

**APPENDIX C7**  
**MEETING NOTES**



Meeting Notes to be included in the  
Final EIA Report

# **SCOPING PHASE**

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND  
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESSES  
FOR THE  
KOTULO TSATSI ENERGY PV3 AND ASSOCIATED  
INFRASTRUCTURE, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE  
(DEFF Reference nos.: RE: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2223)**

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**MEETING NOTES OF THE FOCUS GROUP MEETING HELD WITH THE  
NORTHERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENTAL  
AFFAIRS, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LAND REFORM  
HELD ON MONDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 09H00  
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

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Notes for the Record prepared by:

Chantelle Geyer

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

E-mail: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

*Please note that these notes are not verbatim, but a summary of the comments submitted at the meeting.  
Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address*

## KOTULO TSATSI ENERGY PV3 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR KENHARDT, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

### MEETING ATTENDEES

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Name	Organisation	Position
<b>Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment</b>		
Jacoline Mans	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Chief Forester
<b>Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform</b>		
Elsabe Swart	Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Scientific manager
Samantha de la Fontaine	Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	District Ecologist
<b>Kotulo Tsatsi Energy (Pty) Ltd</b>		
Attie Botha	Kotulo Tsatsi Energy (Pty) Ltd	CEO/Development
<b>Savannah Environmental</b>		
Nkhensani Masondo	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Debbie-Lee Janse van Rensburg	Savannah Environmental	Junior Environmental Consultant
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental	Public Participation and Social Consultant

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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Nicolene Venter welcomed the attendees at the Focus Group Meeting (FGM) for the Kotulo Tsatsi Energy PV3 and associated infrastructure located near Kenhardt, Northern Cape Province. She requested the project team members to introduce themselves and thereafter that the attendees introduced themselves to the project team.

### APOLOGIES

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Peter Cloete: Research Development Officer (Namakwa District), Northern Cape Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform

Natalie Uys: Candidate Scientist: Botanist, Northern Cape Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform

The attendance record is attached as **Appendix A** to the meeting notes.

## BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Nkhensani Masondo provided an overview of the proposed Kotulo Tsatsi Energy PV3 and associated infrastructure project located within the Northern Cape Province, as well as a summary of the findings of the Scoping process undertaken. Nkhensani Masondo presented the following key information:

- project description for the Kotulo Tsatsi Energy PV3 and associated infrastructure;
- the locality of the solar farm and its respective development footprint as assessed within the scoping process;
- the Scoping and public participation process followed to date;
- the environmental studies that have been undertaken to date;
- the results of the various environmental studies undertaken during the scoping phase; and
- the way forward after the meeting.

The presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

## DISCUSSION SESSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Jacoline Mans	Requested that the ecology assessment must show the density of the Shepherds Trees and Quiver Trees on the development.	Nkhensani Masondo responded that the information will be included in the EIA Report.
	She indicated that it is believed that there are no Camelthorn Trees on the site, but the specialist can confirm this.	
	Enquired as to who is the ecology specialist appointed for the study.	Nkhensani Masondo responded that a specialist has not yet been appointed but it is envisaged that it would be Simon Todd, but this information will be confirmed.
Elsabé Swart	Enquired whether heat island monitoring, and plan heat monitor will be undertaken on the development sites once approved.	Nkhensani Masondo responded that the team will have to check with specialist as this will be undertaken and will respond to the Department when the EIA Report is available for review and comment.
	Enquired whether the Screening Tool will be utilised.	Nkhensani Masondo responded that for PV2, there were assessments done and the

		<p>current studies did look at the broader study area.</p> <p>Nkhensani Masondo responded that the Screening Tool for the project site has been complied and that the findings of the screening tool will inform the specialist studies that will be conducted as part of the EIA Phase.</p>
	<p>Confirmed that written comments on the Scoping Report will be submitted to the project team before or on the end of the review and comment period.</p>	<p>Nicolene Venter thanked Mrs Swart for the confirmation and that the team is looking forward to the Department's written comments.</p>
<p>Samantha de la Fontain</p>	<p>Asked for confirmation purposes that the appointed specialist will take the Provincial Legislation and the moratorium placed on Quiver Trees will be take into consideration.</p>	<p>Nkhensani Masondo confirmed that all applicable Legislations will be taken into consideration by the various specialist and that they will also be reminded regarding this point.</p>

## **WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE**

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As a closing statement Nkhensani Masondo thanked the attendees for their attendance at the FGM and the comments raised

Nicolene Venter also thanked the attendees for their time and their valuable inputs into the EIA and Public Participation processes and that the team is looking forward to their written comments.

The meeting was closed at 09h30.

## Appendix A: Attendance Record

Total Number of Participants	8
Meeting Title	KOTULO TSATSI ENERGY PV3 & ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE: Focus Group Meetingp
Meeting Start Time	22/11/07, 08:56:48
Meeting End Time	22/11/07, 09:30:14

<b>ATTENDEES</b> (Alphabetically according to Surname)	
Attie Botha	Kotulo Tsatsi (Pty) Ltd
Samantha De la Fontain	Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform
Jacoline Mans	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Debbie-Lee Janse van Rensburg	Savannah Environmental
Nkhensani Masondo	Savannah Environmental
Elsabé Swart	Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental




## Appendix B: Presentation

**KOTULO TSATSI ENERGY PV3 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE**

Public Participation Meetings

November 2022



1

**MEETING AGENDA**


- Welcome and introduction
- Meeting Conduct
- Purpose of the Meeting
- Project Overview
- EIA Process & Findings of the Specialist Studies
- Way forward
- Discussion session



2

**CONDUCT OF THE MEETING**


- Recording of the meeting
- Please stay on mute during the presentation
- Register attendance on Chat function (name, surname & affiliation)
- Questions and comments can be submitted on the chat function during the presentation – team will respond after presentation
- No additional questions to be submitted on the chat function after the presentation
- Please hold all verbal questions until after the presentation
- Please raise your hand (virtual function) and state your name when to asking a question or raising a comment and state your name.



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**PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

- Provide stakeholders and I&APs with an overview of the project
- Summary of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) & Public Participation being undertaken
- Provide stakeholders the opportunity to seek clarity regarding the environmental studies
- Opportunity to provide valuable input into/to inform the EIA process
- Obtain and record comments for inclusion in the Final Scoping Report to be submitted to the DFFE



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## PROJECT OVERVIEW (Nkhensani Masondo)

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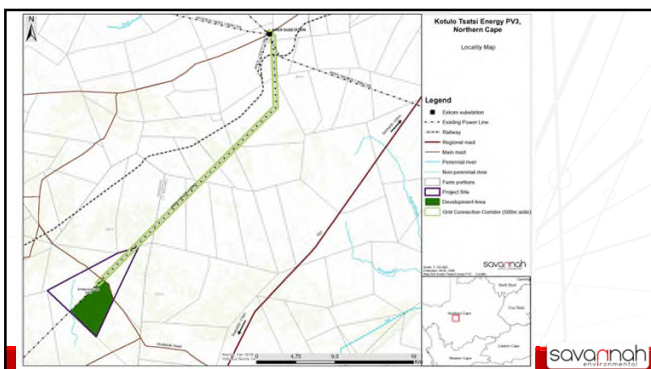
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## PROJECT OVERVIEW

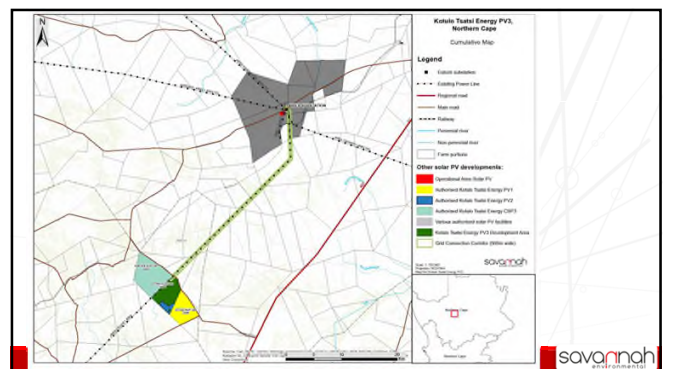
- **Applicant:** Kotulo Tsatsi Energy (Pty) Ltd
- **Affected Property:** Portion 2 of Farm Styns Vley 280
- Kotulo Tsatsi Energy PV3 Facility - contracted capacity of up to 480MW:
  - Solar PV array comprising PV modules and mounting structures.
  - Inverters and transformers.
  - Cabling between the project components.
- On-site facility substation and power line/s to facilitate the connection between the Solar PV Facility, the 400kV collector substation and the Eskom electricity grid at Aries Substation.
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).
- Site offices and maintenance buildings, including workshop areas for maintenance and storage.
- Laydown areas and temporary man camp area.
- Access roads, internal distribution roads and fencing around the development area.

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## APPROACH TO SCOPING

- Identification of issues – social and biophysical environment
- Prepare a Plan of Study for the EIA phase
- Potential sensitive areas identified through specialist desktop studies
- Design of appropriate facility layout to be informed by sensitive areas identified through the EIA process
- A facility layout to be presented and considered in EIA Phase
- Application of the mitigation hierarchy (i.e. avoid, minimise and mitigate)
- Any further micro-siting required to facility layout will be addressed in EIA phase

## EIA PROCESS



## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS/SENSITIVITIES IDENTIFIED

	Scoping of issues
Ecological Impacts (fauna & flora);	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disturbance and loss of natural vegetation</li> <li>• Disturbance or loss of protected plants</li> <li>• Loss of fauna habitat and displacement of species</li> <li>• Disturbance to migration routes</li> <li>• <b>(Low –Medium Significance)</b></li> </ul>
Impacts on avifauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of intact habitat due to transformation</li> <li>• Mortality due to collision with infrastructure</li> <li>• Disturbance during operation</li> <li>• <b>(Low Significance)</b></li> </ul>
Impacts on Soil & Agricultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of agricultural land use</li> <li>• Soil erosion</li> <li>• Loss of topsoil</li> <li>• Regional loss of agricultural resources and production</li> <li>• <b>(Low Significance)</b></li> </ul>
Impacts on Heritage (archaeology and palaeontology)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact to archaeological, historical and burial sites</li> <li>• Damage or destruction of unmarked graves or fossil material</li> <li>• <b>(Low Significance)</b></li> </ul>

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS/SENSITIVITIES IDENTIFIED

	Scoping of issues
Visual Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visibility of development to observers residing in rural homesteads and farmsteads</li> <li>• Industrialisation of the landscape</li> <li>• Visual impact of operational lighting</li> <li>• <b>(Low Significance)</b></li> </ul>
Social Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct and indirect employment, skills development opportunities</li> <li>• Increased pressure on infrastructure and basic services, and social conflicts</li> <li>• Temporary increase in safety and security concerns</li> <li>• Socio-Economic Development (SED) / Enterprise Development (ED)</li> <li>• Sense of place impacts</li> <li>• Nuisance Impacts</li> <li>• <b>(Medium Significance)</b></li> </ul>

## WAY FORWARD

- Meeting notes will be distributed
- Presentation will be distributed
- Scoping Report review period: **18 October 2022 to 17 November 2022** (can be downloaded from the Savannah Environmental website)
- Submission of Final Scoping Reports to DFFE - November 2022
- EIA & EMPr for review – Q1 of 2023
- Our Public Participation team is available to answer any questions on the development and register I&APs to receive important project information as it becomes available.

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## DISCUSSION

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## WHO TO CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**

Nicolene Venter

Email: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

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Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including "please call me")

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**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND  
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESSES  
FOR THE  
KOTULO TSATSI ENERGY PV3 AND ASSOCIATED  
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(DEFF Reference nos.: RE: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2223)**

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**KEY STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP  
HELD ON MONDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 11H00  
VENUE: MS TEAMS VIRTUAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 7 NOVEMBER  
2022 AT 09H00  
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

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**Notes for the Record prepared by:**

Debbie-Lee Janse van Rensburg

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**  
E-mail: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

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## KOTULO TSATSI ENERGY PV3 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR KENHARDT, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

### MEETING ATTENDEES

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Name	Organisation	Position
<b>I&amp;AP</b>		
Ilze Pieterse	Kakamas High School	I&AP
<b>Landowner</b>		
Richard Jordaan	Groot Riet / Tuin Suid	Landowner
Japie du Toit		Landowner
<b>Kotulo Tsatsi Energy (Pty) Ltd</b>		
Attie Botha	Kotulo Tsatsi Energy (Pty) Ltd	Developer
<b>Savannah Environmental</b>		
Nkhensani Masondo	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Debbie-Lee Janse van Rensburg	Savannah Environmental	Junior Environmental Consultant
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental	Public Participation and Social Consultant

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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Nicolene Venter welcomed the attendees at the Key Stakeholders Workshop (KSW) for the Kotulo Tsatsi Energy PV3 and associated infrastructure located near Kenhardt, Northern Cape Province. She requested the project team members to introduce themselves and thereafter that the attendees introduced themselves to the project team.

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### APOLOGIES

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No apologies were received.

A copy of the virtual participants' attendance is attached as **Appendix A** to the workshop notes.

### BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

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**Nkhensani Masondo** provided an overview of the proposed **Kotulo Tsatsi Energy PV3 and associated infrastructure** project located within the Northern Cape Province, as well as a summary of the findings of the Scoping process undertaken. **Nkhensani Masondo** presented the following key information:

- project description for **the Kotulo Tsatsi Energy PV3 and associated infrastructure**;
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## DISCUSSION SESSION

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Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Richard Jordaan	Informed the project team that it was his understanding that this project relates to the grid infrastructure traversing his property.	<p>Nicolene Venter acknowledged the comment and requested the property name/s to identify the location of these farms to the Kotulo Tsatsi PV3 project.</p> <p><b>Post-meeting note:</b>                      It is confirmed that the properties Groot Riet / Tuin Suid are not affected by this project.</p>
Japie du Toit	Asked how the change of this project will impact on the water consumption and where will the water be sourced from.	<p>Nkhensani Masonda responded that the proposed water usage and the source of the water will be included in the EIA phase and addressed in the applicable section of the EIA report.</p> <p>Attie Botha added that the water usage will remain unchanged and that the water would be sourced from Kenhardt Municipality. It was confirmed that the water pipeline referred to is a separate project and does not form part of this project.</p>
Ilze Pieterse	Informed the project team her interest in the project as an educator is to be informed and aware of what is planned in and around their community.	<p>Nicolene Venter thanked Ms Pieterse for her interest in the project and community participation is always encouraged and appreciated as they contribute local knowledge to projects of this nature.</p>

		Attie Botha informed Ms Pieterse that as part of the Social Investment Programme, that fund would be made available to support local schools in the area.
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**WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE**

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As a closing statement Attie Botha thanked the attendees for their attendance at the KWS and the comments submitted.

Nicolene Venter also thanked the attendees for their time and their valuable inputs into the EIA and Public Participation processes and that the team is looking forward to their written comments. The workshop closed at 11h30.




# APPENDIX A: Presentation

**KOTULO TSATSI ENERGY PV3 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE**

Public Participation Meetings

November 2022



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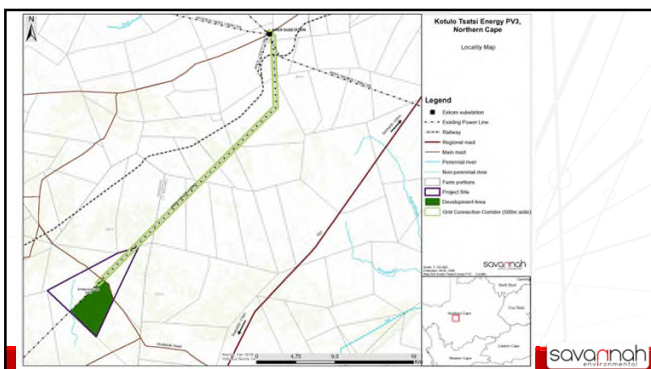
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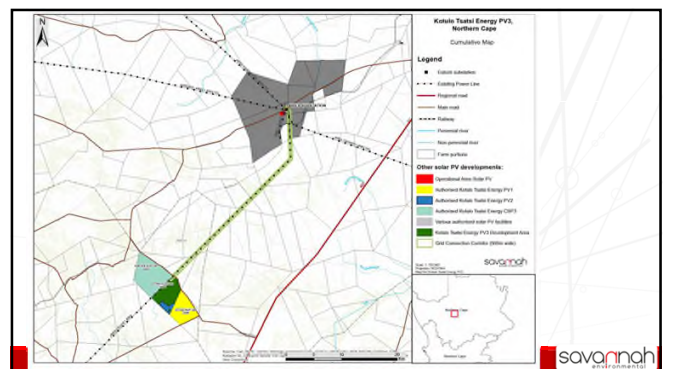
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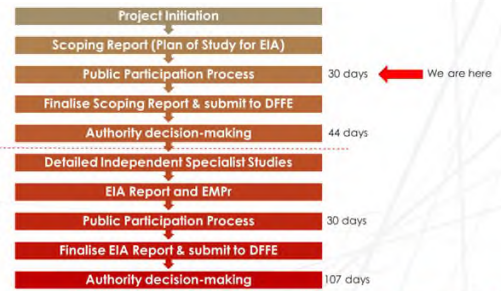


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## APPROACH TO SCOPING

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## DISCUSSION

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## WHO TO CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**

Nicolene Venter

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