



**SANNASPOS SOLAR ENERGY
FACILITY
BOTSHABELO, FREE STATE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
ASSESSMENT**

PUBLIC MEETING

NOTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

**HELD ON
31 JANUARY 2013**

**VENUE
THE CHURCH, SECTION F, BOTSHABELO,
FREE STATE**

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Contact: Gabriele Wood
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Notes for the Record prepared by:

Savannah Environmental

Please address any comments to Gabriele Wood at the above address.

**PUBLIC MEETING:
SANNASPOS SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY**

Venue: The Small Church, Section F, Botshabelo, Free State

Date: 31 January 2013

Time: 14h00

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Cllr M. Eti of Ward 27 of the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality welcomed all present and thanked everyone for availing themselves for the meeting. She said that the purpose of the meeting was to present the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed Sannaspos Solar Energy Facility project to the Ward 27 community.

Cllr Eti noted that Solaire Direct is the developer of the project and that Savannah Environmental had been appointed to undertake the EIA for the project. She said that Savannah Environmental would present the background to the project as well as the draft findings of the EIA at the meeting.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation & Position
Dikeledi Makhele	Community Member
Nthabiseng Gantsho	Community Member
Mpho Vivian	Community Member
Refiloe Khalema	Community Member
Kelebogile Seakhwa	Community Member
Rosalina Lechesa	Community Member
MB Mowtle	Community Member
Tlali Rapelang	Community Member
Neo Chabang	Community Member
Raiejella Kedibone	Community Member
Cecilia Senne	Community Member
Aletta Letebo	Community Member
Xoliswa Mtshakazane	Community Member
Moleboneng Rasutha	Community Member
Mpolokeng Ramokoatsi	Community Member
Dayimane Mongezi	Community Member
Poo Butinyana	Community Member
Molerane Matshidiso	Community Member

Name	Organisation & Position
DS Ramatsoele	Community Member
Tumelo Manesa	Community Member
Jemina Eti	Community Member
Pulleng Mokqutla	Community Member
Tshepo Lebajoa	Community Member
Mathapelo Schaikwyk	Community Member
Mpho Joseph Dlanianye	Community Member
Emah Mbuli	Community Member
Alicia Govender	Savannah Environmental – Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)
Gabriele Wood	Savannah Environmental – Public Participation and Social Consultant
Andries Tshikoho	Ward 27
Aletta Meho	Ward 27
Popie Dyana	Ward 27
Julia Rasutha	Ward 27
Thato Paul Pitso	Ward 27
Cllr Mama Eti	Ward 27 – Ward Councillor
Bokluku Moleboleng	Ward 27 – Youth Leader

APOLOGIES

None

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Alicia Govender presented the background to the project and the findings of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report. The presentation is attached hereto.

DISCUSSION SESSION






Question / Comment	Response
Will the solar energy facility reduce the electricity price?	AG: The electricity price will not be reduced. The electricity will be sold to Eskom directly.
What can the community do to show support for the project.	GW: The community can show support for the project by submitting written comment to Savannah Environmental during the public





Question / Comment	Response
	review period. The community can request the Ward Councilor to send a letter, expressing support for the project to Savannah Environmental on their behalf.
Will the solar energy facility work in winter or it is overcast?	<i>AG:</i> The solar energy facility will be able to generate electricity in overcast and cold conditions. The technology uses energy from the sun, in the form of ultra-violet (UV) rays, which are absorbed by the photovoltaic panels, to create electricity. UV-rays are always present in daylight.
When will the community be called to register for work?	<i>GW:</i> The project is still in its planning stages and a number of permits and authorizations need to be obtained before the project can be developed. The community will be contacted once the developer has approval to develop the project. The registration of community members for work will be undertaken through the Mangaung Metro Municipality and the Ward 27 Councilor.







WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE



Cllr Eti thanked everyone for their inputs and for attending the meeting. The meeting was closed at 15:00.

SAVANNAH ENVIRONMENTAL (PTY) LTD		ATTENDANCE REGISTER	
Project	Sannaspos Solar Energy Facility		Meeting
Date	Time	Venue	
31 January 2013	10h00	The Church, Section F, Botshabelo, Free State	



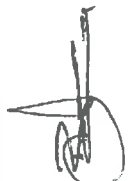


Organisation	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
1 Savannah Environmental Designation FAP	Alicia Govender P.O. Box 148 Sunninghill Jhb	Tel : 011 656 3237 Fax : Cell : E-mail : alicia@savannahsa.co.za	
2 Designation word 27	Tshokoko Anahies 1537 Section 7	Tel : Fax : 0 Cell : 076081 2521 E-mail :	
3 Designation Ward 27	Nene Aletha 1914 Section 7	Tel : Fax : Cell : 0236426563 E-mail :	
4 Designation community member	Dikeledi mabhele 723 section 7	Tel : Fax : Cell : 0783439486 E-mail :	
5 Designation Community Member	Mthabiseng Gantshe 1277 F Section	Tel : Fax : Cell : 078 1861 567 E-mail :	






Organisation	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
Designation	Mpho Yinyanu 1065 Sec F	Tel : Fax : Cell : 070 319 8133 E-mail : gipbku@evl.com	
Community member	Popie Dyana 1064 Sec F	Tel : Fax : Cell : 078 745 3805 E-mail :	
Designation	Ward 27	Tel : Fax : Cell : E-mail :	
Designation	REFUGEE KHALEMA 3984 F section	Tel : Fax : Cell : 071 462 2268 E-mail :	
Community Member	Keleboqile Soakhuwa 3960 F section	Tel : Fax : 0780621761 Cell : E-mail :	
Designation	Community Period	Tel : Fax : Cell : E-mail :	
Designation		Tel : Fax : Cell : E-mail :	
Designation		Tel : Fax : Cell : E-mail :	
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Designation		Tel : Fax : Cell : E-mail :	
Designation		Tel : Fax : Cell : E-mail :	

Organisation	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
	ROSALINA LECHESA 3936 K BOTSHABELO, 9781	Tel : Fax : Cell : 0742117706 E-mail :	
Designation			
Community Member			
	Mabohadi Bethi- moete 5779 Botshabelo 9781	Tel : Fax : Cell : 073 578 4554 E-mail :	
Designation			
Community M.			
	TRALI RAPSILANI 3998 F BOTSHABELO 978	Tel : 0218138197 Fax : Cell : E-mail :	
Designation			
Community M			
	a Swia Paeuna 1713 EXT 1 BOTSHABELO WEST 9781	Tel : Fax : Cell : 063 995 4596 E-mail :	
Designation			
Ward 27			
	BOHUKU MOLEBOENG 108 KV BOTSHABELO 9781	Tel : Fax : Cell : 079 5900 917 E-mail :	
Designation			
youth leader			
	Thato Paul Pifo 1304 EXT.1 Botshabelo 9781	Tel : 0515341490 Fax : 051 68 414 90 Cell : 083 8752 466 E-mail : nickybur@gmail.com	
Designation			

Organisation	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details				Signature
	CHABANG NED 2791 K	Tel : :	Fax : :	Cell : 0724366526	E-mail : :	
Designation	Community Member	Tel : :	Fax : :	Cell : :	E-mail : :	
Designation	Community Member	Tel : :	Fax : :	Cell : :	E-mail : :	
Designation	PANGSIA Kedibone 2373 Ext 1 7 1	Tel : :	Fax : :	Cell : 019 906 6565	E-mail : :	
Designation	Senne Celia community member 2893 Ext 17	Tel : :	Fax : :	Cell : 083 517 8920	E-mail : :	CN Senne
Designation		Tel : :	Fax : :	Cell : :	E-mail : :	
Designation		Tel : :	Fax : :	Cell : :	E-mail : :	
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Designation		Tel : :	Fax : :	Cell : :	E-mail : :	
Designation		Tel : :	Fax : :	Cell : :	E-mail : :	

SAVANNAH ENVIRONMENTAL (PTY) LTD		ATTENDANCE REGISTER	
Project	Sannaspos Solar Energy Facility	Meeting	Public Meeting
Date	Time	Venue	The Church, Section F, Botshabelo, Free State
1	Savannah Environmental Designation PIP	Gabi Wood	Tel : 011 656 3237 Fax : Cell : 083 458 5570 E-mail : gabriel@savannahse.com
2	Ward 27 C1r Designation	Mama Eki 1949F Section Botshabelo	Tel : 05 140 28667 Fax : Cell : 0786235 241 E-mail : Mama.e.kij@gmail.com
3	Designation	ALITHA LEDEBO	Tel : Fax : 073 8588962 Cell : E-mail :
4	Ward 27 CMB Designation Ward 27	XOLISWA MASHAKOZANA Pulane Leteba	Tel : 07999036156 Fax : Cell : 07999036156 E-mail :
5	Ward 27 Designation	Molebongeng Rasutha RENEE DAVIS MANTANEK	Tel : 07817 083995485 Fax : Cell : 0781735681 E-mail :

Organisation	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
Ward 27	hamokoatei Mpolokeng 3983 SECTION F Botshabelo	Tel : Fax : Cell : 0789205400 E-mail :	
Designation Community Member	Dayimane Mongezi 3983 SECTION F Botshabelo	Tel : Fax : Cell : 0783087934 E-mail :	
Designation Community	BUTINYANA POO 3929 F SECTION BOTSHABELO	Tel : Fax : Cell : 0991492 876 E-mail :	
Designation Ward 27	Moberane Matshidiso 3980 SECTION F Botshabelo	Tel : Fax : Cell : 0826494 268 E-mail :	S Moberane
Designation Community Member	PS RAMETSOELE BOTSHABELO	Tel : Fax : Cell : 078 1227 438 E-mail :	
Designation Community Member	MANESA TUMELO BOTSHABELO	Tel : Fax : Cell : 0736479881 E-mail :	
Designation Community			

Organisation	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
Ward 27	Eti Jemina 1861 F Section Botshabelo	Tel : Fax : Cell : 0785839635 E-mail : etimantw9.yahoo.com	
Ward 27	Mogqala Ruena 1946 F Section Botshabelo	Tel : Fax : Cell : 0719277260 E-mail :	
Ward 27	LEBATJA Tshepo 4660 Section F Botshabelo 9781	Tel : Fax : Cell : 0731544610 E-mail : TLeboy09@yahoo.com	
Ward 27	Mothapelo Sengalkwile 3980 F Section Botshabelo 9781	Tel : Fax : Cell : 076 531 7678 E-mail :	
Ward 27	Mpho Joseph Madiane 3237 Section Botshabelo	Tel : 076 5703899 Fax : Cell : 076 570 3699 E-mail :	
Ward 27	EMAH MBULI 4223 SECTION F Botshabelo 9781	Tel : Fax : Cell : 083 4949068 E-mail :	

SANNASPOS (PHASE 1) PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY NEAR BLOEMFONTEIN

FREE STATE PROVINCE

PUBLIC MEETING 31 JANUARY 2013



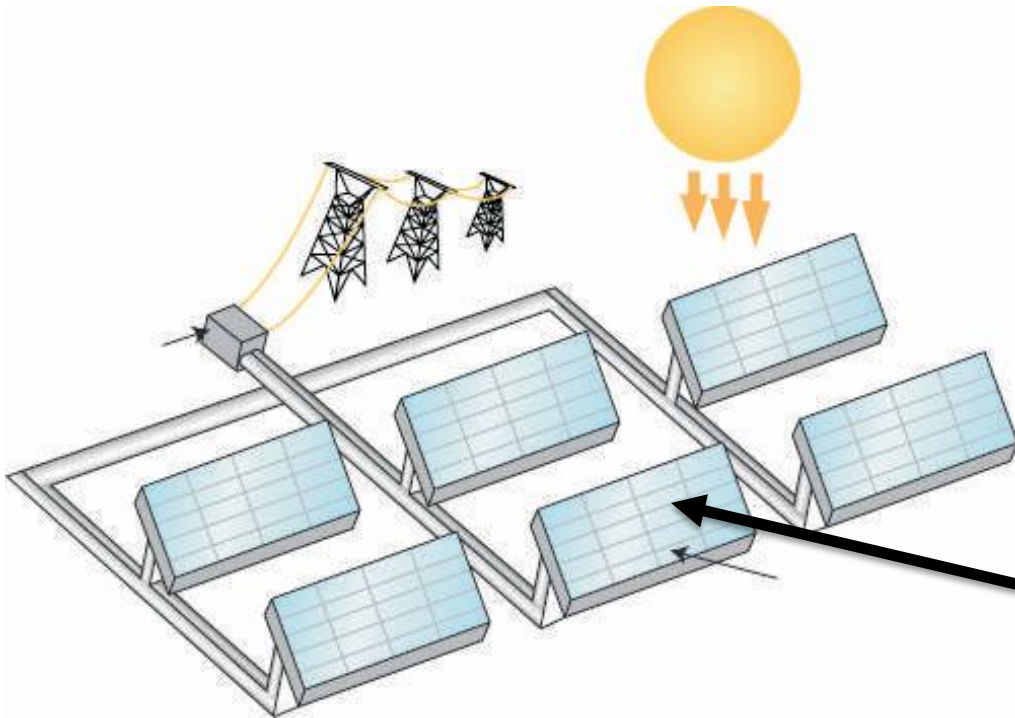
solairedirect



PROJECT OVERVIEW

- **Applicant: SolaireDirect Southern Africa**
 - **SANNASOPOS-PHASE 1 Solar Energy Facility**
 - **DEA REF NO.: 14/12/16/3/3/2/360**
 - **75MW Project near Bloemfontein**
 - **Technology: Photovoltaic (PV) Panels**
 - **EIA required**
-

WHAT IS A PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITY?

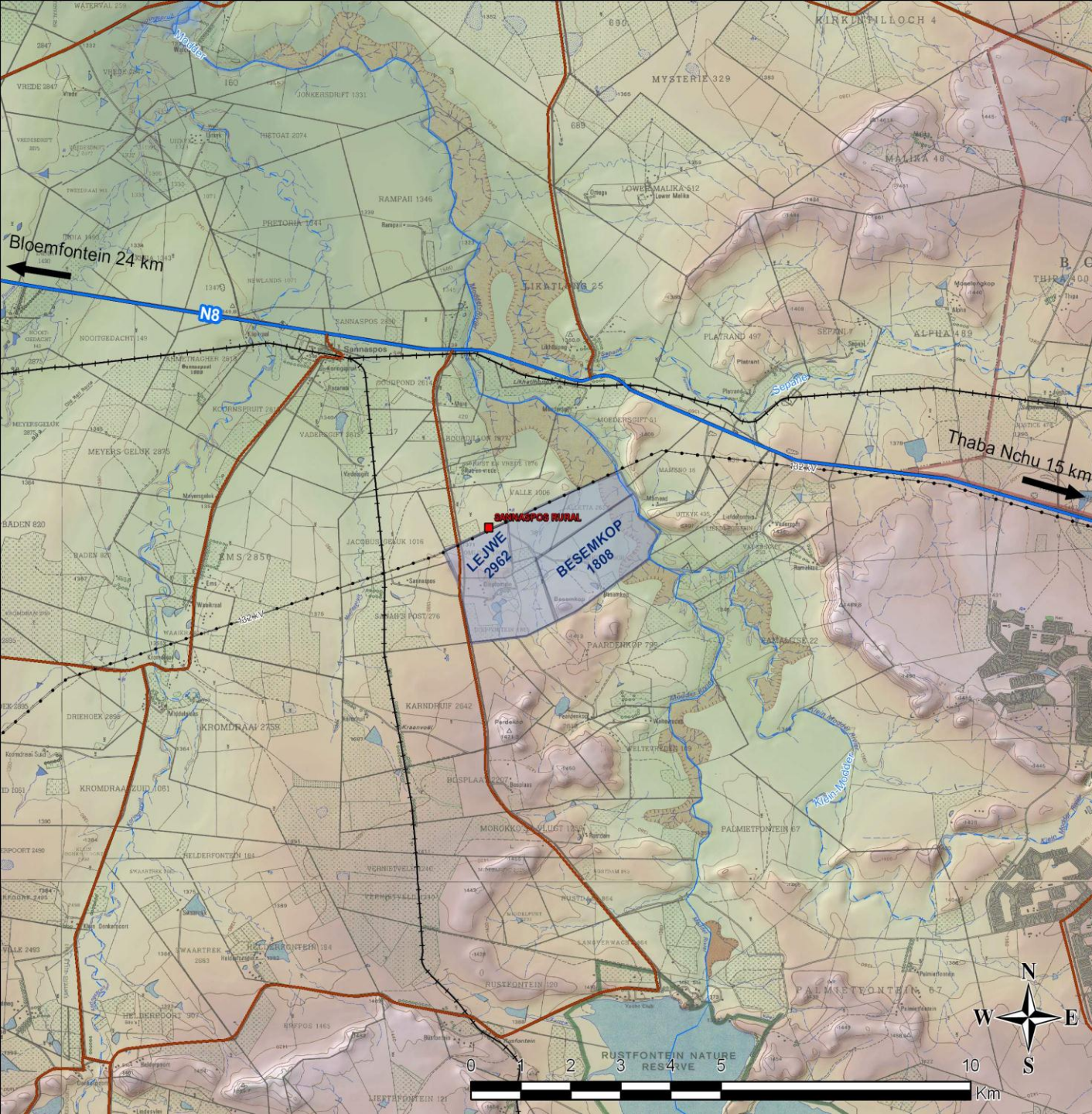


Sannaspos Solar Energy Facility

Locality Map

Legend

- National Road
- Regional Road
- Secondary Road
- Railway Line
- Perennial River
- Non-perennial River
- Power Line
- Distribution Substation
- Farm portion



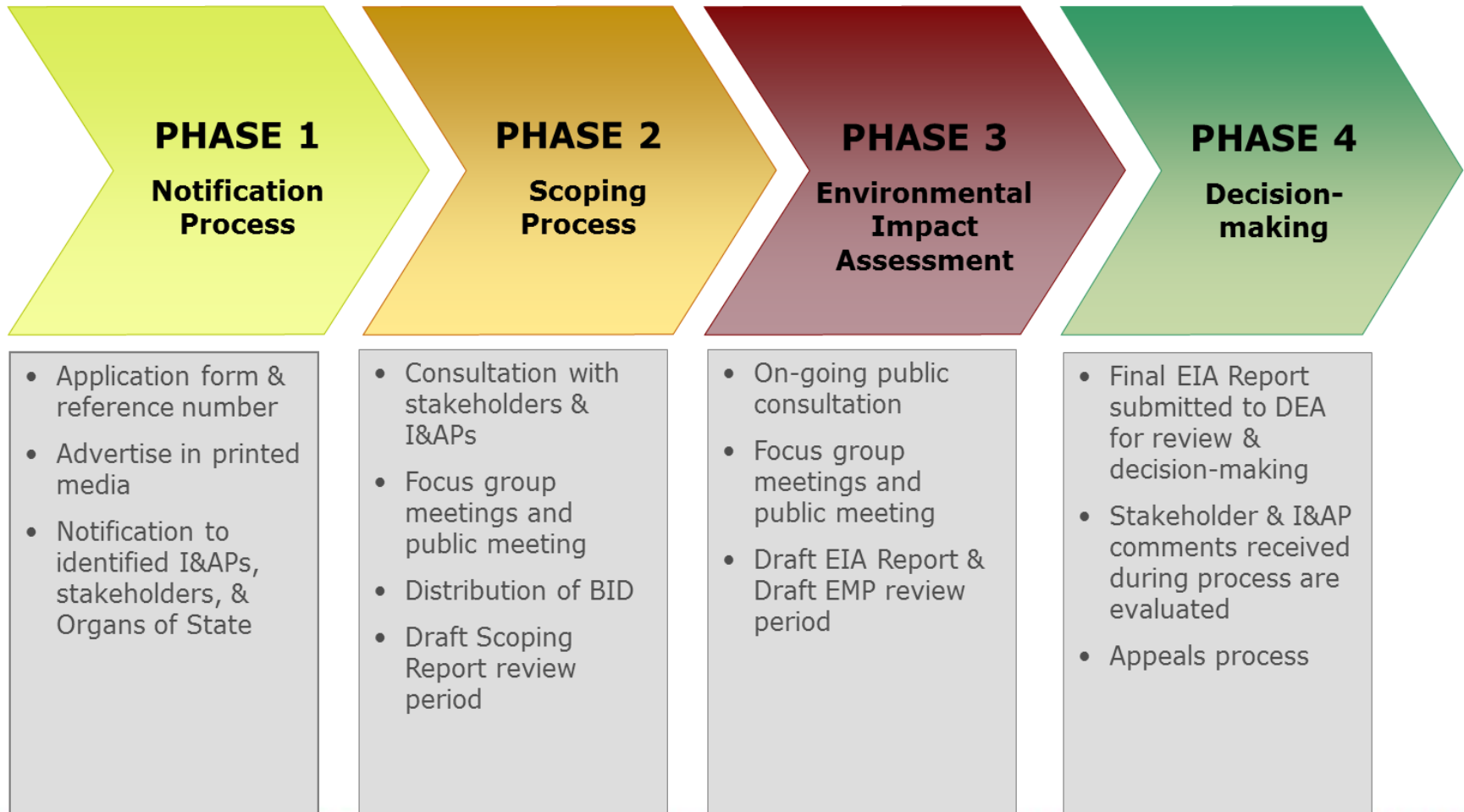
PROJECT COMPONENTS

- PV panels - generating capacity of up to 75MW
 - An on-site substation and 132kV overhead power line to facilitate the connection between the solar energy facility and the Eskom electricity grid.
 - Cabling between the project components, to be laid underground where practical
 - Internal access roads and fencing
 - Workshop area for maintenance, storage, and offices
-

LEGAL CONTEXT

- National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998)
 - Overarching environmental legislation in South Africa
 - Identifies and regulates activities which may have a detrimental impact on the environment
 - Specifies the EIA process
 - Applicant requires authorisation from National DEA (in consultation with Provincial FS DETEA)
 - Independent environmental studies in accordance with the EIA Regulations of June 2010
-

OVERVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

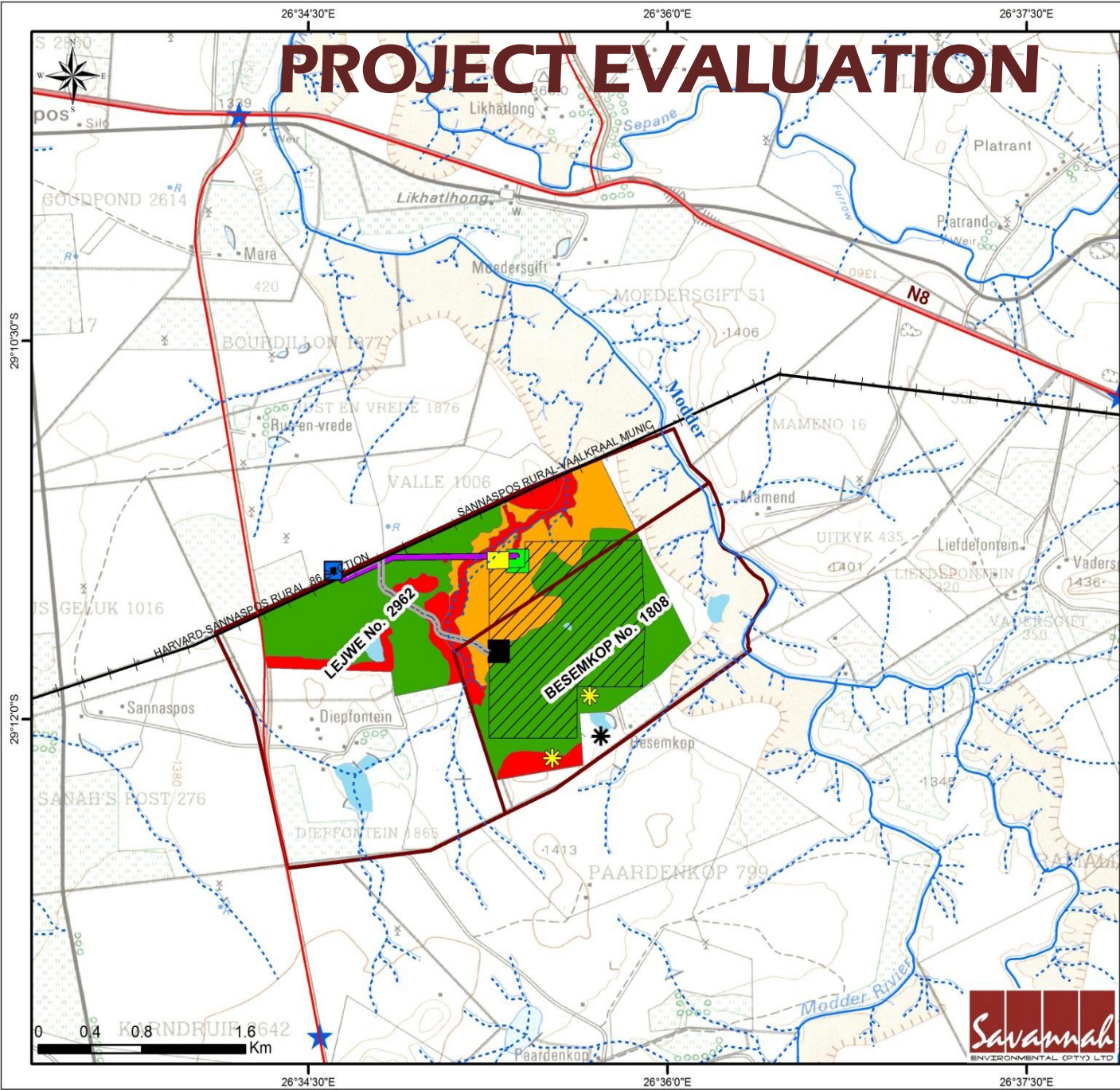


APPROACH TO THE EIA PROCESS

- Identification & assessment of issues:
 - Impacts on biodiversity
 - Impacts on soils & agricultural potential
 - Impacts on heritage resources
 - Impacts on visual aesthetics
 - Impacts on the social environment
 - Sensitive areas/ features identified through specialist studies & consultation
 - Final design of facility to be informed by sensitive areas identified through the EIA Assessment process
-

PROJECT EVALUATION

Sannaspos Solar Energy Facility (75MW) Environmental sensitivity



- Existing Substation
- Existing Power line
- Roads
- Perennial river
- Non-Perennial river
- SEF farm portion
- Facility Layout**
- PV site
- Laydown area
- Access road
- 11kV power line
- Guardhouse
- On-site substation
- ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY**
- Ecology**
- High
- Medium-High
- Low
- Waterbodies
- Visual receptors
- Cemetery (burials)
- Historic stone shed



POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

ISSUE	IMPACT WITHOUT MITIGATION	IMPACT WITH MITIGATION
Impacts on biodiversity	High	Medium
Impacts on visual aesthetics	Medium	Low
Impacts on heritage resources	Low	Low
Impacts on soils & agricultural potential	Medium	Low
Impacts on the social environment	Medium	Low

CONCLUSIONS

- No environmental fatal flaws identified
 - Sites are largely favourable from an **ecological** perspective – areas of high sensitivity have been avoided
 - **Soil** degradation is of low significance
 - **Agricultural** potential is low
 - **Visual** impact low due low numbers of visual receptors in the study area and another adjacent proposed facility
 - **Heritage** significance is negligible with mitigation measures in place
 - Positive **social** impact - employment opportunities, skills development, & capacity building within the local communities
-

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Projects should be authorised by DEA
 - Environmental Management Programmes (EMP) to be implemented to minimise impacts
 - Disturbed areas should be rehabilitated as soon as possible after construction
 - Identify & manage areas of high erosion potential
 - Declared alien plants must be identified and managed
 - Social beneficiation programme to be undertaken
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WAY FORWARD

- Public Review period for Draft Environmental Assessment Reports until 15 February 2013
 - Report available at:
 - Botchabelo Public Library
 - www.savannahsa.com
 - Final Reports to be submitted to DEA for review & acceptance
 - Registered I&APs to be notified of decision on projects
-

WHO TO CONTACT

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