

Appendix 3.1: Public Participation Plan

Public Participation Plan for Four Proposed Solar Energy Facilities, Free State: Scaffell Cluster

Prepared for: South Africa Mainstream Renewable
Power Developments (Pty) Ltd

DEFF Pre Application Meeting Reference: 2020-12-0008

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Project Manager	Nicholas Arnott
Project Manager Email	nicholas@slrconsulting.com
Author	Reuben Maroga
Reviewers	Nicholas Arnott and Stuart Heather-Clark
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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Acronym / Abbreviation	Definition
BA	Basic Assessment
BAR	Basic Assessment Report
BESS	Battery Energy Storage
DEFF	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
DESTEA	Free State Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs
DHSWS	Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation
DMRE	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GN	Government Notice
I&APs	Interested and Affected Parties
MFT	Managed File Transfer
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998)
PP Plan	Public Participation Plan
PV	Photovoltaic
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Agency
SLR	SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd

1. INTRODUCTION

Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd (Mainstream) is proposing the development of four (4) solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities, including the required grid connection infrastructure, located within the Ngwathe Local Municipality of the Free State Province. The proposed solar PV projects (collectively referred to as the ‘Scafell Cluster’) consist of the following:

Project Name	Capacity	Affected Property
Damlaagte Solar PV Facility	150MW	R/E of the Farm Damlaagte 249
Damlaagte Grid Line	132kV	R/E of the Farm Damlaagte 249, Portion 3 of Willow Grange 246 and R/E of the Farm Scafell 448
Scafell Solar PV Facility	100MW	Portion 3 of the Farm Willow Grange 246
Scafell Grid Line	132kV	Portion 3 of the Farm Willow Grange 246 and R/E of the Farm Scafell 448
Vlakfontein Solar PV Facility	150MW	Portion 6 of the Farm Vlakfontein 161
Vlakfontein Grid Line	132kV	Portion 6 of the Farm Vlakfontein 161, Portion 3 of the Farm Willow Grange 246 and R/E of the Farm Scafell 448
Ilikwa Solar PV Facility	75MW	Portion 5 of the Farm Proceederfontein 100
Ilikwa Grid Line (including Collector Substation)	132kV	Portion 5 of the Farm Proceederfontein 100 and R/E of the Farm Scafell 448

Each of the project sites are located adjacent to one another (refer to Figure 2-1) and are situated approximately 19 km west of Sasolburg and 22 km north-east of Parys. The Scafell Cluster will have a combined generating capacity of up to 475 MW. Each project will require a Battery Energy Storage (BESS) and grid connection infrastructure (i.e. power line and collector substation, etc) in order to facilitate the grid connection between each solar PV facility and the Scafell Substation.

SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR) has been appointed by Mainstream to undertake the required Environmental Authorisation (EA) process in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended) promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA). Based on a review of the Listing Notices (GNR 983, 984 and 985 of 2014) activities applicable to the project, the construction and operation of the solar PV facilities triggers Listed Activity 1 of GN R984, and the grid connection infrastructure triggers Listed Activity 11(i) of GN R983. As a result, a Scoping and EIA (SEIR) process is required in support of the application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the solar PV facilities and a Basic Assessment (BA) process for the grid connection infrastructure. This will result in four separate solar PV facility EIAs and four separate grid connection BA Reports.

2. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

On 5 June 2020, the Minister of the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) gazetted and released a notice (Government Notice (GN) R439) providing input on the directions regarding measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 relating to National Environment Management Permit and Licenses.

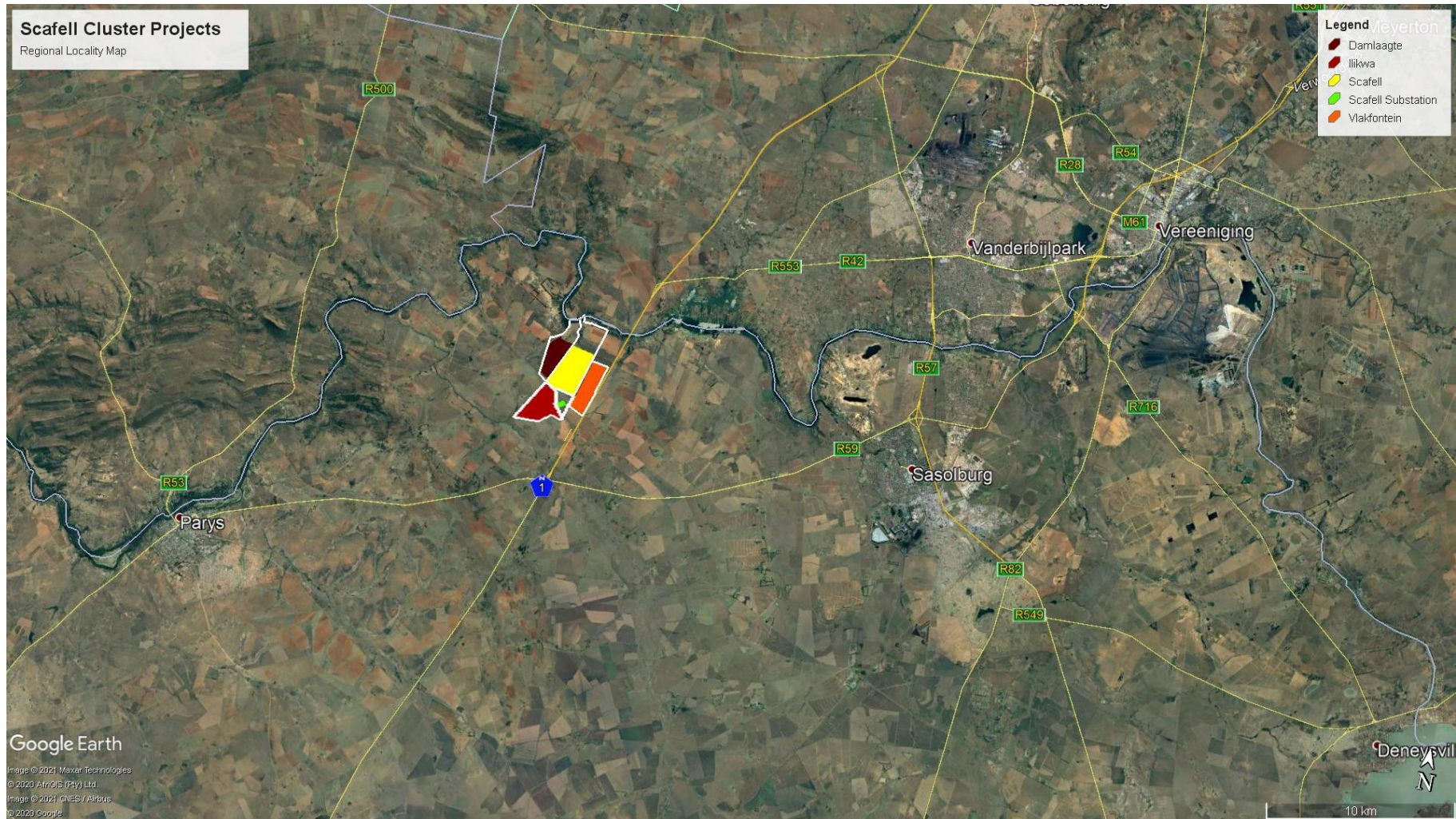


Figure 2-1: Regional setting of the Scafell Cluster project sites and associated grid connection corridor.



Figure 2-2: Local setting of the Scaffell Cluster projects in relation to the existing Scaffell Substation.

Particular reference is made to Annexure 2: Permitting services to be provided by issuing authorities in terms of the NEMA and the EIA Regulations, which states the following:

'3. At all times it must be ensured that reasonable opportunity is provided for public participation and that all administrative actions are reasonable. While the COVID-19 pandemic is a unique circumstance, the specific circumstance in each case must be considered in order to determine what will be reasonable. If in the circumstances of a particular case reasonable alternative methods to give notice to potential interested and affected parties are available, then the relevant competent authority can be approached for agreement in this regard as provided for in regulation 41(2)(e) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.'

As per the requirements of GN R650 of 5 June 2020, a pre-application meeting request was submitted to the DEFF on Tuesday, 8 December 2020. On 19 January 2021 a pre-application meeting for the proposed projects was held with DEFF. In the meeting, the proposed public participation process was discussed, and it was confirmed that a Public Participation (PP) Plan was required to be submitted to the Department for approval prior to the commencement of the environmental impact assessment and public participation processes. Thus, this PP Plan has been compiled, with due consideration of the recommendations made in the above-mentioned pre-application meeting, for consideration by the DEFF as part of the environmental authorisation process for the proposed projects. This PP Plan summarises the proposed methods that SLR will use to ensure that:

- Information containing all relevant facts in respect of the applications are made available to potential I&APs; and
- All registered I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the Scoping, EIA and BA Reports.

Furthermore, the PP Plan considers the effectiveness of the regulatory requirements to bring the proposed projects and application to the attention of I&APs under the current Level 3 COVID-19-related restrictions and identifies additional measures which will be undertaken in this regard. Once approval of the PP Plan has been received from the DEFF, SLR will commence the envisaged public participation process for the above-mentioned projects.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

It is proposed that a single and consolidated public participation process will be undertaken for the proposed developments in accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and DEFF's Public Participation Guideline in terms of NEMA EIA Regulations (2017). The tasks that will be undertaken as part of the public participation process are set out below.

3.1.1 Database

A preliminary I&AP database will be compiled consisting of landowners, adjacent landowners, ward councillors, authorities (local, regional and national, as applicable), Organs of State, Non-Government Organisations, Community-Based Organisations and other key stakeholders. The database will also be informed by any available databases from the previous projects undertaken in the broader study area and will be updated should additional

requests be made to register after the placement of the site notices (Section 3.1.2) and the newspaper adverts (Section 3.1.3).

3.1.2 Site Notices

Site notices (written in English) will be placed at the affected properties of the proposed projects at conspicuous locations. The site notices will provide an opportunity for I&APs to register on the project database prior to the distribution of the reports for the 30-day review and comment periods.

3.1.3 Newspaper Advertisements

A single newspaper advert advertising the projects will be placed in the Sasolburg Ster prior to submitting the application forms, notifying the public of the planned EIA and Basic Assessment processes for the proposed projects. A second advert will be placed to notify stakeholders of the availability of the Scoping Reports for the 30-day review and comment period.

3.1.4 General I&AP notifications and comment periods

A notification letter and Executive Summary would be sent to all registered I&APs on the project database to inform them of the availability of the draft reports for the 30-day public review and comment periods. The notification letter would be sent via e-mail and post (where e-mail addresses are not available). The notification letter would also contain a link to the SLR website (www.slrconsulting.com), and corresponding zero-rated website (which is accessible from an internet-capable mobile phone without data charges), that I&APs can use to access and download the draft reports and the associated appendices.

Should COVID-19 restrictions permit, hard copies of the reports (Scoping, EIA and BA Reports, as applicable) will be placed at the Sasolburg Public Library for review during the relevant 30-day public review and comment periods.

If the placement of hard copy reports in a publicly accessible locations is not possible due to COVID-19 restrictions, alternative methods of making the related report information physically accessible will be implemented through either of the following, depending on the COVID-19 risks:

- Placement of posters of the Executive Summary in publicly accessible locations (e.g. shopping centres); or
- Placing hard-copies of the executive summaries available in publicly accessible locations for I&APs to take home.

Furthermore, should any I&AP contact SLR to indicate that they are not able to access any of the online project documentation due to lack of internet connectivity, SLR will implement suitable alternative means of providing the requested project information to the I&AP. Such measures may include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Sending hard copies of the Executive Summaries via Post or Courier Service; and
- Having a telephonic discussion to answer any queries that I&APs may have regarding the proposed projects.

All comments received in response to the draft reports during the 30-day review and comment period would be collated and responded to in the Comments and Response Report to be submitted with the final reports to the DEFF for decision-making. When the DEFF has reached a decision on the applications for EAs, a notification letter

(including copies of the EAs for the projects) will be sent to the registered I&APs to inform them of the Department’s decision.

3.1.5 Authority Notifications

A Notification Letter and Executive Summary would be sent to all commenting authorities on the project database to inform them of the availability of the draft reports for the 30-day review and comment period. The notification letter would be sent via e-mail and courier / hand delivery (where e-mail addresses are not available). The notification letter would also contain a link to the SLR and zero-rated websites (www.slrconsulting.com) that I&APs can use to access and download the draft reports.

Table 1 below lists all authorities on the project database that would be consulted as part of the proposed public participation process.

Table 1: List of Authorities to be included on the Project Database.

Authority	
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF)	South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL)
Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation (DHSWS)	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)
Free State Provincial Department of Economic, Small Business, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEPA)	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)
Free State Department of Public Works and Infrastructure	ESKOM
Department of Police, Roads and Transport	Telkom
Free State Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	SENTECH
South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)
Free State Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (FSHRA)	Transnet
Fezile Dabi District Municipality	South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)
Ngwathe Local Municipality	South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	BirdLife South Africa
Endangered Wildlife Trust	

4. CONCLUSION

Considering the Level 3 COVID-19-related restrictions, SLR has devised a PP Plan to ensure that the proposed project would sufficiently be brought to the attention of potential I&APs. SLR is of the opinion that the public participation methodology presented in this PP Plan is adequate and would allow for the proposed project to be advertised in a manner that is reasonable, fair, just and acceptable.



Reuben Maroga
(Report Author)



Nicholas Arnott
(Project Manager)



**Nicholas Arnott and Stuart
Heather-Clark**
(Project Director)

AFRICAN OFFICES

South Africa

FOURWAYS

T: +27 11 467 0945
Suite 1- Building D
Monte Circle
178 Montecasino Boulevard
Johannesburg
2191

DURBAN

68 on Main, Old Road
Kloof
Durban
3640

CAPE TOWN

T: +27 21 461 1118
5th Floor
Letterstedt House
Newlands on Main Cnr Main
and Campground Roads
Cape Town
7700

Namibia

WINDHOEK

T: + 264 61 231 287
8 General Murtala
Muhammad Street, Eros
Windhoek

Ghana

ACCRA

T: +233 243 9716
9 Watsons Avenue, Mayfair
Gardens, East Airport
Accra

EIA PROCESSES FOR FOUR PROPOSED SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES, FREE STATE: SCAFELL CLUSTER

MINUTES OF ONLINE PRE-APPLICATION MEETING

DATE	19 January 2021
TIME	10H00 – 11H00
VENUE:	Microsoft Teams
PROJECT:	Scafell Cluster PV EIAs & BA's
APPLICANT:	South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
EAP:	SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR)
PROJECT NUMBER:	720.13101.00003
PRE-APPLICATION MEETING REF NO.:	2020-12-0008
PURPOSE:	<p>The purpose of the meeting was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide an overview to the Department of Environment, Fisheries and Forestry (DEFF) officials with an overview of the proposed projects and associated Applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA); To discuss the planned Public Participation Process; and To discuss the proposed methodology to be followed for the environmental permitting processes (in particular the specialist studies) in light of the fact that all the solar energy facilities are located adjacent to one another.
ATTENDANCE:	An attendance register is presented in Appendix 2.

NO.	NOTES	ACTION
1	Welcome, Agenda and Overview of Proposed Projects	
1.1	<p><u>Welcome and Agenda</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Muhammad Essop (ME) from the Department of Environment, Fisheries and Forestry (DEFF) opened the meeting and set out the meeting protocols. Mr Nicholas Arnott (NA) of SLR welcomed the attendees and thanked them for attending. He set out the purpose of the meeting and provided a power point presentation. The presentation introduced the proposed solar energy projects and associated grid connection infrastructure, provided an overview of the proposed methodology to be followed for the environmental assessment process to be followed, including specialist studies and the planned Public Participation Process. A copy of the presentation is included in Appendix 1. The key discussion points arising from this are summarised in Section 2 below. 	
1.2	<p><u>Overview of Proposed Projects</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NA noted that the proposal by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd (Mainstream) entails the establishment of four solar PV facilities (including Battery Energy storage) and associated grid connection infrastructure on adjacent properties situated near the towns of Sasolburg and Parys in the Free State Province. The projects are collectively referred to as the "Scafell Cluster". 	

NO.	NOTES	ACTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NA confirmed that a full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process would be required for each of the solar PV facilities and a Basic Assessment process would be required for the associated grid connection infrastructure. Thus, four EIAs and four Basic Assessments would be undertaken for the Scaffell Cluster projects. 	
2	Discussion	
2.1	<p><u>Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Technologies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ME queried what type of technology will be used for the BESS? <p><i>Mr Eugene Marais (EM) of Mainstream noted that a decision had not yet been made on the preferred technology option for the BESS. He pointed out that based on the current technical considerations and market trends, solid-state BESS technology would likely be used. However, ongoing improvements to flow-state technologies may make these more viable in the future, thus a decision on the preferred technology option for the BESS would be made prior to the commencement of the construction phase for the projects.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NA indicated that the BESS technology options would be assessed in the EIA process for the projects. 	
2.2	<p><u>Potentially triggered Listed Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NA asked if there were any other typical listed activities that would likely need to be considered for the proposed projects. ME responded to say that the listed activities identified to date appear to cover the main issues, however, it would only be confirmed based on the review of detailed project information. He noted that if any additional listed activities that were not included in the initial applications are identified, the application forms could be updated and resubmitted to address these. 	
2.3	<p><u>Proposed Public Participation Process</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NA outlined the proposed approach for the public participation process and indicated that at this stage no public meetings are planned and that the placement of hard copies of the reports at public libraries would only take place if the Covid-related restrictions in place at the time would allow for this. <p>Stuart Heather-Clark (SHC) of SLR further noted that the planned public participation process methodology would entail undertaking a single, consolidated public participation process for all the proposed projects. He queried whether such an approach be acceptable to DEFF?</p> <p><i>ME responded to note that the proposed consolidated approach for public participation is acceptable. However, he suggested that additional consideration should be made for I&APs that would not necessarily have access to internet-enabled mobile phones, etc. Therefore, the public participation plan should consider alternative methods that can be used to notify such I&APs.</i></p> <p><i>SHC suggested that alternative means of providing I&APs with hard copies of the project information could include the placement of posters of the Executive Summary in publicly accessible locations, making hard-copies of the executive summaries available for I&APs to take home or providing hard copies of the reports directly to I&APs on request.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ME pointed out that the public participation reports for each project must also ensure that any project-specific issues are only reflected in the documentation for that project. <p><i>This point was acknowledged by SLR and Mainstream.</i></p>	
2.4	<p><u>Specialist Studies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ME noted that the specialist studies to be undertaken, as identified through the use of the online web-based screening tool, would suffice. However, he noted that they must comply with 	

NO.	NOTES	ACTION
	<p>the requirements of the specialist protocols and that a Site Verification report should be produced before a full assessment is undertaken.</p> <p><i>This point was acknowledged by NA.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA indicated that, as the four proposed projects are located adjacent to one another, SLR is proposing that each specialist would produce a single specialist report for all the projects and associated grid connections. He asked whether DEFF would find this approach acceptable? <p><i>Coenrad Agenbach (CA) of DEFF responded that this approach would be acceptable provided that all relevant project-specific site information, mitigation, and management actions for each project are clearly stated and easily identifiable within the specialist reports. He further noted that there is a potential risk following this approach as it would be easier for stakeholders to appeal the decision if the impacts described in the report are not linked to a specific project. He emphasised that it is important that each project can stand on their own in the reporting.</i></p> <p><i>ME agreed and noted that it must be ensured that any project-specific mitigation should only be included in the reporting associated with that project.</i></p> <p><i>SHC confirmed that the above approach is based on the current thinking and available project information. He acknowledged the requirements outlined above and confirmed that should this approach be undertaken, the relevant specialist reporting would comply with the requirements as discussed.</i></p>	
2.5	<p><u>Combination of Applications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHC noted that the project team have also looked at the possibility of compiling one Scoping and EIA Report for the solar energy facilities and a single Basic Assessment Report for the grid connections following the same approach as presented for the specialist studies. The rationale for this approach is that stakeholders would only need to review two reports instead of eight within the 30- day review and comment period. Furthermore, this approach would also help with the resourcing at DEFF. <p><i>ME noted that this approach would require approval from DEFF in accordance with Regulation 11 of the EIA Regulations, 2014. SLR would be required to provide a written motivation to the Department as to why a combined application for Environmental Authorisation should be considered for the proposed projects.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EM asked ME what the timeframes are for the Department to consider such an application. <p><i>ME noted that there are no legislated timeframes, however, the Department aims to provide a decision within 30-days of the request submission.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ME pointed out that by undertaking a combined process, there could be issues that arise later in the EIA process which only affect one project but would result in the delay of all the projects as the process has been combined. He further indicated that the internal resourcing should not be a concern. The Department cannot guarantee that the applications would be allocated to one Case Officer for consideration, as the allocation of applications are dictated by the current workload of each Case Officer at a given time. However, all the case officers operate in the same unit and have experience with dealing with multiple applications at the same time. As such, they would discuss each of the projects internally to ensure that there is a consistent understanding when reviewing each application separately. <p><i>SHC acknowledged this and indicated that a decision on whether to submit a request to combine applications would be undertaken by SLR and Mainstream at a later stage.</i></p>	
3	Way Forward	
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ME indicated that in terms of the way forward SLR need to submit the Applications for Environmental Authorisation via the Departments online portal. It must be ensured that the 	

NO.	NOTES	ACTION
	<p>most recent form is used and that the pre-application meeting reference number is included in the form. Copies of the finalised pre-application minutes and approved Public Participation Plan must also be attached to the applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ME further noted that SLR would be required to draft the minutes of this meeting and submit the Public Participation Plan for the projects. He asked NA how long this would take? <p><i>NA responded that this should be done by the end of the week (Friday, 22 January 2021).</i></p> <p><i>ME indicated that DEFF would aim to respond within 48-hours of submission of the minutes and Public Participation Plan.</i></p>	<p>SLR DEFF</p>
4	Meeting Close	
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ME closed the meeting at 11h00 and NA thanked all for their time. 	

APPENDIX 1: PRESENTATION



 **EIA PROCESSES FOR FOUR SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES, FREE STATE: SCAFELL CLUSTER**

Department of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries (DEFF)

Pre-Application Meeting
19 January 2021

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1. AGENDA

- Welcome & Introductions
- Overview of Scafell Cluster projects
- EIA Process
 - Public Participation Plan
 - Approach for Specialist Studies
- Discussion
- Way Forward
- Closure

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2

2

2. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd ('Mainstream') – Applicant
 - Liza Janse van Vuuren
 - Gesie Theron
 - Eugene Marais

- SLR Consulting Africa (South Africa) – Environment Assessment Practitioner (EAP)
 - Stuart Heather-Clark – Project Director
 - Nicholas Arnott – Project Manager
 - Reuben Maroga – Project Assistant

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3. OVERVIEW OF THE SCAFELL CLUSTER PROJECTS

- Includes four (4) separate solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities located adjacent to one another.

Project Name	Capacity	
Damlaagte	Solar PV Facility	150 MW
	Grid Line	132 kV
Scafell	Solar PV Facility	100 MW
	Grid Line	132 kV
Vlakfontein	Solar PV Facility	150 MW
	Grid Line	132 kV
Ilikwa	Solar PV Facility	75 MW
	Grid Line	132 kV

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3. OVERVIEW OF SCAFELL CLUSTER PROJECTS (CONTINUED)

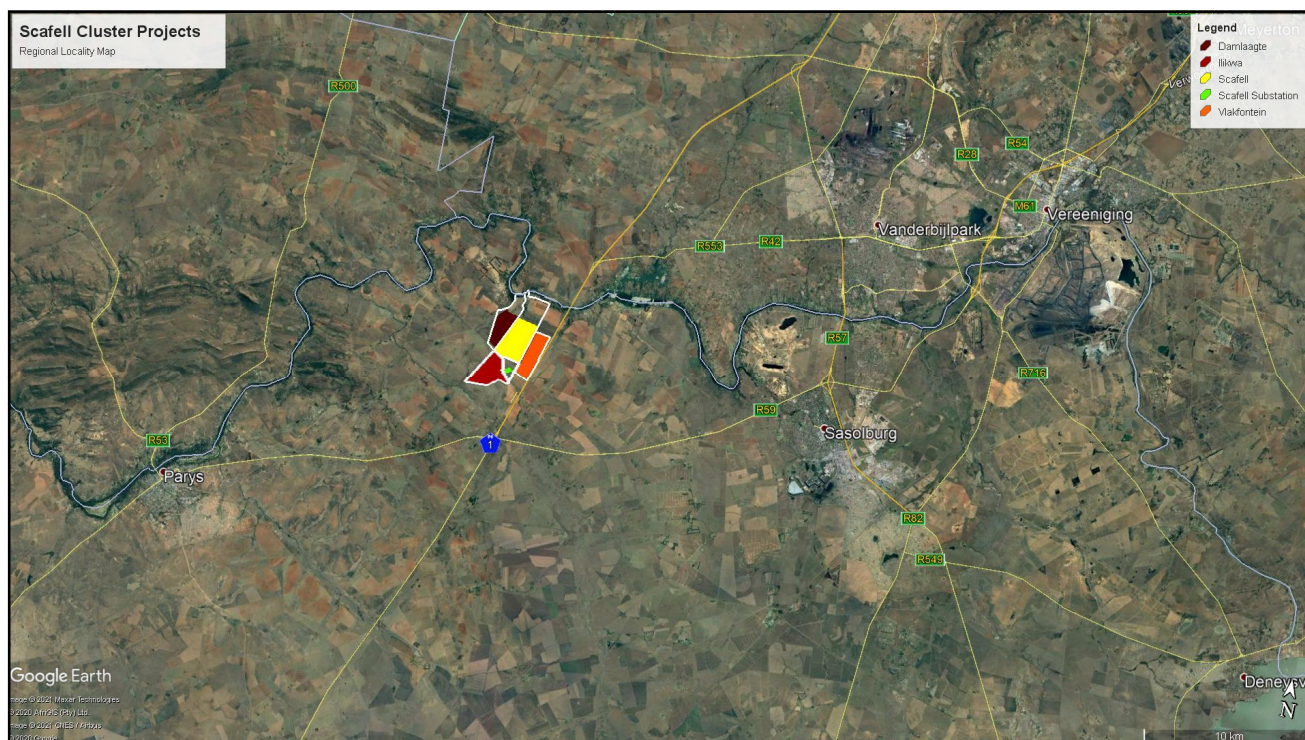
- Each facility would include a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and grid connection infrastructure.
- Proposed to connect to the nearby Eskom's Scafell Substation.
- Project sites are located 19 km west of Sasolburg and 22 km north-east of Parys, Free State Province.
- Scoping & EIA to be undertaken for solar PV facilities, and Basic Assessment (BA) process for grid connection.
- Solar PV facilities and grid connection to be assessed separately.

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4. EIA PROCESS

Based on the current project PV description and understanding, the following listed activities would be triggered:

- Solar PV facilities:
 - Listing Notice 2 - Activities 1 & 15
 - Listing Notice 1 – Activities 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 24(ii), 28(ii)
- Grid Connection Infrastructure:
 - Listing Notice 1 - 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19, 24(ii), 28(ii)

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4.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

- Public participation activities will include:
 - Compilation of the I&AP Database;
 - Placement of Site Notices;
 - Placement of local newspaper advertisement (Ster South Newspaper); and
 - Distribution of draft reports (Scoping, EIR and BAR) for 30-day comment period.
- Hard Copies of Reports would only be made available if allowed under COVID-19 regulations in place at the time.
- Electronic versions of the report will be made available on SLR website and corresponding zero-rated website which is accessible without using mobile data.

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4.2 SPECIALIST STUDIES

- Results from Screening Tool:

Theme	Sensitivity
Agriculture	High
Animal Species	Medium
Aquatic Biodiversity	Very High
Archaeological & Cultural Heritage	High
Avian	High
Bats Theme	Low

Theme	Sensitivity
Civil Aviation	Low
Defence	Low
Landscape (Solar) Theme	Very High
Plant Species	Medium
RFI	Low
Terrestrial Biodiversity	Very High

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4.2 SPECIALIST STUDIES (CONTINUED)

- As the four proposed projects are located adjacent to one another, SLR proposes that the specialist reports be consolidated - i.e. each specialist would produce a single specialist report for all the projects and associated grid connections.
- Conceptually, the specialist report framework would include a description of the affected environment for the entire area of influence, and separated impact assessment for each project.
- Separate sections would assess the cumulative impacts (of the cluster itself and of other projects, as applicable) and provide recommendations for inclusion into the EMPr's (see TOC overleaf).

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		Proposed Table of Contents for Specialist Reports
1.	Introduction	
2.	Legal Framework	
3.	Project Description (PV Facilities & Grid Connection)	
4.	Description of the Affected Environment – includes the entire area of influence of the whole project.	
5.	Impact Assessment	
	5.1 Impact Assessment – Scafell	
	5.1.1 PV facility	5.1.2 Grid Connection
	5.2 Impact Assessment – Damlaagte	
	5.2.1 PV facility	5.2.2 Grid Connection
	5.3 Impact Assessment – Vlakfontein	
	5.3.1 PV facility	5.3.2 Grid Connection
	5.4 Impact Assessment – Ilikwa	
	5.4.1 PV facility	5.4.2 Grid Connection
6.	Cumulative Impact Assessment	
	6.1 Assessment of the Scafell Cluster (PV facilities and associated grid connections) including mitigation measures	
	6.2 Cumulative assessment of any other projects, if applicable	
7.	Recommendations for EMPr (i.e. Mitigation Measures)	
	7.1 EMPr 1: PV facilities	
	7.2 EMPr 2: Grid Connections	
8.	Conclusions	

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 **DISCUSSION**



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THANK YOU !

Nicholas Arnott

Project Manager

Tel: +27 21 461 1118

Cell: +27 72 376 4809

Email: narnott@slrconsulting.com

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APPENDIX 2: ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Project: 720.13101.00003 – Mainstream – Scaffell Cluster PV EIAs

SLR Company: SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd

Date: 19 January 2021

Meeting: Pre-Application Meeting with Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Officials

Name and Surname	Interest in Project	Postal / Residential Address	Contact Numbers	E-mail
Stuart Heather-Clark	Project Director & Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)	5 th Floor, Letterstedt House Newlands on Main Cnr Main and Campground Roads	021 461 1118 082 324 3483	shclark@slrconsulting.com
Nicholas Arnott	Project Manager & Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)	Newlands Cape Town 7700	021 461 1118 072 376 4809	narnott@slrconsulting.com
Reuben Maroga	Project Assistant	Suite 1 – Building D Monte Circle 178 Montecasino Boulevard Fourways Johannesburg 2191	011 467 0945 071 146 1820	rmaroga@slrconsulting.com
Eugene Marais	Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa Head of Development	4 th Floor, Mariendahl House Newlands on Main Cnr Main and Campground Roads	021 657 4090	Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com
Gesie Theron	Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa Project Manager	Claremont Cape Town 7800	021 657 4090 060 567 3616	gesie.theron@mainstreamrp.com
Liza Janse van Vuuren	Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa Development Executive		021 657 4090 083 320 8628	Liza.JanseVanVuuren@mainstreamrp.com

Name and Surname	Interest in Project	Postal / Residential Address	Contact Numbers	E-mail
Muhammad Essop	DEFF Assistant Director – Priority Infrastructure Projects Integrated Environmental Authorisations	Environment House 473 Steve Biko & Soutpansberg Roads Arcadia Pretoria 0083	012 399 9406	MEssop@environment.gov.za
Coenrad Agenbach	DEFF			Cagenbach@environment.gov.za
Mamohale Kabasa	DEFF			MKabasa@environment.gov.za

Nicholas Arnott

From: Muhammad Essop <MEssop@environment.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 25 January 2021 11:45
To: Reuben Maroga
Cc: Mmamohale Kabasa; Coenrad Agenbach; Nicholas Arnott; Stuart Heather-Clark
Subject: RE: 2020-12-0008: Scaffell Cluster EIAs_Meeting Minutes & Public Participation Plan

Dear Reuben.

The minutes and PP Plan are acceptable.

Regards

Muhammad Essop

Assistant Director – Priority Infrastructure Projects

Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries

Private Bag X447

Pretoria

0001

(012) 399 9406

MEssop@environment.gov.za

From: Reuben Maroga <rmaroga@slrconsulting.com>
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 17:35
To: Muhammad Essop <MEssop@environment.gov.za>
Cc: Mmamohale Kabasa <MKabasa@environment.gov.za>; Coenrad Agenbach <Cagenbach@environment.gov.za>; Nicholas Arnott <narnott@slrconsulting.com>; Stuart Heather-Clark <shclark@slrconsulting.com>
Subject: 2020-12-0008: Scaffell Cluster EIAs_Meeting Minutes & Public Participation Plan

Hi Muhammad,

I trust that you are well.

As discussed in the pre-application meeting held earlier this week, please see attached the meeting minutes as well as the public participation plan for your consideration.

Let me if anything further is required from our end, I will be glad to assist.

Best Regards
Reuben Maroga



Reuben Maroga

Environmental Consultant

+27 11 467 0945

rmaroga@slrconsulting.com

SLR Consulting

SLR Consulting (Johannesburg office)
Suite1 - Building D, Monte Circle
178 Montecasino Boulevard
Fourways
Johannesburg, 2191



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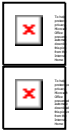
Winners: EcoSPA
President's Award 2020

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Appendix 3.2: IAP Database

Title	Name	Surname	Organisation/ Landowner
Mr	Kobus	Visser	Agri-South Africa
Mr	Alfred	Smit	Alfred Murray Smit Trust
Ms	Alice	Tladi	Alice Tladi
Ms	Amanda	Greeff	Amanda Greeff
Ms	Samantha	Ralston-Paton	BirdLife South Africa
Ms	Carina Elizabeth	Engelbrecht	Cathrina Elizabeth Engelbrecht
Ms	Charlene	Taljaard	Charlene Taljaard
Mr	Chris	Potgieter	Chris Potgieter
Mr	Dawid Hermanus	De Wet	Competitive Construction Services CC
Ms	Kalipa	Kewuti	Department of Mineral Resources & Energy
Ms	Mamokete	Mpatane	Department of Mineral Resources & Energy
Mr	Asayag	Yaron	Eljo Rich Investments CC
Mr	Lourens	Leeuwner	Endangered Wildlife Trust
Ms	Lungi	Motsis	ESKOM
Mr	Lungi	Motsis	ESKOM
Mr	John	Gerringh	ESKOM
Ms	Lindi	Molibeli	Fezile Dabi District Municipality
Mr	AM	Molifant	Fezile Dabi District Municipality
Mr	ZE	Lebelo	Free State Development Corporation (FDC)
Mr	MV	Mahlatsi	Free State Development Corporation (FDC)
Ms	Nnana	Plaatjies	Free State Development Corporation (FDC)
Mr	Tshediso	Lerumo	Free State Gambling, Liquor and Tourism Authority
Mr	Dhilosen	Pillay	Free State Gambling, Liquor and Tourism Authority
Mr	George Frederick	van der Westhuizen	George Frederick van der Westhuizen
Ms	Georgina Jennifer	Jones	Georgina Jennifer Jones
Mr	Henry	James	Henry James
Mr	Johannes Hendrik	Michau	Johannes Hendrik Michau
Mr	Leastso Henry	Manoto	Leastso Henry Manoto
Mr	Allan		Leo Hogan Family Trust
Mr	Salmoen	van Rooyen	Manswario Properties (Pty) Ltd
Ms	Andile	Gxasheka	National Energy Regulator South Africa (NERSA)
Clr	Solomon Mafika	Gobidolo	Ngwathe Local Municipality
Mr	Bruce	Kannemeyer	Ngwathe Local Municipality
Mr	S	Mazibuko	Ngwathe Local Municipality
Ms	Joey	Mochela	Ngwathe Local Municipality
Ms	Puseletso	Ndlovu	Ngwathe Local Municipality
Mr	Raiz Sarif	Dhorat	Raiz Sarif Dhorat
Mr	Ramon	Lopez	Ramon Lopez
Mr	Rhyno	Botha	Rhyno Botha
Ms	Sandra	Mostert	Sandra Mostert
Mr	Thobile	Duma	SANRAL
Ms	Sara Sussana	Grove	Sara Sussana Grove
Mr	John	Koegelenberg	SENTECH
Mr	Serame	Motlhake	SENTECH

Title	Name	Surname	Organisation/ Landowner
Ms	Evelyn	Shogole	South African Civil Aviation Authority
Ms	Lizell	Stroh	South African Civil Aviation Authority
Mr	Busang	Sethole	South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)
Mr	Adrian	Tripaldy	Square Kilometre Array (SKA): South Africa
Mr	Chris	Schutte	TELKOM
Mr	Albert	Bennet	Teriter CC
Mr	Jeffry	Madingani	TRANSNET
Mr	Tielman Johannes Christiaan	Slabbert	Upriver Developments (Pty) Ltd
Mr	Jacques	Jansen Van Vuuren	VAAL DAM CATCHMENT FORUM
Mr	Jonathan	van Aswegen	Van Aswegen Testamentere Trust
Mr	Jonathan	van Aswegen	Van Aswegens Boerdery Maatskappy (Pty) Ltd
Mr	Jack	Armour	Vrystaat Landbou
Mr	Gernie	Botha	Vrystaat Landbou
Dr	Jane	Buys	Vrystaat Landbou
			WWF South Africa

Appendix 3.3: Advertisement and Notices

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF FOUR SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES (SCAFELL CLUSTER) AND ASSOCIATED GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE, FREE STATE

South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd is proposing the development of four (4) Solar Energy facilities and associated Grid Connection infrastructure on different sites located approximately 19 km west of Sasolburg and 22 km north-east of Parys within the Ngwathe Local Municipality of the Fezile Dabi District Municipality, Free State Province.

Notice is hereby given of the intention to apply for Environmental Authorisation ("EA") for the below-mentioned activities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") and the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations 2014 (as amended). In addition, the proposed project may require environmental approval in terms of, amongst others, the following environmental legislation: National Water Act, 1998 (No. 36 of 1998) ("NWA") and National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (No. 25 of 1999) ("NHRA"). The proposed projects will be located on the following properties:

Remaining Extent of the Farm Damlaagte 229	Portion 3 of the Farm Willow Grange 246
Portion 6 of the Farm Vlakfontein 161	Portion 4 of the Farm Proceederfontein 100
Remaining Extent of the Farm Scaffell 448	Portion 5 of the Farm Proceederfontein

The proposed solar energy facilities (collectively referred to as the "Scaffell Cluster") consist of the Damlaagte 150 MW_{ac} Solar PV Facility and associated 132 kV transmission line; Scaffell 150 MW_{ac} Solar PV Facility and associated 132 kV transmission line; Vlakfontein 150 MW_{ac} Solar PV Facility and associated 132 kV transmission line; and Ilikwa 75 MW_{ac} Solar PV Facility and associated 132 kV transmission line.

Opportunity to participate:

In accordance with the NEMA and EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), you and / or your organisation are hereby invited to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and comment on the Scoping Reports for the proposed projects. The reports will be available at the website below (and at a zero-rated website accessible from internet-capable mobile phones with no data cost), for a 30-day comment period from **23 June to 22 July 2021**.

Please contact Ms Candice Sadan of SLR (at the contact details below) should you wish to register as an I&AP and / or provide comment on the reports. Hard copies of the reports have also been placed at the **Sasolburg** and **Zamdela Public Libraries**. Any correspondence should be submitted **by no later than 22 July 2021**. Should you and / or your organisation not be able to access the reports from the SLR website, do not hesitate to contact us telephonically / via email and we will endeavour to assist you in this regard.

SLR Consulting Contact Details

Physical Address: 5th Floor, Letterstedt House, Newlands on Main,
Cnr. of Campground and Main Roads, Newlands, 7700
Tel: (021) 461 1118/9
E-mail: 720.13101.00003@slrconsulting.com
Website: <https://www.slrconsulting.com/public-documents/mainstream-scaffell>
Data free website: slrpublicdocs.datafree.co/public-documents/mainstream-scaffell

