

# **Appendix F: Public Participation Summary Report**

## REPORT

# **Environmental Impact Assessment for the Development of a 100MWp Photovoltaic Plant associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome (TFC) Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality**

### Public Participation Summary Report

Client: Samancor Chrome Pty Ltd

Reference: MD5426-RHD-ZZ-XX-RP-YE-0001

Status: S0/P01.01

Date: 25 October 2021

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Document title: Environmental Impact Assessment for the Development of a 100MWp Photovoltaic Plant associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome (TFC) Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality

Document short title:

Reference: MD5426-RHD-ZZ-XX-RP-YE-0001

Status: P01.01/S0

Date: 25 October 2021

Project name: The Development of a 100MWp Photovoltaic Plant associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome (TFC) Smelter

Project number: MD5426

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Date: 26-10-2021

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Approved by: Prashika Reddy

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Date: 26-10-2021

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Classification

Project related

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## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Background

Samancor Chrome Ltd's core business is the mining and smelting of chrome ore. With an annual production capacity of 2.4 million tons of ferrochrome, Samancor Chrome is one of the largest integrated ferrochrome producers in the world. The ferrochrome produced is used in areas of the stainless-steel smelting process. Samancor Chrome has been, and continues to be, a major player in ferrochromium production. The company's total chromite resources exceed 900 million tons and are expected to support current mining activity for well over 100 years at the current rate of extraction. Some ores and concentrates are exported, but main allotments are destined for conversion into ferrochrome at the alloy plants.

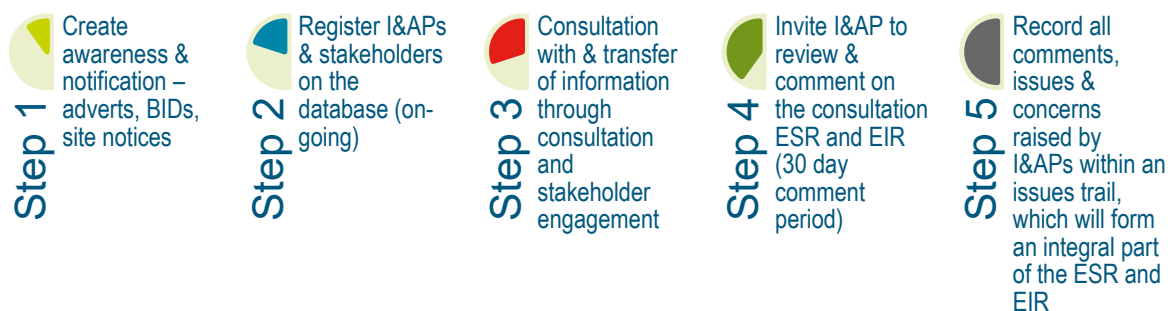
The Tubatse Ferrochrome (TFC) Smelter was initially built as a three-furnace operation in 1975 as a joint venture between Gencor Ltd and Union Carbide Inc. (USA). In the same year, the Union Carbide Inc. shareholding was taken over by Samancor Chrome, and in 1989, Samancor Chrome acquired the Gencor Ltd shareholding. During the years 1989 – 1990, the plant was expanded to five furnaces with the sixth furnace being built in 1996. The plant is situated in Steelpoort, Limpopo Province and is in close proximity to the Eastern Chrome Mines. The core business of the operation is the production of charge chrome using six Submerged-Arc Furnaces, one metal recovery plant, and a Pellet and Sintering Plant.

### 1.2 Public Participation Process

Public Participation (PP) is a process that is designed to enable all interested and affected parties (I&APs) to voice their opinion and/or concerns which enables the practitioner to evaluate all aspects of the proposed development, with the objective of improving the project by maximising its benefits while minimising its adverse effects.

The PP Process must adhere to the requirements of Regulations 39 - 42 (GNR 982) as amended. Further, a PP guideline in terms of NEMA was issued by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment in 2017, of which provisions will also be implemented. A PP Plan was submitted and subsequently accepted by the Department on 18 June 2021 (**Appendix A**).

The PP Process for proposed project will be undertaken according to the stages outlined below as well as the requirements for the stakeholders.



**Figure 1-1: Steps in the public participation process**

### 1.3 Purpose of the Report

The key purpose of this PP Summary Report is to:

- Summarise the PP Process undertaken for the Environmental Scoping Report (ESR) and Environmental Impact Report (EIR);
- Highlight what has been done to date;
- Synthesise the issues and concerns identified by I&APs and various stakeholders during the PP Process; and
- Synthesise comments on the proposed development.

### 1.4 Terms of Reference for Public Participation

The terms of reference for the implementation of a successful and robust PP Process, are as follows:

- Identification of I&APs in the vicinity of the study area;
- Provision to all I&APs of an opportunity to comment or raise concerns regarding the project;
- Maintenance of procedures for communication with I&APs and receiving, documenting and responding to relevant communication from I&APs;
- Identification and elimination of any sources of misunderstandings between the Applicant, EAP and the I&APs;
- Always aim to improve the communication between the Applicant, EAP and I&APs;
- Present the project in an objective way by supplying all appropriate, relevant and accurate information and facts in an unbiased manner to ensure a better understanding of the proposed project; and
- Ensure that the PP Process is an independent and transparent process.

### 1.5 Public Participation Summary

The PP Process commenced in May 2021 where site notices were erected at strategic locations around the study area, on 05 May 2021. A Background Information Document (BID) was distributed to the I&APs as well as commenting authorities. I&APs were introduced to the project and encouraged to register on the database.

An advertisement was placed in the Steelburger Newspaper on 24 June 2021 followed by a commenting period which provided an opportunity for the I&APs to raise their issues and concerns regarding the proposed project.

The draft Consultation ESR was made available for authority and public review for a 30-day period from 25 June – 26 July 2021.

An advertisement will be placed in the Steelburger on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021 indicating the commenting period for the EIR and for I&APs to raise any issues and concerns regarding the proposed project. The EIR will be made available for comment from 5 November 2021 - 6 December 2021.

A Comments and Response record (Table 1) has been compiled during the Scoping phase, the comments raised during the EIA phase will also be included in this table.

## 2 Identification of I&APs

The first step in the PP Process entailed the identification of key I&APs and Stakeholders, including:

- Local and provincial government;
- Affected and neighbouring landowners; and

- General I&APs.

An I&AP database (**Appendix B**) and Proof of notification (**Appendix C**) has been compiled which will be maintained and updated throughout the duration of the Scoping and EIA study.

### 3 Site Notices

The NEMA EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended) require that a site notice be fixed at a place conspicuous to the public at the boundary or on the fence of the site where the activity to which the application relates is to be undertaken and on any alternative sites. The purpose of this is to notify the public of the project and to invite the public to register as stakeholders and inform them of the PP Process. Royal HaskoningDHV erected site notices at various noticeable locations around the perimeter of the site and at strategic locations on or near the site (Tubatse Chrome Golf Club, Steelpoort Primary School, Post Office; and proposed Site 3).







Figure 3-1: Tubatse Chrome Golf Club





**Figure 3-2: Steelpoort Laerskool**





Figure 3-3: Steelpoort Post Office

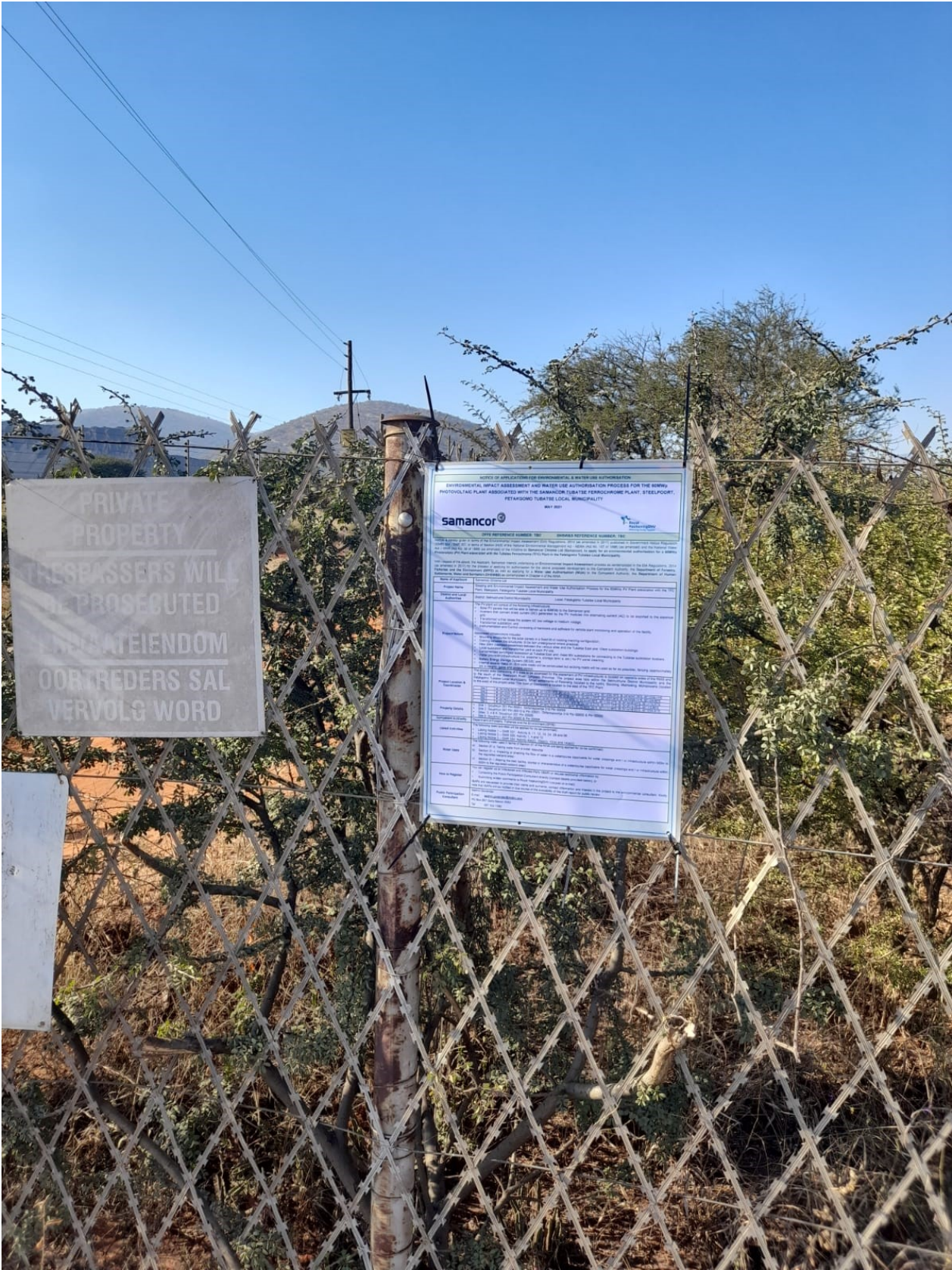




Figure 3-4: Boundary of Proposed Site 3

## 4 Background Notification Document

A BID that contained the project brief (**Appendix D**) for the project was compiled in English. The aim of this document was to provide a brief outline of the application and the nature of the development. It is also aimed at providing preliminary details regarding the Scoping and EIA study and explains how I&APs could become involved in the project. The document was distributed to all identified I&APs and stakeholders, together with details of the Public Participation Consultant.

## 5 Advertisement

In compliance with the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended):

- Notification of the commencement of the review period for the draft consultation ESR for the project was advertised in one local newspaper, the Steelburger Newspaper on 24 June 2021 in English.
- Notification of the commencement of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) public review period for the project will be advertised in one local newspaper, the Steelburger Newspaper on 4 November 2021 in English.

Proof of these adverts are provided in **Appendix E**.

I&APs were requested to register their interest in the project and become involved in the study. The primary aim of advertisements is to ensure that the widest group of I&APs possible are informed and invited to



provide input and questions and comments on the project. I&APs were also be notified of the availability of the draft EIR for review and comment.

## 6 Public Review of the Draft Consultation ESR and EIR

The draft consultation ESR was made available for authority and public review for a total of 30-days from 25 June – 26 July 2021.

The draft EIR will be made available for authority and public review for a total of 30-days from 5 November 2021 - 6 December 2021.

The report will be made available at the following public locations within the study area, which are all readily accessible to I&APs:

- Burgersfort Public Library;
- Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipal Office;
- Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter offices; and
- Electronically on the Royal HaskoningDHV Website: <https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports>

## 7 Comments and Responses Record

A Comments and Response record has been compiled reflecting all comments and issues received and responded to (Table 1) as well as the proof of comments received to date (**Appendix F**). Comments received during the PPP for the EIR phase will also be included in the table below and proof of comments will be provided in **Appendix F**.

**Table 1: Comments and Responses Record**

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
<b>Comments raised during the Scoping Phase</b>		
<p>Private Business Owner Comment Sheet submitted via Email on 21/06/2021</p>	<p>We support the project and want to be involved in that project.</p>	<p>EAP: Thank you for sending in the comment sheet and for the support of the project.</p> <p>As per the email notification sent to you on 25 June 2021, the draft consultation Environmental Scoping Report is available for comment, please can you provide any comments on this project no later than 26 July 2021.</p> <p>You can access the document via our website, just scroll down to the end of the page, the link is below: <a href="https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports">https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports</a>.</p>
<p>Private Business Owner Email submission on 26/06/2021</p>	<p>Please register me as an affected party on the said database for the EIA.</p>	<p>EAP: You have been registered on the database with the details mentioned in your email.</p> <p>The draft consultation Environmental Scoping Report is available for comment, please can you provide any comments on this project no later than 26 July 2021.</p> <p>You can access the document via our website, just scroll down to the end of the page, the link is below: <a href="https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports">https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports</a>.</p>
<p>Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Biodiversity Conservation Email Submission on 28/06/2021</p>	<p>DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the Scoping Report for the 60MWP Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Ms Rabothata (both copied on this email) and myself.</p>	<p>EAP: Thank you for the acknowledgement, we will await your comments (received below on 27/07/21).</p>

Project related

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
<p>Community Member Email Submission on 29/06/2021</p>	<p>As a local community member with interest in cattle farming and a small enterprise owner, I would like to register as I&amp;AP for the solar project by Samancor.</p> <p>Send me any form if they are available.</p>	<p>EAP: You have been registered as an interested and affected party for the project with the details provided in this email. The Background Information Document with the comment sheet is attached, if you would like to include your comments but you may email me any comments directly for the duration of the environmental process.</p> <p>Also, note that the draft consultation Environmental Scoping Report is available for comment, please can you provide any comments on this project no later than 26 July 2021.</p> <p>You can access the document via our website, just scroll down to the end of the page, the link is below: <a href="https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports">https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports</a>.</p>
<p>Interested and Affected Party Email submission on 29/06/2021</p>	<p>Herein find a request to register as (an) interested and affected party for the Tubatse Chrome photovoltaic power project.</p> <p>Please send me the forms to fill so that I can attend.</p>	<p>EAP: Please find attached a Background Information Document, there is a form on the second to last page where you can include your details, I have registered this email address in the database.</p> <p>Also, note that the draft consultation Environmental Scoping Report is available for comment, please can you provide any comments on this report no later than 26 July 2021.</p> <p>You can access the document via our website, just scroll down to the end of the page, the link is below: <a href="https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports">https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports</a>.</p>
<p>Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism Written Submission via Email 14/07/2021</p>	<p>The proposed development site falls within the Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) 2 in terms of the Conservation Plan of 2013. Therefore, it must be noted that industrial infrastructure activity is an incompatible activity within CBA 2.</p>	<p>EAP: The Environmental Scoping Report and subsequent Biodiversity Assessment has considered the relevant legislation, the Limpopo Conservation Plan (C-Plan) 2013 and the Sekhukhune District Municipality Bioregional Plan (BRP) 2020 which was gazetted on the 27 March 2020 as</p>

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		<p>per the Provincial Government Notice No. 3074. As indicated in the Environmental Scoping Report (page 73), “An appraisal of the BRP categories, specifically in comparison with the Limpopo C-Plan, provides for a more accurate and appropriate categorisation of remaining areas of natural habitat within the development footprints. Where the Limpopo C-Plan (Figure 1) indicates elevated conservation contribution and status, the BRP more accurately describes land transformation and habitat deterioration that is associated with the fragmented and isolated portions of woodland habitat in the immediate surrounds of Steelpoort. The discrepancy between the 2 datasets is likely a result of refined and more recent interpretation of background layers. According to the BRP (Figure 2), all sites are within the Ecological Support Areas (ESA) 1 category.”</p> <p>Upon consultation with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, it was advised that the Sekhukhune District Municipality BRP 2020 is the most relevant and information presented in the BRP supersedes what is presented in the Limpopo C-Plan (2013).</p> <p>In light of the above, and in the view of the comments received from the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, RHDHV would like to enquire whether the Limpopo C-Plan (2013) would still take precedent over the Sekhukhune BRP (2021), noting that the BRP has been subject to further refinement which can be considered more reflective of the present conditions within the Sekhukhune District Municipality. The Department’s comment on this would be much appreciated.</p>

Project related

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism Directorate: Environmental Impact Management Email Submission on 02/08/2021	Another comment will be issued, as soon as possible, apologies for responding late.	EAP: Thanks for attending to this, we will await your response. The comments are still outstanding and will be submitted to the Department once received.
South African Heritage Resources Agency Written Submission via SAHRIS on 23/07/2021	The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorite (APM) Unit notes the submission of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), Scoping Report and its appendices. SAHRA will comment on the application upon the submission of the draft Environmental Impact Assessment report and appendices.	EAP: Your interim comments have been received and acknowledged, once the Environment Impact Report and appendices are available for public participation these will be uploaded onto SAHRIS for your comment.
Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality Email Submission on 23/07/2021	Kindly note my comments as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The project is acknowledged since it will create some work opportunities around the Municipality.</li> <li>2. The developer must ensure that they comply with Environmental legislation especially during operational phase. The Municipality has one licensed landfill site situated at Apel. The site is a general waste facility, no hazardous waste is allowed, therefore all the waste generated during construction and operational phase must be disposed at the Malogeng Landfill site in Apel.</li> </ol>	EAP: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Local employment opportunities (e.g. number of jobs created) will be investigated in the EIA study.</li> <li>2. Waste management objectives and outcomes will be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). Your recommendations regarding the waste facility in Apel is noted.</li> </ol>
Interested and Affected Party Email Submission on 26/07/2021	The link given is showing scoping reports of different areas and I could not open other attachments. I was expecting more from the Steelpoort area for relevant comments.  My comments are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There must be an intensive environmental impact study including ground and river water.</li> </ol>	EAP: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. After the Scoping phase assessment, we will commence with the EIA phase study. We are doing a surface water and freshwater assessment but not a geohydrology assessment. Should the concept (envelope design) determine that boreholes will be required to provide water during the construction and operations phase, a geohydrology assessment would be required.</li> </ol>

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	<p>2. There must be a very careful heritage impact study done before anything else.</p>	<p>A Heritage Impact Assessment has been done with mitigation and management measures proposed for the heritage and archaeological sites of significance.</p>
<p>Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Biodiversity and Conservation Written Submission via Email 27/07/2021</p>	<p>Based on the information provided in the report, all sites are within the Ecological Support Area (ESA 1) Category and development within those areas is acceptable as it supports and sustains ecological functioning of the Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA). Therefore, approximately 25% of this area has already been transformed due to mining activities, cultivation and associated urbanisation, notably around the Steelpoort area.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, the following must be considered in the final Scoping Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Preconstruction walk-through of the approved developmental footprint must be conducted to ensure that sensitive habitats and species are avoided where possible.</li> <li>▪ Rehabilitation Plan that guides planting and seeding with indigenous perennial shrubs and succulents from the local area must be developed to avoid erosion and alien invasion.</li> <li>▪ Search and rescue plan must be developed to excise the relocation/removal for any Threatened or Protected species (TOPs) or species of conservation concern that have likelihood of occurring in the study area.</li> <li>▪ Permits from relevant authorities must be obtained for the removal or disturbance of any TOPs, Red Data listed or provincially protected species.</li> <li>▪ Sensitive habitats in close proximity to the development footprint must be avoided or</li> </ul>	<p>EAP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Preconstruction walk-through for biodiversity (fauna and flora) and avifauna disciplines, rehabilitation measures, search and rescue for sensitive species and species of conservation concern, will be included as part of the EMPr in the EIA study. Where applicable, permits will be obtained from the relevant authorities.</li> <li>▪ Sensitive habitats in close proximity to the development footprint must be avoided or demarcated as No-Go/ restricted area.</li> <li>▪ The avifaunal assessment will specify the provisions of pre- and post-construction bird monitoring. This will need to be undertaken by an avifaunal specialist.</li> <li>▪ Suitable bird repelling structures and bird diverters will be considered to avoid collision of birds with Photovoltaic (PV) facility. This will be recommended by the avifaunal specialist during the EIA study.</li> </ul> <p>The avifaunal sensitivity of the site has been assessed to be medium, and as the combined size of the development sites is less than 150ha, assessment Regime 2 would apply to the site. The site assessment protocol for Regime 2 as specified for the BirdLife South Africa Birds and Solar Best Practice Guidelines are proposed to be followed.</p>

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	<p>demarcated as No-Go Area (i.e. artificial wetlands or drainage lines).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pre- and Post-construction Bird monitoring must be conducted under the guidance of an avifaunal specialist to assess collision rates.</li> <li>▪ Suitable bird repelling structures and bird diverters must be considered to avoid collision of birds with Photovoltaic (PV) facility.</li> </ul> <p>The final report must comply with all requirements as outlined in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) guideline for renewable energy projects and the Best Practice Guideline for Birds &amp; Solar Energy for assessing and monitoring the impact of solar energy facilities on birds in Southern Africa.</p>	
<p>Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Official comments received on 20 July 2021</p>	<p>a. Listed activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 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.</li> <li>▪ If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted.</li> </ul> <p>b. Layout &amp; Sensitivity Maps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Please provide a layout map which indicates the following: proposed grid infrastructure for each of the PV facilities, overlain by the sensitivity map; all supporting onsite infrastructure e.g. roads (existing and proposed); the location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc.</li> </ul>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>a. All listed activities have been identified and included in Chapter 3 and Table 3-1 of the final ESR. In the event that any listed activities have been omitted, revised or come to light during the EIA study, the application form will be revised and submitted with the final EIR.</p> <p>b. A layout map overlaid with the sensitivity information has been included in the final ESR as Figure 9-1.</p>

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	<p>that will be affected; buffer areas; and all “no-go” areas. The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure. Google maps will not be accepted.</p> <p>c. Public Participation Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the SR from registered I&amp;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. 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. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 &amp; 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</li> <li>▪ A comments and response trail report (C&amp;R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&amp;R report must incorporate all historical comments for this development. The C&amp;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&amp;APs. All comments from I&amp;APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as “Noted” is not</li> </ul>	<p>c. A Public Participation (PP) Report has been appended to the final ESR (Appendix E) that includes a Comments and Responses Report (this report), proof of notification and comments received from I&amp;APs and key stakeholders e.g. DFFE Biodiversity Section. The PP process conducted for the ESS complies with Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 &amp; 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>



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	<p>regarded as an adequate response to I&amp;AP's comments.</p> <p>d. Specialist Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 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.</li> <li>▪ 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.</li> <li>▪ Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and were necessary, include further expertise advice.</li> <li>▪ 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</li> </ul>	<p>d. All specialist assessments that will be conducted for the EIA study will comply with the specialist protocols as well as Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended).</p>

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	<p>must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.</p> <p>e. Cumulative Assessment 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 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.</li> <li>▪ 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.</li> <li>▪ The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.</li> <li>▪ A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.</li> </ul> <p>f. General You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:</p>	<p>e. Currently there are no renewable energy developments within 30km from the proposed development, however, the proposed project may have cumulative impacts. These impacts will be included in the EIA study and a cumulative impact statement will be included in the EIR.</p> <p>f. The ESS complies with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), and is being submitted within 44 days of receipt of the application form (29 June 2021).</p>

Project related

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
	<p>“If S&amp;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”.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>The ESR has been compiled in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p> <p>Currently the application is within the Department’s mandatory timeframes and no activity has commenced.</p>
<p>Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Official comments received on 14 September 2021</p>	<p>The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated 03 August 2021 and received by the Department on 04 August 2021, refer.</p>	<p>EAP:</p>

Project related

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
	<p>The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated 03 August 2021 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process. In accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>In addition, the following amendments and additional information are required for the EIA:</p> <p>a. Listed activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The EIA must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.</li> <li>(ii) The listed activities represented in the EIA and the application form must be the same and correct.</li> <li>(iii) It has been noted that the listed activities contain more than one sub-listed activity. Therefore, the EIA must assess the correct sub-listed activity for each listed activity applied for.</li> </ul>	<p>a. Listed Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The impact assessment is included in Chapter 9 and Appendix J of the draft EIR.</li> <li>(ii) The application form will be amended and submitted to the Department with the final EIR.</li> <li>(iii) The Public Participation Report (Appendix F) includes comments received from stakeholders to date.</li> </ul>

Project related

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
	<p>b. Public Participation</p> <p>(i) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR.</p> <p>(ii) Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR and draft EIAR from registered I&amp;APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final EIAR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final EIAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.</p> <p>(iii) A Comments and Response trail report (C&amp;R) must be submitted with the final EIAR. The C&amp;R report must incorporate all comments for this development. The C&amp;R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Appendix 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&amp;APs. All comments from I&amp;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&amp;AP's comments.</p> <p>(iv) Comments from I&amp;APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.</p> <p>(v) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41,</p>	<p>b. Public Participation</p> <p>(i) The Public Participation Report (Appendix F) includes comments received from stakeholders to date.</p> <p>(ii) All comments will be addressed in the final EIR and proof of correspondence will be included in the final EIR Public Participation Report.</p> <p>(iii) A Comments and Responses Record compiled to date has been included in the Public Participation Report (Appendix F). An update Comments and Responses Report will be included in the Final EIR.</p> <p>(iv) The comments in the Comments and Responses Record have not been split into categories and have been responded to individually.</p> <p>(v) The Public Participation Process has been conducted in terms of Reg 39 - 43 to date.</p> <p>(vi) A request has been forwarded to the Department to conduct a visit on 24 November 2021. The case officer (Ms Dlamini) has advised that they have not been conducting site inspections unless if there are issues with that particular project. However, that does not mean that the opportunity cannot be explored. She will consult with her management and advise.</p>

Project related

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
	<p>42, 43 &amp; 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>(vi) The EAP is requested to contact the Department to make the necessary arrangements to conduct a site inspection prior to the submission of the final EIAR.</p> <p>c. Alternatives</p> <p>(i) Please provide a description of each of the preferred alternative types and state in detail why it is the preferred option.</p> <p>(ii) Further It has been noted that site 5 has a lot of impacts as per the assessments done. You are therefore requested to clearly outline sufficient reason as to why site 5 is still considered to be part of the proposed project.</p> <p>d. Layout and Sensitivity Maps</p> <p>(i) The EIAR must provide the four corner coordinate points per the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous bend points, at each bend point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities.</p> <p>(ii) Clear indication of the envisioned area for the proposed solar energy facility; i.e. placing of solar panels and all associated infrastructure should be mapped at an appropriate scale. Clear description of all associated infrastructure. This description must include, but is not limited to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. powerlines,</li> <li>2. Internal roads infrastructure,</li> </ol>	<p>c. Alternatives</p> <p>(i) Alternatives are provided in Chapter 5 of the draft consultation EIR.</p> <p>(ii) A motivation as to why Site 5 is being considered as part of this EIA study is provided in Section 5.1 of the draft consultation EIR.</p> <p>d. Layout and Sensitivity Maps</p> <p>(i) The coordinates of the sites are provided in Table 2-3 and Appendix A of the draft consultation EIR.</p> <p>(ii) Layout maps are provided in Appendix D of the draft consultation EIR. The description of the infrastructure are presented in Table 2-4 of the draft consultation EIR.</p> <p>(iii) Sensitivity maps are presented in Section 10.4 of the draft consultation EIR.</p> <p>(iv) Sensitivity maps are presented in Section 10.4 of the draft consultation EIR.</p> <p>(v) Sensitivity maps are presented in Section 10.4 of the draft consultation EIR.</p>

Project related

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
	<p>3. All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area, guard house and control room etc. and</p> <p>4. All necessary details regarding all possible locations and sizes of the proposed satellite substation and the main substation.</p> <p>(iii) A copy of the final preferred route layout map. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout map must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Permanent laydown area footprint; internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible);</li> <li>▪ Wetlands; drainage lines, rivers, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used;</li> <li>▪ The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;</li> <li>▪ Substation{s} and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint;</li> <li>▪ Location of access and service roads;</li> <li>▪ Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;</li> <li>▪ All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads;</li> </ul>	

Project related

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Buffer areas;</li> <li>▪ Buildings; including accommodation; and</li> <li>▪ All "no-go" areas.</li> </ul> <p>(iv) An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.</p> <p>(v) A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.</p> <p>e. Specialist Assessments</p> <p>(i) The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A detailed description of the study's methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.</li> <li>▪ Provide a detailed description of all limitations to the studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation will not be allowed.</li> <li>▪ Please note that the Department considers a 'no-go' area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the 'no-go' areas.</li> <li>▪ Should the specialist definition of 'no-go' area differ from the Departments definition; this must be clearly indicated.</li> </ul>	<p>e. Specialist Assessments</p> <p>(i)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All specialist reports (Appendix E1 - E7) comply with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations 2014 as amended and protocols.</li> <li>▪ Cumulative impacts are addressed in Chapter 9 (where applicable) and a cumulative impact statement is included in Section 10.3 of the draft consultation EIR.</li> </ul> <p>(ii) No contradicting recommendations have been received from the specialists.</p>



Project related

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	<p>The specialist must also indicate the 'no-go' area's buffer if applicable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed past EA.</li> <li>▪ Should a specialist recommend specific mitigation measures, these must be clearly indicated.</li> <li>▪ Regarding cumulative impacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clearly defined cumulative impacts and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.</li> <li>- A detailed process flow 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.</li> <li>- Identified cumulative impacts associated with the proposed development must be rated with the significance rating methodology used in the process.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

Project related

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.</li> <li>- A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.</li> </ul> <p>(ii) 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.</p> <p>f. General</p> <p>(i) The EIAr must provide the technical details for the proposed facility in a table format as well as their description and/or dimensions. A sample for the minimum information required is listed under Annexure 2 below.</p> <p>(ii) Details of the future plans for the site and infrastructure after decommissioning in 20-30 years and the possibility of upgrading the proposed infrastructure to more advanced technologies must be indicated.</p> <p>(iii) Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.</p> <p>(iv) The EAP must provide landowner consent for all farm portions affected by the proposed project, whether the project component is linear or not, i.e. all farm portions where the access road, solar panels and associated infrastructure is to be located.</p>	<p>f. General</p> <p>(i) Refer to Table 2-3 of the draft consultation EIR.</p> <p>(ii) In terms of advanced technologies and upgrading this will be determined by a more detailed design. The technology proposed is for a life cycle of 20 years, as one normally builds a solar PV plant for this duration, due to the large capital investment, it is uneconomical to change the technology to follow latest trends and developments.</p> <p>(iii) A pre-application enquiry has been lodged on the Electronic Water Use Licence Application and Authorisation System (e-WULAAS). Currently awaiting feedback from the Department of Water and Sanitation to proceed with application process.</p> <p>(iv) Landowner consent will be provided with the revised application form and final EIR.</p> <p>(v) An EMPr for the PV plant is attached as Appendix G of the draft consultation EIR. Generic EMPrs for the overhead lines and</p>

Project related

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
	(v) A construction and operational phase EMPr that includes mitigation and monitoring measures must be submitted with the final EIAr.	substation are included in Appendix H and I respectively of the draft consultation EIR.
<b>Comments raised during the Environmental Impact Phase</b>		
Landowner Email Submission via Landowner Notification on 25/10/2021	Thank you for your email dated 22 October 2021. Please see attached my registration as Interested and Affected Party.  Unfortunately, I object to the location of the Site 1 PV plant as it is situated within my land. The property is earmarked as part of a future project.	EAP: Thank you for the signed form, your objection regarding Site 1 due to future projects is acknowledged, the applicant will also be notified regarding this objection.
Landowner Email Submission on 25/10/2021	Thanks, when I look at the proposed sites (and in particular proposed site 1) I fail to see why you would need to run power lines over our Glencropt properties.  Please could you have a relook in this regard.	EAP: As per our e-mail communication, there are two northern 33kV electrical distribution alignment options, of which a portion of the northern option affects Glencore property as indicated by the yellow star.  Based on your correspondence, can we confirm that you formally object against the most northern alignment and that Glencore will not be providing consent for this specific alignment irrespective whether it's an Overhead Power line or underground cable?  There will be a public meeting during the commenting period for the Environmental Impact Report, we will

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Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		forward these details once finalised, should you wish to attend.
<p>Landowner Telephonic conversation and Email Submission on 25/10/2021</p>	<p>Landowner stated that there are services underground associated with the residential complex that the proposed powerline alignment runs through and this may disrupt services.</p> <p>Recommended that the proposed powerline alignment be routed through the bottom end of Site 1 as this is a more direct route to the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter.</p>	<p>EAP: As per our telephonic conversation, I understand that there are a services that run under that area due to the housing development that could be disrupted by the powerline alignment as provided to you, I just would like to reiterate that the consent from is purely to make landowners aware of any infrastructure that may impact your property and allow you to provide further recommendations which will be put forward to the department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) , who will then take all this information into account in issuing their decision.</p> <p>This letter does not equate to consent to develop, that will be a process that will be handled between the applicant and yourselves.</p> <p>My recommendation, if you are in agreement, that you sign the form but include your concerns and the recommendation that the powerline be moved to the bottom end of Site 1 and then we can put this forward to the engineers to provide a comment on?</p> <p>Just to note all comments is also collated into a comments and response table that will be provided to the department as well. The consent form as provided by you will also be sent to the department.</p>

## 8 Environmental Authorisation

On receipt of environmental authorisation (positive or negative) for the project, I&APs registered on the project database will be informed of this authorisation and its associated terms and conditions by correspondence and advertisement.

## **Appendix A: PP Plan & Approval**

---

**Subject:** PP Plan for the PV

Dear Malcolm

THE public participation plan for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality and received on the 11 June 2021 refers.

The Department has evaluated the Public Participation Plan which is submitted as per Minister Directive dated 05 June 2020 in response to Covid-19 pandemic and hereby approves the plan for the abovementioned project.

Please ensure that all correspondence to be sent to I&APs must clearly specify the dates when comments on the report should be submitted. Further, should there be a need to for a meetings from I&APs, the meeting can take place via virtual platforms such as Microsoft Teams.

You may proceed with the public participation process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the PPP plan. Should you wish to deviate from the submitted PPP Plan, the amended PPP Plan must be submitted to the Department for approval prior commencement.

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

Please note that the minutes of the meeting reflect what was discussed on the meeting. Further, the approach in terms of Listing Notice 3 (LN3) activities is accepted as D: Biodiversity & Conservation stated "That approach is supported because of the latest status of the information then we get accurate information compared using old CBA and ESA data".

Do not hesitate to contact me if you need further clarity

Regards

Samke

**Ms Samkelisiwe Dlamini**  
**National Infrastructure Projects**  
**Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
(DFFE)  
Integrated Environmental Authorisations  
Attn: To be confirmed

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Date: 20 May 2021  
Your reference: [REDACTED]  
Our reference: MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-YE-  
0001  
Classification: Project related

**Public Participation Plan: Environmental Authorisation for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality**

Dear Sirs/Mams

The rising electricity tariffs in South Africa, combined with the load shedding patterns experienced across the country, has a negative impact on the production and revenue of the Samancor business. This has motivated Samancor to consider renewable energy generation at their smelter plants. Implementing solar PV generation will result in improved availability of supply and reduced utility bills, especially since a major portion of the Samancor product is being exported. A PV plant converts the solar radiation into electric energy by using photovoltaic solar arrays. The name plate rating of the plant will be a minimum of 60 MWp, which will be spread over several sites surrounding the Tubatse Ferrochrome mining operations.

Each of the PV plants will consist of the following infrastructure:

- Solar PV panels that will be able to deliver up to 60MWp to the Samancor grid;
- Inverters that convert direct current (DC) generated by the PV modules into alternating current (AC) to be exported to the electrical grid;
- Transformer /s that raises the system AC low voltage to medium voltage. The transformer converts the voltage of the electricity generated by the PV panels to the correct voltage for delivery to Eskom;
- Transformer substation; and
- Instrumentation and Control consisting of hardware and software for remote plant monitoring and operation of the facility.

Associated infrastructure includes:

- Mounting structures for the solar panels in a fixed tilt of rotating tracking configuration;
- Cabling between the structures, to be lain underground where practical;

- New 33kV overhead powerlines between the various sites and the Tubatse East and -West substation buildings;
- Local substation and transformer yard at each PV site;
- Containerized switchgear substation at Tubatse East and -West MV substations for connecting to the Tubatse substation busbars;
- Water provision infrastructure (i.e. pipeline/ s, storage tank/ s, etc.) for PV panel cleaning;
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS); and
- Internal access roads (4 - 6m wide roads will be constructed, but existing roads will be used as far as possible), fencing (approximately 3m in height), gates and access control.

As per Government Gazette 43412 GN R. 650 Disaster Management Act (57/2002): Directions Regarding Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 Relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences: Annexure 2 and 3 published on 5 June 2020, the DFFE requires a Public Participation (PP) Plan to be approved for an application for Environmental Authorisation that requires public participation.

PP is a process that is designed to enable all Interested and Affected parties (I&APs) to voice their opinion and/or concerns which enables the practitioner to evaluate all aspects of the proposed development, with the objective of improving the project by maximising its benefits while minimising its adverse effects.

I&APs include all interested stakeholders, technical specialists, and the various relevant organs of state who work together to produce better decisions.

The primary aims of the PP process are:

- to inform I&APs and key stakeholders of the proposed application and environmental studies;
- to initiate meaningful and timeous participation of I&APs;
- to identify issues and concerns of key stakeholders and I&APs with regards to the development;
- to promote transparency and an understanding of the project and its potential environmental (social and biophysical) impacts (both positive and negative);
- to provide information used for decision-making;
- to provide a structure for liaison and communication with I&APs and key stakeholders;
- to ensure inclusivity (the needs, interests and values of I&APs must be considered in the decision-making process);
- to focus on issues relevant to the project, and issues considered important by I&APs and key stakeholders; and
- to provide responses to I&AP queries.

The public participation process must adhere to the requirements of Regulations 41 and 42 (GN R.326). Further, a Public Participation guideline in terms of NEMA was issued by the DFFE in 2017, of which provisions will also be implemented.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN**

### **1. Identification of I&APs**

An I&AP database is already available due to previous projects undertaken. The I&AP database will be updated with new I&APs requesting to be registered and will be maintained throughout the duration of the project. All registered I&APs on the database will be informed of the project, review period as well as outcome of the decision issued by DFFE.

## 2. Advertisement

In compliance with the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended in 2017), notification of the draft Consultation Environmental Scoping Report (ESR) and draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be advertised in the local newspaper in the Steelpoort area. Two rounds of advertisements will take place (one in the Scoping phase and one in the EIA phase) in English.

## 3. Site Notices

The NEMA EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended in 2017) require that a site notice be fixed at a place conspicuous to the public at the boundary or on the fence of the site where the activity to which the application relates is to be undertaken and on any alternative sites. The purpose of this is to notify the public of the proposed project and to invite the public to register as stakeholders and inform them of the PP Process. Site Notices were placed at the Tubatse Chrome Golf Club, Steelpoort Primary School, Post Office and the proposed Site 3.

## 4. Public Review of the Draft Consultation Environmental Scoping Report (ESR)

The draft consultation Environmental Scoping Report (ESR) will be made available electronically for a public review period of 30-days, via the Royal HaskoningDHV Website:

<https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports>.

At the time of compilation of this document adjusted level 1 Covid-19 restrictions are in place, therefore it has been proposed that copies of the draft consultation ESR will also be made available at the Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipality Public Library and Municipal Offices and the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter offices. These locations have been chosen as they are required to ensure that Covid-19 regulations and protocols are in place according to the Disaster Management Act, 2002,

Should the Covid-19 restrictions increase, the PP Plan will be adjusted with guidance from the DFFE to accommodate these restrictions whilst ensuring a robust and transparent process is conducted.

Limited electronic copies will be distributed to stakeholders who specifically request a copy.

## 5. Public Review of the Draft Consultation Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)

The draft consultation Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and EMPr will be made available electronically for a public review period of 30-days, via the Royal HaskoningDHV Website:

<https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports>.

At the time of compilation of this document adjusted level 1 restriction covid-19 restrictions are in place, therefore it has been proposed that copies of the draft consultation EIR and EMPr be made available at the Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipality Public Library and Municipal Offices and the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter offices. These locations have been chosen as they are required to ensure that Covid-19 regulations and protocols are in place according to the Disaster Management Act, 2002, at the time of compilation of this document adjusted level 1 restrictions are in place.

Should the covid-19 restrictions increase, the PP Plan will be adjusted with guidance from the DFFE to accommodate these restrictions whilst ensuring a robust and transparent process is conducted.

Limited electronic copies will be distributed to stakeholders who specifically request a copy.

## 6. Meetings

A public participation meeting and two Focus Group Meetings will be conducted in the EIA Phase only, the venue will be chosen taking into consideration the Covid-19 regulations as stipulated in the Disaster Management Act, 2002.

## 7. Comments and Responses Report (CRR)

A CRR will be compiled with any comments and issues received and responded to which will form part of the submission of the final consultation ESR and EIR.

Comments must be forwarded either via email, letter, by hand or via phone calls (documented in a letter or email thereafter) to:

*Seshni Govender*  
*PO Box, 867, Gallo Manor, 2052*  
*Tel: 087 352 1592, Email: Seshni.govender@rhdhv.com*

## 8. Environmental Authorisations

On receipt of the EA (positive or negative) for the proposed project, I&APs registered on the project database will be informed of this decision and its associated terms and conditions as well as the appeal process by email correspondence. An advert will be placed in the local newspaper in the Steelpoort area notifying I&APs of the decision.

Kind Regards

Malcolm Roods  
EAP

## **Appendix B: I&AP Database**

<b>Organisation</b>
Steelpoort Primary School
The South African College of Business
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Olifantshoel and Diepgezet Farms
AGS Steelpoort
Eastern Chrome Mines
Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency
Platinum Gazette
Plant O' Hire Rentals
Eagle Greek Investments 165 (PTY) Ltd
Steelpoort Properties
Olifantspoort Chemist
Tini (Pty) Ltd Phasha
Sasol Garage Steelpoort
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
Transnet
Eagle Greek Investments 165 (PTY) Ltd
DR Henk Goosen
Five Star Butchery
Olifantspoortjie Guesthouse
Izinyoni Trading 349 (PTY) Ltd
Trade Plus Aid
Plant O' Hire Rentals
South African Heritage Resources Agency
Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation
Two Rivers Platinum Mine
Kremetart Guesthouse
Kremetart Guesthouse
Tubatse Ferrochrome (Pty) Limited
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
Steelpoort Transport
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation
Deputy Director-General Climate Change and Air Quality
Plant O' Hire CC
Endangered Wildlife Trust
Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation
Ntswane Business Advisory Services
Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation
Local community member
Global Unity Environment
Bathopele Community Development Forum
Limpopo Department of Economic Development
Apostolic Faith Mission of South Africa- AGS Steelpoort (Landowner)
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Fetakgomo-Greater Tubatse Local Municipality-Ward 2 Councillor
Limpopo Department of Economic Development
Batho Pele Forum (Ga-mampuru village)
Kgamalekana Tribal Authority
Mampuru Moshate (Traditional Council)
Mampuru Moshate (Traditional Council)
BabinaNoko-Ba-Mampuru Royal Council
ANC Womens League

Department of Mineral Resources
Department of Environmental Affairs
Department of Rural Development and Land
Golder Associates
GPM Services
Pulana Maroga Tribal Authority
Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality
Sekhukhune District Municipality
Limpopo Department of Economic Development
Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation
Ga-Phasha
Fetakgomo - Greater Tubatse Local Municipality
Regray Security
Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation
Fetakgomo - Greater Tubatse Local Municipality
Provincial Heritage Authority Gauteng
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Limpopo Department of Economic Development
Bagaugelwa (Pty) Ltd
Global Unity
Department of Labour
Global Unity Environment
ASA Metals
Thembaletu Bus Services
Goldenspot Trading 682
Goldenspot Trading 682
Global Unity Environment
Global Unity Environment
Phasha Royal Council
Mampuru Moshate (Traditional Council)
Mafathe Development
Landowner
Steelport Bricks and Paving
Golder Associates
Sekhukhune District Municipality
Didingwe Lodge - Moreson of Northcliff
JP Guesthouse
DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation
Birdlife South Africa
Investec/Flashfin
Sasol Garage Steelport
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation
Spitzkop Community, Bathopele development
Limpopo Department of Economic Development
Tubatse Chrome (Pty) Limited
Sekhukhune District Municipality
Cash Build Steelport
Van Niekerk Stene
Izinyoni Trading 349 (PTY) Ltd
Goldbroz
Steelport Diesel
Glencprop properties (Landowner)
Ngululu Bulk Carriers
Bapedi Smart Electrical

## **Appendix C: Proof of Notification**



## **Scoping Phase Notifications**

**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)

**Cc:**

**Subject:** Public Participation: Scoping And Environmental Impact Assessment for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Tuesday, 01 June 2021 08:34:00  
**Attachments:** [EIA PV Plant Steelpoort BID Final.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High



Dear Stakeholder

Notice is hereby given in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended in 2017) published in Government Notice Regulation (GNR) 324, in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act - NEMA (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) and the National Water Act – NWA (Act No. 36 of 1998) (as amended) of the initiative by Samancor Chrome Ltd (Samancor), to apply for an environmental authorisation and water use authorisation for a 60MWp Photovoltaic (PV) Plant associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter in the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality.

Please find attached a Background Information Document which provides details regarding the project as well as how you can become involved during the process.

Regards

**Seshni Govender (Pr. Sci. Nat.)**  
**Environmental Consultant**

D 087 352 1592 | E [seshni.govender@rhdhv.com](mailto:seshni.govender@rhdhv.com) | W [www.rhdhv.co.za](http://www.rhdhv.co.za)  
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**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Public Participation: Scoping And Environmental Impact Assessment for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Tuesday, 08 June 2021 16:56:00  
**Attachments:** [EIA PV Plant Steelpoort BID Final.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

---



Dear Councillor Mohlala

Notice is hereby given in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended in 2017) published in Government Notice Regulation (GNR) 324, in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act - NEMA (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) and the National Water Act – NWA (Act No. 36 of 1998) (as amended) of the initiative by Samancor Chrome Ltd (Samancor), to apply for an environmental authorisation and water use authorisation for a 60MWp Photovoltaic (PV) Plant associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter in the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality.


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Regards

**Seshni Govender** (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)  
**Environmental Consultant**

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**Environmental Impact Assessment and Water Use Authorisation Process for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality- Interested and Affected Party Postage List**

Mrs Eva Bhembe

[Redacted]

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(with a domestic insurance option)  
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Mr Hendrik Stephanus Coetzee

[Redacted]

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Dr CL De Jager

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Mr Loedewyk De Jager

[Redacted]

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Mr Pierre De Villiers

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Mr Hendrik Goosen

[Redacted]

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Mr L Gouws

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Mr Coert Grobbelaar

[Redacted]

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Mr Henry Herbert

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*S. Masi*



Mr David Malapane

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Mr Frans Mampuru

[Redacted]

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Mr Jackson Mampuru

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Mrs Maria Manamela

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Mr Ephraim Maphanga

[Redacted]

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Mr Joggie Mare

[Redacted]

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Pulana Maroga Tribal Authority

[Redacted]

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Ms Maggy Masufi

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Mr Thomas Matlebane

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*SMasL*



Ms Johanna Susanna Corneli Naude

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Mr Roget Naude

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Mr Andrew Nkosi

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Mr Paul Phasha

[Redacted]

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Ms Mukondeleli Siminya

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Mr P Van Niekerk

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Mr Peter Charles Brian Van Niekerk

[Redacted]

Mr Dirk Badenhorst

[Redacted]

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Ms Tebogo Mangaba

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*SM*  
0042  
7 JUN 2021  
GARSFONTEIN

Miss Modega Phasha

[Redacted]

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Mr Henry Knoetze

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Mr Dube Serage

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Mr David Puleng Phurutsi

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Mr Victor Mongwe

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Mr Tshepo Maselela

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[Handwritten signature]

**From:** [Seshni Govender](mailto:Seshni.Govender)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:29:00  
**Attachments:** [MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-ZZ-0001-ESR Notification F01.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

---



Dear Stakeholder


Please find attached latest correspondence regarding the project.

The scoping Report is now available for comment and can be downloaded from the link below:  
<https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports>.

Regards  
Seshni Govender (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)  
Environmental Consultant

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**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:30:00  
**Attachments:** [MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-ZZ-0001-ESR Notification F01.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High



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Regards

**Seshni Govender (Pr. Sci. Nat.)**  
Environmental Consultant

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**From:** [Seshni Govender](mailto:Seshni.Govender)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:30:00  
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**Importance:** High

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Regards  
Seshni Govender (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)  
Environmental Consultant

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**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:30:00  
**Attachments:** [MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-ZZ-0001-ESR Notification F01.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High



Dear Councillor Makine

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**Environmental Consultant**

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**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:30:00  
**Attachments:** [MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-ZZ-0001-ESR Notification F01.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Dear Councillor Mohlala

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**Seshni Govender (Pr. Sci. Nat.)**  
**Environmental Consultant**

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**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:31:00  
**Attachments:** [MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-ZZ-0001-ESR Notification F01.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Dear Mr Ngoesheng

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A hard copy of the report has been sent to you as requested.

Regards

**Seshni Govender (Pr. Sci. Nat.)**  
Environmental Consultant

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**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:31:00  
**Attachments:** [MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-ZZ-0001-ESR Notification F01.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High



Dear Ms Masebe

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A hard copy of the report has been sent to you as requested.

Regards

**Seshni Govender (Pr. Sci. Nat.)**  
Environmental Consultant

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**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:32:00  
**Attachments:** [MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-ZZ-0001-ESR Notification F01.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Dear Ms Ralston-Paton

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Regards

**Seshni Govender (Pr. Sci. Nat.)**  
**Environmental Consultant**

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**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:32:00  
**Attachments:** [MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-ZZ-0001-ESR Notification F01.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

---



Dear Stakeholder

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Regards

**Seshni Govender (Pr. Sci. Nat.)**  
**Environmental Consultant**

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**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)

**Cc:**

**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:32:00  
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**Seshni Govender** (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)  
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**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:34:00  
**Attachments:** [MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-ZZ-0001-ESR Notification F01.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Dear Ms Pilusa

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A hard copy of the report has been sent you as requested by the department.

Regards

**Seshni Govender (Pr. Sci. Nat.)**  
**Environmental Consultant**

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Environmental Impact Assessment and Water Use Authorisation Process for the 60MWp  
Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo  
Tubatse Local Municipality-  
Interested and Affected Party Postage List  
Notification for Availability of Scoping Report for Public Review

Mrs Eva Bhembe  
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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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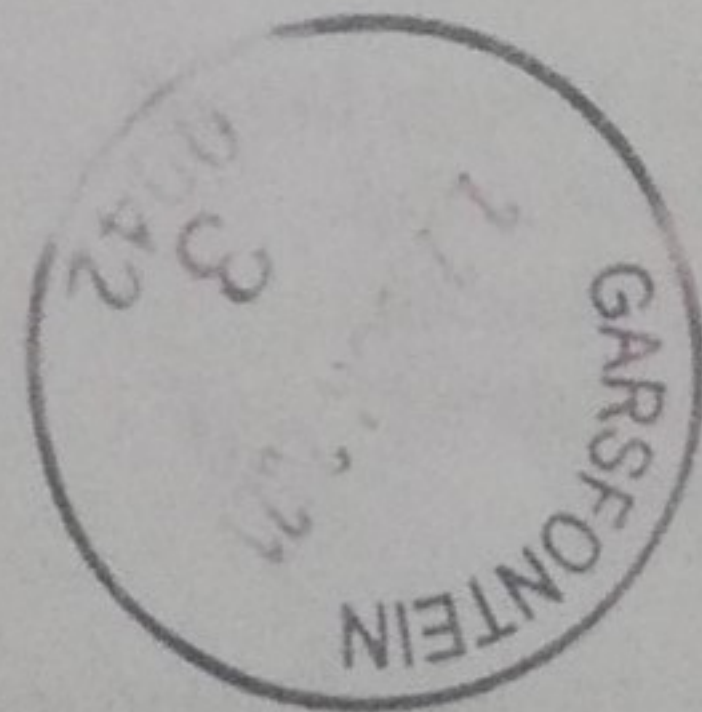
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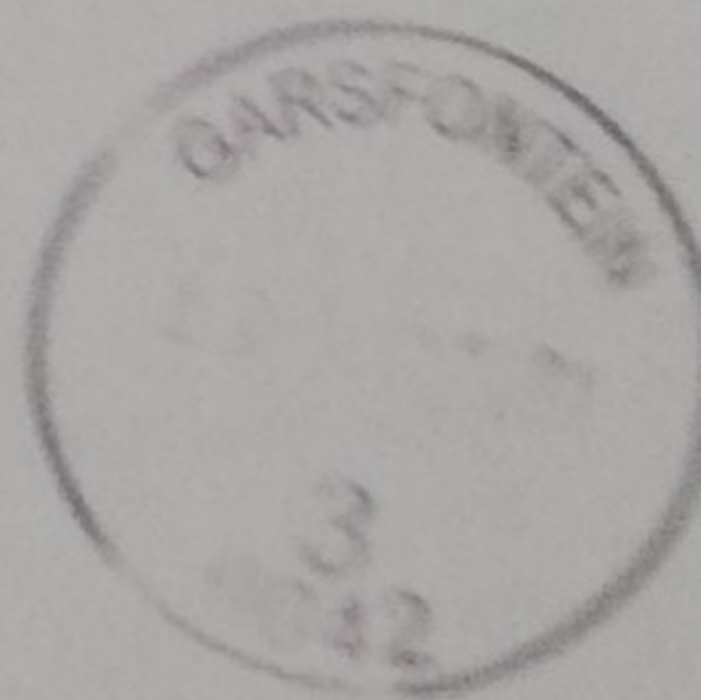
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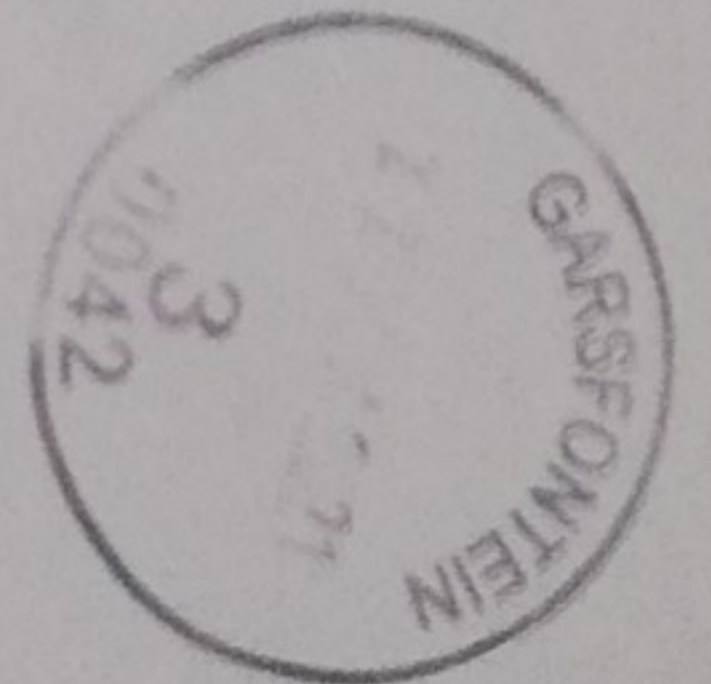
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**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:38:00  
**Attachments:** [MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-ZZ-0001-ESR Notification F01.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Dear Stakeholder

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Regards

**Seshni Govender** (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)  
**Environmental Consultant**

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**From:** Seshni Govender  
**Subject:** RE: Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Thursday, 22 July 2021 16:52:00  
**Importance:** High

---

Dear Ms Ralston-Paton

Hope you are well.

This serves as a reminder that comments are due for the above mentioned project, please can we have comments on or before the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021.


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Regards

Seshni Govender (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)  
Environmental Consultant

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**From:** Seshni Govender  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:32  
**Cc:** Prashika Reddy <[prashika.reddy@rhdhv.com](mailto:prashika.reddy@rhdhv.com)>; Malcolm Roods <[Malcolm.Roods@rhdhv.com](mailto:Malcolm.Roods@rhdhv.com)>; Humayrah Bassa <[Humayrah.Bassa@rhdhv.com](mailto:Humayrah.Bassa@rhdhv.com)>  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Importance:** High



Dear Ms Ralston-Paton

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Regards


Seshni Govender (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)



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**From:** Seshni Govender  
**Subject:** RE: Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Thursday, 22 July 2021 16:51:00  
**Importance:** High

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Dear Councillor Makine

Hope you are well.


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Regards  
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Environmental Consultant

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**From:** Seshni Govender  
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**Importance:** High



Dear Councillor Makine


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**Date:** Thursday, 22 July 2021 16:51:00  
**Importance:** High

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Dear Councillor Mohlala

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**Sent:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:31

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**Importance:** High



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**From:** Seshni Govender  
**Subject:** RE: Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Thursday, 22 July 2021 16:53:00  
**Importance:** High

---

Dear Tsholofelo

Hope you are well.

This serves as a reminder that comments are due for the above mentioned project, please can we have comments on or before the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

The scoping Report is available electronically from the link below:  
<https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports>.

Regards

Seshni Govender (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)  
Environmental Consultant

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---

**From:** Seshni Govender  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:32

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Importance:** High



Dear Stakeholder

Please find attached latest correspondence regarding the project.

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Regards

Seshni Govender (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)

**Environmental Consultant**

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Seshni Govender

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**Importance:** High



Dear Stakeholder

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**From:** Seshni Govender  
**Subject:** RE: Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Thursday, 22 July 2021 16:40:00

---

Dear Stakeholder

Hope you are well.


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**From:** Seshni Govender  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:30

**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Importance:** High



Dear Stakeholder

Please find attached latest correspondence regarding the project.


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Environmental Consultant

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**Subject:** RE: Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Thursday, 22 July 2021 16:50:00  
**Importance:** High

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Dear Stakeholder

Hope you are well.


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Seshni Govender

**Sent:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:30

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Importance:** High



Dear Stakeholder

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Environmental Consultant

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**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)



[Redacted content]

**Subject:** RE: Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Thursday, 22 July 2021 16:55:00  
**Importance:** High

Dear Stakeholder

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Regards

**Seshni Govender** (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)  
Environmental Consultant

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**From:** Seshni Govender

**Sent:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:32

[Redacted content]

**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality

**Importance:** High



Dear Stakeholder

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Regards

**Seshni Govender (Pr. Sci. Nat.)**  
**Environmental Consultant**

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**Subject:** RE: Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Thursday, 22 July 2021 16:52:00  
**Importance:** High

---

Dear Ms Pilusa

Hope you are well.

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Regards

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**From:** Seshni Govender  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:34

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Importance:** High



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A hard copy of the report has been sent you as requested by the department.

Regards


Seshni Govender (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)



**Environmental Consultant**

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**Date:** Thursday, 22 July 2021 16:52:00  
**Importance:** High

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Dear Ms Masebe

Hope you are well.


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**Sent:** Friday, 25 June 2021 12:32

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Importance:** High



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A hard copy of the report has been sent to you as requested.

Regards  
Seshni Govender (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)  
Environmental Consultant

Interested and Affected Party

**ROYAL HASKONINGDHV (PTY) LTD**

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Date:	25 June 2021	Contact name:	Seshni Govender
Your reference:		Telephone:	087 352 1592
Our reference:	MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-ZZ-0001	Email:	seshni.govender@rhdhv.com
Classification:	Project related		

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND WATER USE AUTHORISATION PROCESS FOR THE 60MW<sub>p</sub> PHOTOVOLTAIC PLANT ASSOCIATED WITH THE TUBATSE FERROCHROME SMELTER, STEELPOORT, FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

Samancor Chrome Ltd (Samancor) is proposing the development of a 60 Megawatt peak (MW<sub>p</sub>) Photovoltaic (PV) Plant over 5 potential sites adjacent to the Tubatse Ferrochrome (TFC) Smelter in Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality.

The rising electricity tariffs in South Africa, combined with the increasingly load shedding patterns experienced across the country, has a negative impact on the production and revenue of the Samancor business. This has motivated Samancor Chrome to consider renewable energy generation at their smelter plants. Implementing solar PV generation will result in improved availability of supply and reduced utility bills.

Samancor Chrome has invited Independent Power Producers (IPPs) to respond to a Request for Proposal (RFP) in March 2021, to finance, develop, construct, own, operate and maintain the PV plant, in order to supply electricity to Samancor Chrome's TFC Smelter. It is Samancor Chrome's intent to sign a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with the successful IPP for a minimum of 20 years with an option to extend to 25 years.

A PV plant converts the solar radiation into electric energy by using photovoltaic solar arrays. The name plate rating of the plant will be a minimum of 60 MW<sub>p</sub>, which will be spread over several sites surrounding the Tubatse Ferrochrome mining operations.

The main components of a PV plant include the following:

- Development of a PV plant over the selected potential sites including mounting structures, inverters, on-site transformers and substations, instrumentation and control;
- New 33kV overhead powerlines (within 50m assessment corridor) between the various sites linking up to either the Tubatse East and -West substations;
- Battery Energy Storage System either lead-acid or lithium-ion; and

- Ancillary infrastructure such as construction laydown area/ s, water pipelines and storage tanks, internal access roads, fencing, gates and access control.

The draft Environmental Scoping Report is now available for review and comment from 25 June 2021 – 26 July 2021. Please can we have comments on or before 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

The report is available electronically on the following link:

<https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports>

Hard Copies of the report can be found at the following locations:

- Steelpoort Public Library;
- Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipal Office; and
- Tubatse Ferrochrom Smelter Office.

**Seshni Govender**

Environmental Consultant  
Southern Africa

**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)



[Redacted content]

**Subject:** Final Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Thursday, 05 August 2021 12:08:00  
**Importance:** High



Dear Stakeholder

The final scoping report for the above mentioned project has been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

The final scoping report may be accessed via the link below:  
<https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports>.

Thank you for your participation during the scoping phase.

Regards  
Seshni Govender (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)  
Environmental Consultant

D 087 352 1592 | E [seshni.govender@rhdhv.com](mailto:seshni.govender@rhdhv.com) | W [www.rhdhv.co.za](http://www.rhdhv.co.za)  
Royal HaskoningDHV (Pty) Ltd trading as Royal HaskoningDHV | Reg No. 1966/001916/07  
Building No. 5 Country Club Estate, 21 Woodlands Drive, Woodmead, 2191  
PO Box 867, Gallo Manor, 2052, Gauteng, South Africa



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## **Appendix D: Notification Document**

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND WATER USE AUTHORISATION PROCESS FOR THE 60MWp PHOTOVOLTAIC PLANT ASSOCIATED WITH THE TUBATSE FERROCHROME SMELTER, STEELPOORT, FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT  
(JUNE 2021)



DDFE REF: TBC

DHSW&S Ref: TBC

## WHAT DOES THIS DOCUMENT TELL YOU?

This document aims to inform you as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), with background information regarding the development of a 60MWp Photovoltaic (PV) Plant associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome (TFC) Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality.

The document also provides information regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Water Use Authorisation (WUA) Processes to be undertaken. The document advises you on how you can become involved in the project – by reviewing information, and making inputs thereon, including raising any possible issues and concerns. This sharing of information forms the basis of the Public Participation Process (PPP) and offers you the opportunity to become actively involved in the project from the outset.

## PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The project area is located on opposite sides of the R555 and to the south of the Steelpoort River, Limpopo Province. The project area falls within the Sekhukhune District Municipality and the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality. Small settlements of Pelaneng (located to the north), Stocking, Matholeng and Mohlakwana (located to the east) exist within the project area. The town of Steelpoort is located to the east of the TFC Smelter.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

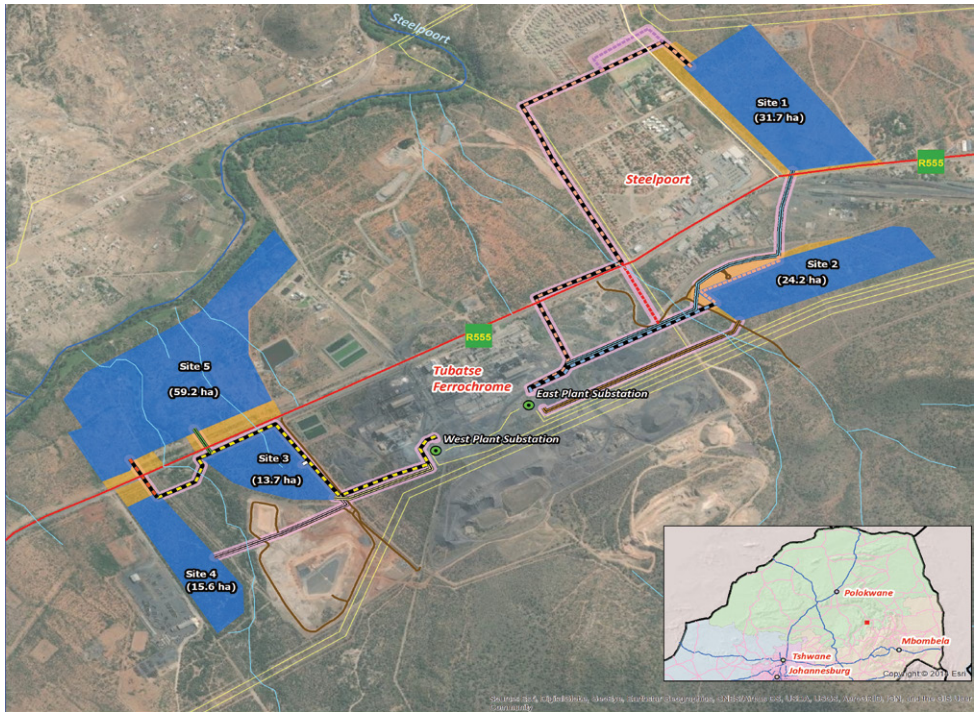
Five (5) potential sites are being assessed in the Scoping Study for the placement of PV infrastructure as shown in the Locality map - Figure 1.

The details of the sites are provided below:

Site Number	Size (ha)	Farm Details
1	31.7	Goudmyn 337 Ptn 00001
2	24.2	Goudmyn 337 Ptn 00010 & Ptn 00001
3	13.7	Goudmyn 337 Ptn 00000
4	15.6	Goudmyn 337 Ptn 00000
5	59.2	Goudmyn 337 Ptn 00000 & Ptn 00006



# Environmental Impact Assessment for the Establishment of a Solar Based Electricity Generation System - 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant at the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort



## Legend



Scale 1:15 000



Figure 1: Locality map

The PV plant will consist of the following infrastructure:

- Solar PV panels that will be able to deliver up to 60MWp to the Samancor grid;
- Inverters that convert direct current (DC) generated by the PV modules into alternating current (AC) to be exported to the Samancor grid;
- Transformer/ s that raises the system AC low voltage to medium voltage. The transformer converts the voltage of the electricity generated by the PV panels to the correct voltage for delivery to the TFC Smelter;
- Transformer substation; and
- Instrumentation and Control consisting of hardware and software for remote plant monitoring and operation of the facility.

Associated infrastructure includes:


- Mounting structures for the solar panels in a fixed tilt of rotating tracking configuration;
- Cabling between the structures, to be laid underground where practical;
- New 33kV overhead powerlines between the various sites and the Tubatse East and -West substation buildings;
- Local substation and transformer yard at each PV site;
- Containerized switchgear substation at Tubatse East and -West MV substations for connecting to the Tubatse substation busbars;
- Water provision infrastructure (i.e. pipeline/ s, storage tank/ s, etc.) for PV panel cleaning;
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS); and
- Internal access roads (4 - 6m wide roads will be constructed, but existing roads will be used as far as possible), fencing (approximately 3m in height), gates and access control.





## WHAT THE POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT?


A number of potential environmental impacts associated with the project have been identified. As part of the EIA and WUA studies, these potential impacts will be assessed through the following specialist studies:



Specialist Study	Organisation
Avifauna	Royal HaskoningDHV
Agriculture	Johann Lanz
Biodiversity	Bathusi Environmental Consulting
Heritage & Palaeontology	PGS Heritage
Social Baseline	Royal HaskoningDHV
Hydrology	GCS Water & Environmental Consultants
Freshwater	Scientific Aquatic Services
Climate Change	Royal HaskoningDHV
Peer Review – Avifauna	Ecological Logistics
Peer Review - Climate Change	Themis Environmental
Peer Review - Scoping and Environmental Reports	W&L Consultants
Peer Review – Social Baseline	NLN Consulting

## WHY ARE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES NEEDED?

In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Government Notice Regulation (GNR) 324 – 327, published in terms of Section 24(5), and read with Section 44, of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act No. 107 of 1998), Samancor Chrome Ltd requires an Environmental Authorisation from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) for undertaking the proposed project as it includes electrical generation and transmission activities listed under Listing Notices 1 - 3 of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended in 2017).



The following activities of Listing Notice 1, 2 and 3 are triggered:

Listing Notice	Activity Number	Description and Applicability
1 (GNR 327)	9	<p>The development of infrastructure exceeding 1,000m in length for the bulk transportation of water or stormwater – (i) with an internal diameter of 0.36m or more; or (ii) with a peak throughput of 120l/s or more.</p> <p><i>Applicable to the water pipelines associated with the construction and maintenance activities for the 60MWp PV Plant.</i></p>
	11	<p>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33kV but less than 275kV.</p> <p><i>Applicable to the new 33kV overhead power lines between the various sites and the Tubatse East and -West substation buildings.</i></p>
	12	<p>The development of infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100m<sup>2</sup> or more; where such development occurs – within a watercourse or if no development setback exists, within 32m of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.</p> <p><i>To be confirmed by the Freshwater assessment.</i></p>
	19	<p>The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10m<sup>3</sup> into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10m<sup>3</sup> from a watercourse.</p> <p><i>To be confirmed by the Freshwater assessment.</i></p>
	24	<p>The development of a road - (i) for which an environmental authorisation was obtained for the route determination in terms of activity 5 in Government Notice 387 of 2006 or activity 18 in Government Notice 545 of 2010; or (ii) with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres.</p> <p><i>Applicable to the development of internal access roads associated with the 60MWp PV Plant.</i></p>
	28	<p>Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1ha.</p> <p><i>The development of the solar facility will involve the transformation of approximately 150ha of agricultural land. The project site is located outside an urban area.</i></p>
	56	<p>The widening of a road by more than 6m, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1km –</p> <p>(i) where the existing reserve is wider than 13.5m; or (ii) where no reserve exists, where the existing road is wider than 8m; excluding where widening or lengthening occur inside urban areas.</p> <p><i>Applicable to the widening of existing access roads.</i></p>

Listing Notice	Activity Number	Description and Applicability
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2</b> <b>(GNR 325)</b></p>	1	<p>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20MW or more.</p> <p><i>The electricity generation capacity of the PV plant will be 60MWp.</i></p>
	4	<p>The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of more than 500m<sup>3</sup>.</p> <p><i>The PV plant will have its own BESS with a combined capacity of dangerous good exceeding 500m<sup>3</sup>.</i></p>
	15	<p>The clearance of an area of 20ha or more of indigenous vegetation.</p> <p><i>The construction of the proposed PV plant will require the clearance of approximately 150ha of indigenous vegetation.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>3</b> <b>(GNR 324)</b></p>	4	<p>The development of a road wider than 4m with a reserve less than 13.5m. In Limpopo – Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans.</p> <p><i>Internal access roads (4 – 6m wide roads will be constructed but existing roads will be used as far as possible). To be confirmed by the Biodiversity assessment.</i></p>
	10	<p>The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 30m<sup>3</sup> but not exceeding 80m<sup>3</sup>. In Limpopo.</p> <p><i>The use of a BESS (configuration still to be determined). To be confirmed by the Biodiversity assessment.</i></p>
	12	<p>The clearance of an area of 300m<sup>2</sup> or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</p> <p><i>Development of the 60MWp PV Plant and associated infrastructure. To be confirmed by the Biodiversity and Freshwater assessments.</i></p>
	14	<p>The development of infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10m<sup>2</sup> or more; where such development occurs within a watercourse or within 32m of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse. In Limpopo – Critical biodiversity areas as identified in bioregional plans.</p> <p><i>Development of the 60MWp PV Plant and associated infrastructure. To be confirmed by the Biodiversity assessment.</i></p>

Since Listing Notice 2 activities of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended in 2017) are triggered, a S&EIA procedure as contemplated in Regulation 21, 22, 23 and 24 of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended in 2017), must be followed in order to obtain environmental authorisation.

Additionally, as the project involves the crossing of watercourses, a **Water Use Authorisation** application will be submitted to the **Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation (DHSW&S)** as per **Sections 21 (a), (c) and (i)** of the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998) (as amended).

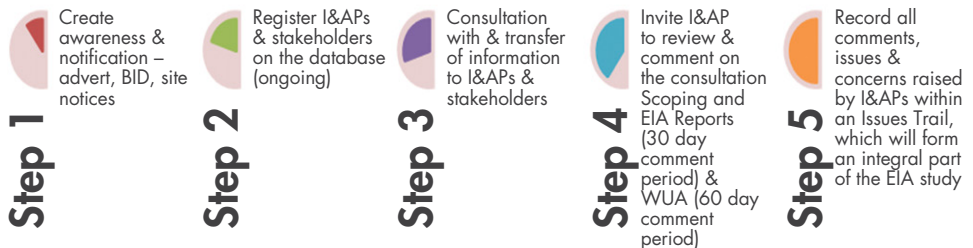
The following water uses in terms of Section 21 of the NWA are being applied for:

- **Section 21 a:** Taking water from a water resource (*subject to confirmation if alternative water sources may be used then this water use will no longer be applicable*);
- **Section 21 c:** Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse (applicable for water crossings and/ or infrastructure within 500m to the regulated wetland area); and
- **Section 21 i:** Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse (applicable for water crossings and/ or infrastructure within 500m to the regulated wetland area).

Samancor has appointed Royal HaskoningDHV to provide independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) services for the proposed project. As part of these environmental studies, all I&APs will be actively involved through a public participation process. An Independent Power Producer (IPP) will be appointed that will design, build, operate and maintain the PV plant.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS (PPP)

It is important that relevant I&APs are identified and involved in the PPP from the outset of the project. To ensure effective public participation, the process includes the following key steps:





## HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

If you consider yourself an I&AP for this proposed project, we urge you to become involved.

- By responding (by phone or e-mail) to our invitation for your involvement in the process;
- By completing the attached comment form and mailing it to Seshni Govender at Royal HaskoningDHV;
- In writing, contacting the EAP if you have a query, comment or require further project information; and
- By reviewing and commenting on the consultation Scoping and Environmental Impact Reports within the allowed 30-day review period and the WUA Application within the allowed 60-day review period.

**Your input into this process forms a key part of the environmental study and we would like to hear from you to obtain your views on the proposed project.**

By completing and submitting the accompanying response form, you automatically register yourself as an I&AP for this project, and ensure that your comments, concerns and/ or queries raised regarding the project will be noted.

## COMMENTS AND QUERIES ON THE PROJECT CAN BE DIRECTED TO:



**Seshni Govender**

Royal HaskoningDHV

PO Box 867, Gallo Manor, 2052

Tel: 087 352 1592

Email: [Seshni.govender@rhdhv.com](mailto:Seshni.govender@rhdhv.com)



## YOUR COMMENTS & QUERIES ARE WELCOME

Please complete this comment form in full before 25 June 2021 and return to:



**Seshni Govender**

Royal HaskoningDHV

PO Box 867, Gallo Manor, 2052

Tel: 087 352 1592

Email: [Seshni.govender@rhdhv.com](mailto:Seshni.govender@rhdhv.com)





**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND WATER USE  
AUTHORISATION PROCESS FOR THE 60MWp PHOTOVOLTAIC PLANT  
ASSOCIATED WITH THE TUBATSE FERROCHROME SMELTER,  
STEELPOORT, FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

(JUNE 2021)

DDFE REF: TBC

DHSW&S REF: TBC

<b>Title</b> (Prof/Mr/Mrs)	First name		
Surname			
<b>Capacity</b> (e.g. Secretary / Director)			
Organisation			
Postal address		Postal code	
Tel No. (        )		Cell No.	
Fax No. (        )		Email	

What comments / concerns would you like to raise regarding this proposed project?  
(Please use additional pages, if required)

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**PLEASE REGISTER THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) ON THE PROJECT DATABASE:**

<b>Title</b> (Prof/Mr/Mrs)	First name		
Surname			
<b>Capacity</b> (e.g. Secretary / Director)			
Organisation			
Postal address		Postal code	
Tel No. (        )		Cell No.	
Fax No. (        )		Email	
<b>Signature</b>			

If you prefer not to receive any further information regarding this proposed project, and, would prefer to be removed from the project database, please tick the box below and return the form to the public participation consultants (contact details as provided above).



## **Appendix E: Proof of Advert**

## Scoping Phase Advert

# Cake a sweet treat for Estralita on Youth Day



Monniek Alberts and Nicky Klingbiel of Estralita School are ready to deliver the sweet treat.

**Michelle Boshoff**

LYDENBURG - The teachers of Estralita School put on school uniforms to celebrate Youth Day with the learners on Friday June 18.

To mark this special day, Family Pick n Pay Lydenburg baked and decorated two enormous sheet cakes. This sweet treat was a donation to show the learners of Estralita how special they are.

"Estralita has a very special relationship with the business community in Lydenburg. Thank you to Pick n Pay who made this Youth Day a special occasion," said Hanli Swanepoel, Estralita's principal.



Monniek Alberts (Estralita School), Mandla Maila (Pick n Pay), Louise Kruger (Estralita School), Berkeley van Niekerk (Pick n Pay), Hanli Swanepoel (principal, Estralita School) and Mitchell Spencer (Pick n Pay).



## Glencore Cycling skenk komberse

Home4Paws is 17 komberse geskenk om die koue te help verdryf. Cathy Schutte, Home4Paws se eienaar, kon die Glencore Cycling Club nie genoeg bedank vir die skenking nie. 'n Plaaslike lid van die klub, Herkie Coetzee, het dit op Vrydag 18 Junie aan haar oorhandig. Die Glencore Cycling Club is 'n organisasie sonder winsoogmerk wat reeds in 2012 gestig is. Klublede het ook onlangs aan die DBV eMalaheni komberse oorhandig en 'n soortgelyke organisasie in Rustenburg verlede week.

Foto: Herkie Coetzee en Cathy Schutte

**Build It**  
**WIN 1 of 20** Build It water tanks with pump kits  
 PLUS OVER 390 Wall Panel Heaters most by Build It  
 Win and have Water whenever you need it  
 Promotion valid from 24 June - 7 July 2021. T's and C's apply.

**BLCK** LIVE HEATED Make the most of winter! 1099<sup>99</sup>  
 PREMIUM BLCK 2 PANEL GAS HEATER: Set in Back  
 1999<sup>99</sup> ALUMINIUM SLIDING DOOR  
**Combo DEAL** STANLEY  
 STANLEY SMALL ANGLE GRINDER + LARGE ANGLE GRINDER COMBO 710w, 115mm / 2000w, 230mm  
 GET THEM FOR ONLY **1899<sup>99</sup>**  
 479<sup>99</sup> REF 190 MESH SHEET 6m x 2.4m  
 249<sup>99</sup> VIVA INTERIOR & EXTERIOR PVA PAINT 20L White or Green  
 299<sup>99</sup> CORRUGATED IRON ROOF SHEET 0.3mm x 6.0m  
 329<sup>99</sup> 0.3mm x 6.0m

## CORONA

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

If you are mildly sick, keep yourself hydrated and stay at home and rest. If you are concerned about your symptoms.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick



The Department of Health has launched a whatsapp service where news and info regarding the Coronavirus is available.

060-012-3456

Simply add to whatsapp and type "Hi".



## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE 60MW PHOTOVOLTAIC PLANT ASSOCIATED WITH THE TUBATSE FERROCHROME SMELTER, STEELPOORT, FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

DFFE REF Number: To Be Confirmed  
 DHSW&S REF Number: To Be Confirmed

Notice is hereby given in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended in 2017) published in Government Notice Regulation (GNR) 324 - GNR 327, in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act - NEMA (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) and the National Water Act - NWA (Act No. 36 of 1998) (as amended) of the initiative by Samancor Chrome Ltd, to apply for an environmental authorisation for a 60MWp Photovoltaic (PV) Plant associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter in the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality, Limpopo Province.

With respect of the above, the Applicant, Samancor Chrome intends undertaking an EIA process as contemplated in the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended in 2017) to apply for authorisation for the above proposed development to the Competent Authority, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) as well as applying for a Water Use Authorisation (WUA) from the Competent Authority, the Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation (DHSW&S) as contemplated in Chapter 4 of the NWA.

The rising electricity tariffs in South Africa, combined with the increasingly severe load shedding patterns experienced across the country, has a negative impact on the production and revenue of the Samancor Chrome business. This has motivated Samancor Chrome to consider renewable energy generation at their smelter plants. Implementing solar PV generation will result in improved availability of supply and reduced utility bills. A PV plant converts the solar radiation into electric energy by using photovoltaic solar arrays. The nameplate rating of the plant will be a minimum of 60MWp, which will be distributed over five (5) potential sites surrounding the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter operations.

The following Listed Activities are being applied for as per the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended in 2017) for the project:

- Listing Notice 1 - GNR 327 of April 2017: Activities 9,11,12,19, 24, 28, 56;
- Listing Notice 2 - GNR 325 of April 2017: Activities 1,4,15; and
- Listing Notice 3 - GNR 324 of April 2017: Activity 10 (e) (i).

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The public participation process aims to provide Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with information regarding the proposed project and will provide an opportunity to raise any issues or concerns.

As part of the public participation process, you are invited to review the draft Environmental Scoping Report (ESR) and raise comments on the document. The report will be available for review at the following public places and website(s):

- Steelpoort Public Library;
- Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipal Office;
- Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter Office; and
- Royal HaskoningDHV website: <https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports>

The draft ESR will be available for review and comments between the following dates:

- NEMA EIA Regulations (30 days): 25 June 2021 - 26 July 2021.

### WHO SHOULD YOU CONTACT?

The Environmental Management and Planning Team at Royal HaskoningDHV, as independent environmental assessment practitioners, have been appointed to conduct the environmental studies.

I&APs are invited to register by submitting their name, contact information and interest in the project to the environmental consultants. Comments on the draft ESR can also be sent to the environmental consultants. Contact details are provided below.

**Seshni Govender**  
 Royal HaskoningDHV  
 PO Box 867, Gallo Manor, 2052, Gauteng  
 Tel | 087 352 1592  
 E-mail | [seshni.govender@rhdhv.com](mailto:seshni.govender@rhdhv.com)



## **Environmental Impact Phase Advert**

## **Appendix F: Proof of Comments**

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) AND WATER USE AUTHORISATION FOR THE 100 MWP PHOTOVOLTAIC PLANT ASSOCIATED WITH THE TUBATSE FERROCHROME SMELTER, STEELPOORT, FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

DFFE REF NUMBER: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2079

In June 2021, notice was given in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) published in Government Notice Regulation (GNR) 324 - GNR 327, in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act - NEMA (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) and the National Water Act – NWA (Act No. 36 of 1998) (as amended) of the initiative by Samancor Chrome Ltd, to apply for an Environmental Authorisation for a 60MWp Photovoltaic (PV) Plant associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter in the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality, Limpopo Province. An EIA study was initiated, and the Final Environmental Scoping Report was accepted by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) on 14 September 2021.

On completion of the concept design engineering process, the Applicant is now considering a 100MWp PV Plant and the EIA study considers this revised output. The application will also be amended and submitted to the DFFE for decision-making.

The Applicant is also in the process of applying for a Water Use Authorisation (WUA) from the Competent Authority, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) as contemplated in Chapter 4 of the NWA.

## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

All I&APs are hereby notified that the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be available for public review and comment from 05 November to 06 December 2021 and will be available at the following places:

- Burgersfort Public Library, Corner of Kort &, Eddie Sedibe St, Burgersfort, 1150;
- Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipal Office, 01 Kastania street, Burgersfort, 1150;
- Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter Office, Tubatse Ferrochrome, Main Road (R555), Steelport, 1133; and
- Royal HaskoningDHV website: <https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports>

## INVITATION TO PUBLIC MEETING/OPEN DAY

All interested and/ or affected parties (I&APs) are invited to attend a public meeting/open day to be held at the venue listed below. The project team will be available to discuss and answer any questions you may have regarding the findings of the draft EIR. The date, time and venue for the public meeting/open day is as follows:

**Date: 23 November 2021**

**Time: 18:00 - 19:00**

**Venue: Tubatse Chrome Club, Tubatse Residence, Steelport, 1133**

Please address your written comments to the public participation consultant as well as any further information you may require regarding the public meeting.

Comments on the draft EIR can also be sent to the environmental consultants. Contact details are provided below.

**Seshni Govender**

Royal HaskoningDHV

PO Box 867, Gallo Manor, 2052, Gauteng

Tel | 087 352 1592

E-mail | [seshni.govender@rhdhv.com](mailto:seshni.govender@rhdhv.com)



**Royal  
HaskoningDHV**  
*Enhancing Society Together*



## **Proof of Comments-Scoping Phase**

**From:** Seshni Govender  
**Subject:** Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelport, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality  
**Date:** Friday, 02 July 2021 15:30:00

---

Hello Mr Mosehla

Thank you for sending in the comment sheet, thank you for the support of the project.

As per the email notification sent to you on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021, the draft scoping report is available for comment, please can you provide any comments on this project by the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

You can access the document via our website, just scroll down to the end of the page, the link is below:

<https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports>.

Regards  
Seshni

---

**Sent:** Monday, 21 June 2021 09:35

**To:** Seshni Govender <seshni.govender@rhdhv.com>

**Subject:**

This message was sent from a **public domain email service** such as Gmail, Yahoo!, AOL, etc. Please be cautious.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND WATER USE  
AUTHORISATION PROCESS FOR THE 60MWp PHOTOVOLTAIC PLANT  
ASSOCIATED WITH THE TUBATSE FERROCHROME SMELTER,  
STEELPOORT, FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

(JUNE 2021)

DFFE REF: TBC

DHSW&S REF: TBC

<b>Title</b> (Prof/Mr/Mrs)	[REDACTED]	<b>First name</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Surname</b>	[REDACTED]		
<b>Capacity</b> (e.g. Secretary / Director)	[REDACTED]		
<b>Organisation</b>	[REDACTED]		
<b>Postal address</b>	[REDACTED]	<b>Postal code</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Tel No.</b> (     )		<b>Cell No.</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Fax No.</b> (     )		<b>Email</b>	[REDACTED]

What comments / concerns would you like to raise regarding this proposed project?  
(Please use additional pages, if required)

WE SUPPORT THE PROJECT AND WANT TO BE INVOLVED  
IN THAT PROJECT.

PLEASE REGISTER THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) ON THE PROJECT DATABASE:

<b>Title</b> (Prof/Mr/Mrs)	[REDACTED]	<b>First name</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Surname</b>	[REDACTED]		
<b>Capacity</b> (e.g. Secretary / Director)	[REDACTED]		
<b>Organisation</b>	[REDACTED]		
<b>Postal address</b>	[REDACTED]	<b>Postal code</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Tel No.</b> (     )		<b>Cell No.</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Fax No.</b> (     )		<b>Email</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Signature</b>	[REDACTED]		

If you prefer not to receive any further information regarding this proposed project, and, would prefer to be removed from the project database, please tick the box below and return the form to the public participation consultants (contact details as provided above).

**From:** Seshni Govender  
**Subject:** RE: EIA -Tubatse 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant  
**Date:** Friday, 02 July 2021 15:20:00  
**Attachments:** MD5462-RHD-ZZ-XX-CO-ZZ-0001-ESR Notification F01.pdf

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Dear Mr Mabelane

You have been registered on the database with the details mentioned in your email.

The draft scoping report is available for comment, please can you provide any comments on this project by the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

You can access the document via our website, just scroll down to the end of the page, the link is below:

<https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/south-africa/projects/environmental-reports>.

Regards

Seshni

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**Sent:** Saturday, 26 June 2021 10:06

**To:** Seshni Govender <seshni.govender@rhdhv.com>

**Subject:** EIA -Tubatse 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant

This message was sent from a **public domain email service** such as Gmail, Yahoo!, AOL, etc. Please be cautious.

Dear Sir

Please register me as an Affected party on the said database for the EIA

Regards

--

[Redacted signature block]

**From:** [Seshni Govender](#)

**Subject:**

RE: Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality

**Date:**

Friday, 02 July 2021 15:12:00

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Dear Ms Sekono

Thank you for the acknowledgement, we will await your comments.

Regards

Seshni

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**Sent:** Monday, 28 June 2021 10:58

**To:** Seshni Govender <seshni.govender@rhdhv.com>

**Subject:** Availability of Scoping Report for the 60MWp Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality

This message was sent from a **public domain email service** such as Gmail, Yahoo!, AOL, etc. Please be cautious.

Dear Sir/ Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the Scoping Report for the 60MWP Photovoltaic Plant Associated with the Tubatse Ferrochrome Smelter, Steelpoort, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Ms Rabothata (both copied on this email) and myself.

Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries will be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: [BCAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:BCAdmin@environment.gov.za) for the attention of Mr Seoka Lekota.

Regards

Ms Sekonko