours sincerely



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Letter signed by: Mr Wayne Hector
Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Date: 04/04/22

cc:	Anthony de Graaf	Euphorbia PV (Pty) Ltd	Email: Anthony@atlanticep.com
	Ouma Skosana (Registry)	North West DEDECT	Email: oskosana@nwpg.gov.za
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PER MAIL / E-MAIL

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Yours sincerely



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Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Letter signed by: Mr Wayne Hector
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