ANNEXURE A APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

A1: Application Forms

A1: Acceptance of Application Forms

A2: Acceptance of FSR

ANNEXURE A1 APPLICATION FORM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

- Application Forms
- Acceptance of Application Forms



APPLICATION FORM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

	(For official use only)
File Reference Number:	
NEAS Reference Number:	
Date Received:	

Application for authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010

PROJECT TITLE

Proposed PV9 Photovoltaic (Solar) Energy Plant on Farm Hoekplaas near Copperton, Northern Cape

Kindly note that:

- 1. This application form is current as of 2 August 2010. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the form have been published or produced by the competent authority.
- 2. The application must be typed within the spaces provided in the form. The sizes of the spaces provided are not necessarily indicative of the amount of information to be provided. Spaces are provided in tabular format and will extend automatically when each space is filled with typing.
- 3. Where applicable **black out** the boxes that are not applicable in the form.
- 4. Incomplete applications may be returned to the applicant for revision.
- 5. The use of the phrase "not applicable" in the form must be done with circumspection. Should it be done in respect of material information required by the competent authority for assessing the application, it may result in the rejection of the application as provided for in the Regulations.
- 6. This application must be handed in at the offices of the relevant competent authority as determined by the Act and regulations.
- 7. No faxed or e-mailed applications will be accepted.
- 8. Unless protected by law, all information filled in on this application will become public information on receipt by the competent authority. Any interested and affected party should be provided with the information contained in this application on request, during any stage of the application process.
- 9. Should a specialist report or report on a specialised process be submitted at any stage for any part of this application, the terms of reference for such report must also be submitted.

Queries must be addressed to the contact hereunder:

Departmental Details

Postal address:

Department of Environmental Affairs

Attention: Director: Environmental Impact Evaluation

Private Bag X447

Pretoria 0001

Physical address:

Department of Environmental Affairs

Fedsure Forum Building (corner of Pretorius and Van der Walt Streets)

2nd Floor North Tower 315 Pretorius Street Pretoria 0002

Queries should be directed to the Directorate: Environmental Impact Evaluation at:

Tel: 012-310-3268 Fax: 012-320-7539

Please note that this form <u>must</u> be copied to the relevant provincial environmental department/s.

View the Department's website at http://www.deat.gov.za/ for the latest version of the documents.

SITE IDENTIFICATION AND LINKAGE

Please indicate all the Surveyor-general 21 digit site (erf/farm/portion) reference numbers for all sites (including portions of sites) that are part of the application.

		_	-		_		_									_		_		_	
(\cdot	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	6	0	0	0	0	0

(if there are more that 6, please attach a list with the rest of the numbers)

(These numbers will be used to link various different applications, authorisations, permits etc. that may be connected to a specific site)

PROJECT TITLE

Proposed PV9 Photovoltaic (Solar) Energy Plant on Farm Hoekplaas near Copperton, Northern Cape

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Project applicant:	Mulilo Renewable Energy (Pty)) Ltd				
Trading name (if any):	-					
Contact person:	Warren Morse					
Physical address:	Office 301 Execujet Business Centre, Tower Road, Cape Town International					
	Airport					
Postal address:	PO Box 50, Cape Town Interna	ational Airport				
Postal code:	7525	Cell:	083 760 9586			
Telephone:	021 934 5278	Fax:	021 935 0505			
E-mail:	warren@mulilo.com					

Provincial Authority:	Northern Cape [Department	of	Environme	ental	Affairs	and	Nature
FIOVITICIAL AULIOTILY.	Conservation							
Contact person:	Ms Anga Yaphi							
Postal address:	Private Bag X6102, Kimberley							
Postal code:	8300		Cel	l:	079	695 026	57	
Telephone:	054 332 2885		Fax	c:	054	331 115	5	
E-mail:	ayaphi@upprov.nca	pe.gov.za						

Landowner 1:	Farm Hoekplaas (Rema	Farm Hoekplaas (Remainder of Farm 146)					
Contact person:	Hendrik Gideon Humar	Hendrik Gideon Human & Maria Johanna Human					
Postal address:	P O Box 390, Prieska	P O Box 390, Prieska					
Postal code:	8940	Cell:	082 808 3846				
Telephone:	-	Fax:	053 353 2691				
E-mail:	hg@gwk.co.za		-				

Local authority in whose jurisdiction the proposed activity will fall:	Siyathemba Local Municipality		
Nearest town or districts:	Copperton, Northern Cape		
Contact person:	The Municipal Manager		
Postal address:	P O Box 16, Prieska		
Postal code:	8940	Cell:	-
Telephone:	053 353 5300	Fax:	053 353 1386
E-mail:	psk.muni@prieska.co.za		

2. ACTIVITIES APPLIED FOR TO BE AUTHORISED

2.1 For an application for authorisation that involves more than one listed or specified activity that, together, make up one development proposal, all the listed activities pertaining to this application must be indicated.

Indicate the number and date of the relevant notice:	Activity No (s) (in terms of the relevant notice) :	Describe each listed activity as per project description¹:
545, 18 June 2010	1	Construction of a 75 MW photovoltaic solar energy plant on 300 ha of farm Hoekplaas (Remainder of Farm 146) near Copperton in the Northern Cape.
544, 18 June 2010	10	A 132kV overhead distribution line would be required to connect the PV facility to the onsite-substation.
	11 (x and xi)	Buildings and structures exceeding 50m ² are being proposed and it is possible that these might be within 32m of small tributaries.
	10	Dangerous goods might be stored and handled on site from time to time within 100m of a watercourse.
546, 2 August 2010	14	This activity may or may not be triggered depending on the extent of the indigenous vegetation. This will be confirmed by the botanical assessment.
	16	It is assumed that buildings and infrastructure, exceeding 10m ² would be constructed on the project site. Depending on the location of the respective buildings, this activity may be triggered.

Please note that any authorisation that may result from this application will only cover activities specifically applied for.

2.2 A project schedule, indicating the different phases and timelines of the project, must be attached to this application form - **Please refer to Annexure A.**

3. OTHER AUTHORISATIONS REQUIRED

3.1 DO YOU NEED ANY AUTHORISATIONS IN TERMS OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING LAWS?

3.1.1 National Environmental Management: Waste Act	No
3.1.2 National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act	No
3.1.3 National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act	No
3.1.4 National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act	No
3.1.5 Mineral Petroleum Development Resources Act	No
3.1.6 National Water Act	To be confirmed
3.1.7 National Heritage Resources Act	Yes
3.1.8 Other (please specify)	No
3.2 Have such applications been lodged already?	No

¹ Please note that this description should not be a verbatim repetition of the listed activity as contained in the relevant Government Notice, but should be a brief description of activities to be undertaken as per the project description

4. DECLARATIONS

4.1 The Applicant

Narren Morse of Mulilo Renewable Energy (Pty) Ltd ,declare that I -

- am, or represent², the applicant in this application;
- have appointed / will appoint (delete that which is not applicable) an environmental assessment practitioner to act as the independent environmental assessment practitioner for this application / will obtain exemption from the requirement to obtain an environmental assessment practitioner³:
- will provide the environmental assessment practitioner and the competent authority with access to all information at my disposal that is relevant to the application:
- will be responsible for the costs incurred in complying with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010, including but not limited to
 - costs incurred in connection with the appointment of the environmental assessment practitioner or any person contracted by the environmental assessment practitioner;
 - costs incurred in respect of the undertaking of any process required in terms of the Regulations;
 - costs in respect of any fee prescribed by the Minister or MEC in respect of the Regulations;
 - costs in respect of specialist reviews, if the competent authority decides to recover costs; and
 - the provision of security to ensure compliance with conditions attached to an environmental authorisation, should it be required by the competent authority;
- will ensure that the environmental assessment practitioner is competent to comply with the requirements of these Regulations and will take reasonable steps to verify whether the EAP complies with the Regulations;
- will inform all registered interested and affected parties of any suspension of the application as well as of any decisions taken by the competent authority in this regard;
- am responsible for complying with the conditions of any environmental authorisation issued by the competent authority;
- hereby indemnify the Government of the Republic, the competent authority and all its officers, agents and employees, from any liability arising out of the content of any report, any procedure or any action which the applicant or environmental assessment practitioner is responsible for in terms of these Regulations;
- will not hold the competent authority responsible for any costs that may be incurred by the applicant in proceeding with an activity prior to obtaining an environmental authorisation or prior to an appeal being decided in terms of these Regulations:
- will perform all other obligations as expected from an applicant in terms of the Regulations;

² If this is signed on behalf of the applicant, proof of such authority from the applicant must be attached.

all the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct; and

•	I realise that a false	declaration is an	offence in term	s of regulation	71 and is	s punishable	in terms
	of section 2/15 of the	Δct					

Signature of the applicant ⁴ / Signature on behalf of the applicant:	-
Mulilo Renewable Energy (Pty) Ltd	
Name of company (if applicable):	
<u>07 · 03 · (3</u> Date:	

⁴ If the applicant is a juristic person, a signature on behalf of the applicant is required as well as proof of such authority. An EAP may not sign on behalf of an applicant.



Project Consultant: Contact person: Postal address: Postal code: Telephone: E-mail: 4.2

The Environmental Assessment Practitioner

REPUBLIC	DE SOUTH AFRICA			
	_			
DETAILS OF EAP AND	DECLARATION OF II	NTEREST		
		(For official us	se only)	
File Reference Number:		12/12/20/	J)	
NEAS Reference Number	er:	DEAT/EIA/		
Date Received:				
			•	ement Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of
1998), as amended and	the Environmental Imp	act Assessmen	t Regulations	s, 2010
PROJECT TITLE				
Proposed PV9 Photovolt	aic (Solar) Energy Pla	nt on Farm Hoe	kplaas near (Copperton, Northern Cape
Environmental				
Assessment Practitioner	Aurecon South Afric	ca (Pty) Ltd		
(EAP): ¹ Contact person:	Miss Franci Gresse			
Postal address:	PO Box 494, Cape			
Postal code:	8000	TOWIT	Cell:	1-
Telephone:	021 526 6022		Fax:	086 723 1750
E-mail:	franci.gresse@aure	econgroup com	, and	
Professional affiliation(s)		oongroup.com		
(if any)	N/A			
	-			
Project Consultant:	N/A			
Contact person:				
Postal address:		_		
Postal code:			Cell:	
Telephone:			Fax:	

General declaration:

- I act as the independent environmental practitioner in this application
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have expertise in conducting environmental impact assessments, including knowledge of the Act, regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I will take into account, to the extent possible, the matters listed in regulation 8 of the regulations when preparing the application and any report relating to the application;
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;
- I will ensure that information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application is distributed or made
 available to interested and affected parties and the public and that participation by interested and affected
 parties is facilitated in such a manner that all interested and affected parties will be provided with a reasonable
 opportunity to participate and to provide comments on documents that are produced to support the application;
- I will ensure that the comments of all interested and affected parties are considered and recorded in reports that
 are submitted to the competent authority in respect of the application, provided that comments that are made by
 interested and affected parties in respect of a final report that will be submitted to the competent authority may
 be attached to the report without further amendment to the report;
- I will keep a register of all interested and affected parties that participated in a public participation process; and
- I will provide the competent authority with access to all information at my disposal regarding the application, whether such information is favourable to the applicant or not
- all the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct;
- will perform all other obligations as expected from an environmental assessment practitioner in terms of the Regulations; and
- I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 71 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act.

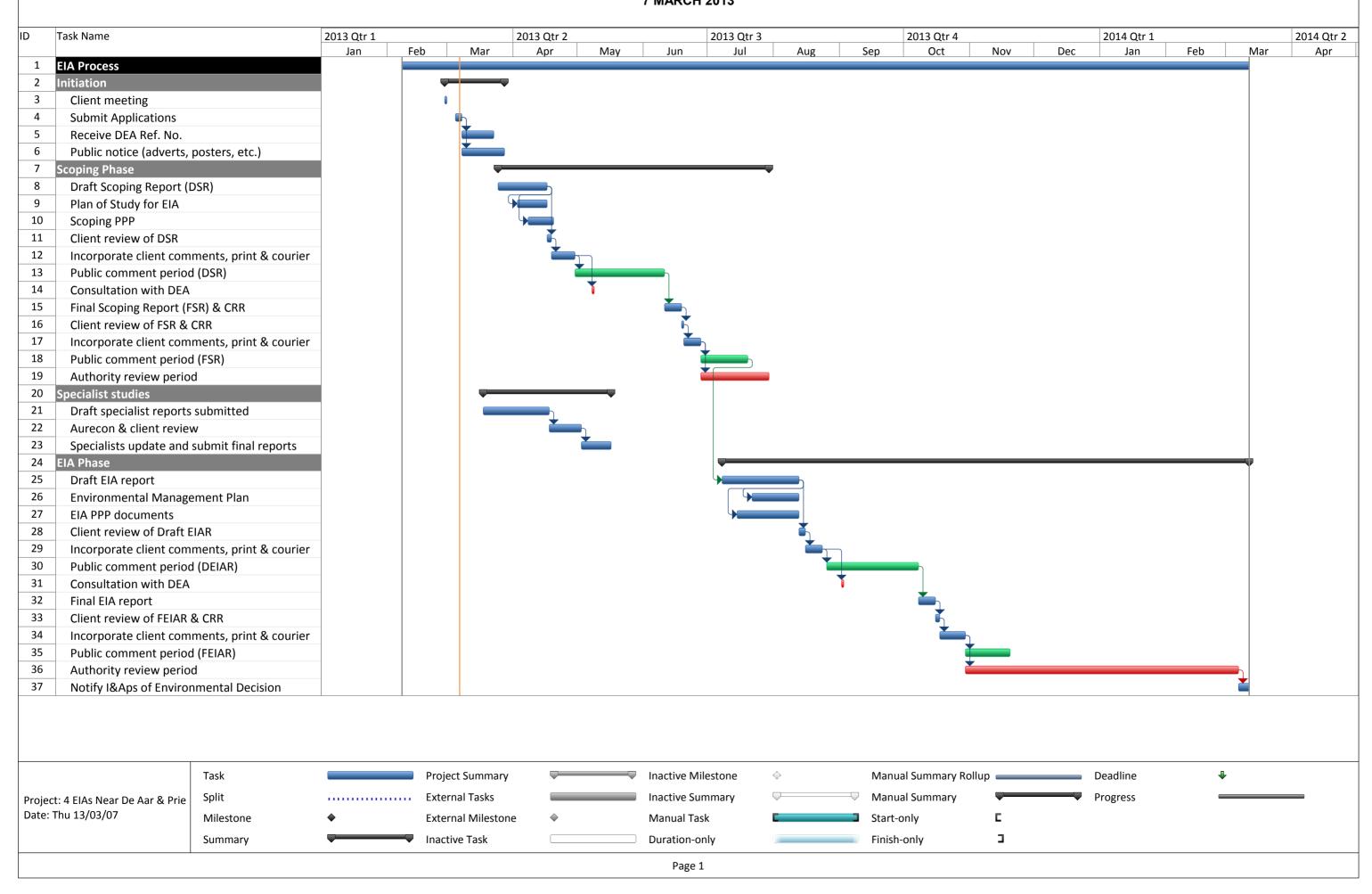
Disclosure of Vested Interest (delete whichever is not applicable)

 I do not have and will not have any vested interest (either business, financial, personal or other) in the proposed activity proceeding other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010;

Signature of the environmental assessment practitioner:	
Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd	
Name of company:	
1/3/2013	
Date: / /	

ANNEXURE A Project Programme

FOUR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS FOR THE EXPANSION OF APPROVED PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITIES NEAR DE AAR AND PRIESKA, NORTHERN CAPE 7 MARCH 2013



ANNEXURE B

Letter from Applicant Regarding Signing Rights



Mulilo Renewable Energy (Pty)Ltd

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

Office 301
Execujet Business Centre
Tower Road
Cape Town International Airport
7525 South Africa

Telephone: +27 (0) 21 934 5268

Facsimile: +27 (0) 21 935 0505 / 0866356809 Email : <u>chris@capedeep.com</u>

POSTAL ADDRESS P O Box 50

Cape Town International Airports

7525 South Africa

4th March 2013

RESOLUTION

Further to a meeting of the board of Mulilo Renewable Energy (Pty) Ltd, held at Cape Town on 4th March 2013, it has been agreed that Warren Morse has the authority to sign the Application Forms for Environmental Authorisation.

Signed at Cape Town on 4th March 2013

Director

C Aberdein

Director

Directors: CD Aberdein, J Coetsee, D J Crombie, J H Cullum

Mulilo Renewable Energy (Pty) Ltd Registration number: 2008 / 010114 / 07

PO Box 50 Cape Town International Airport Cape Town 7525 South Africa

ANNEXURE C Landowner Consent





AWS/vw/lease: 06/04/09

MEMORANDUM VAN HUUROOREENKOMS

aangegaan en gesluit tussen

Request Trust 366/2002

(Registrasienommer:

(die 'VERHUURDER')

en

MULILO RENEWABLE ENERGY (EDMS) BPK

(Registrasienommer: 2008/010114/07)

(die 'HUURDER')

Atm.

1. INTERPRETASIE

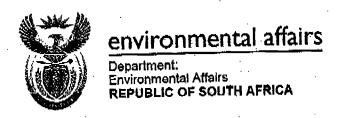
In hierdie Huurooreenkoms, tensy die konteks tot die teendeel aandui:

1.1 beteken die VERHUURDER:

Regruest Trust 366/2002

- 1.2 beteken die HUURDER Mulilo Renewable Energy (Edms) Bpk Ltd, Registrasienommer: 2008/010114/07, verteenwoordig deur Johannes Coetsee, wie behoorlik gemagtig is om as sodanig op te tree, van p/a Keeromstraat 68, Kaapstad, 8001;
- beteken die HUURPERSEEL die plaas beskryf as, Prießka Rd 104/I (remainingExtend) Vogelstruis Bult gehou onder titelakte T.18939/2003......, en met oppervlakte van 6085,5029 ha, maar uitgesluit alle geboue, plaasgereedskap en -implemente, voorraag voertuie en waterbronne, onderhewig aan die bepalings van klousule 6 hieronder en ook uitgesluit alle gedeeltes wat nie deur die HUURDER gebruik word vir wind- en sonkragopwekking doeleindes nie;
- 1.4 beteken die AANVANGSDATUM die datum van ondertekening van hierdie Huurooreenkoms deur die party daartoe wat dit laaste onderteken;
- beteken die OKKUPASIEDATUM die Aanvangsdatum;
- 1.6 beteken die AKTIVERINGSDATUM die eerste datum wat 'n turbine krag aan Eskom of 'n ander kommersiële gebruiker lewer, soos voorsiening voor gemaak word in klousule 5.4 hieronder.

of Jam



Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA · 0001· Fedsure Building · 315 Pretorius Street · PRETORIA Tel (+ 27 12) 310 3911 · Fax (+ 2712) 322 2582

> NEAS Reference: DEA/EIA/0001761/2013 DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/500

Enquiries: Kim Balutto

Tel: 012 310 3859 Fax: 012 320 7539 E-mail: KBalutto@environment.gov.za

Nomvelo Siwela Aurecon SA (Pty) Ltd PO Box 494 CAPE TOWN 8000

Fax: 021 526 9500 Tel: 021 526 9400

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE OF NEW APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (SCOPING & EIA PROCESS) FOR THE PROPOSED PV9 PHOTVOLTAIC (SOLAR) ENERGY PLANT ON FARM HOEKPLAAS NEAR COPPERTON, NORTHERN CAPE PEOVINCE

The Department confirms having received the Application Form; Details of EAP and Declaration of Interest form; Landowner Consent; Locality map and Project Schedule on 11 March 2013 for environmental authorisation for the abovementioned project. The Application is accepted.

Please include both reference numbers (NEAS Reference and DEA Reference), as listed above, on all documents and correspondence submitted to the Department.

Please note that <u>one hard copy and one electronic copy</u> (saved on CD/DVD) of <u>draft reports</u>, and <u>five hard copies and one electronic copy of final reports</u> must be submitted to the Department.

In addition, please consider the following during compilation of reports for this application for environmental authorisation:

All applicable Departmental Guidelines must be considered throughout the application process. These can be downloaded from the Department's website: www.environment.gov.za, Environmental Impact Management button, listed under "EIA Administration": Integrated Environmental Management Information Series link. These include, but are not limited to, the following topics: Scoping, Environmental Impact Reporting, Stakeholder Engagement, Specialist Studies, Impact Significance, Cumulative Effects Assessments, Alternatives in EIA and Environmental Management Plans.

- Please be advised that in terms of the EIA Regulations and NEMA the investigation of alternatives is mandatory. Alternatives must therefore be identified, investigated to determine if they are feasible and reasonable. It is also mandatory to investigate and assess the option of not proceeding with the proposed activity (the "no-go" option).
- Refer to the attached annexure for specific requirements for the submission of applications for environmental authorisation for solar/wind power generation facilities.
- Should water, solid waste removal, effluent discharge, stormwater management and
 electricity services be provided by the municipality, you are requested to provide this office
 with written proof that the municipality has sufficient capacity to provide the necessary
 services to the proposed development. Confirmation of the availability of services from the
 service providers must be provided together with the reports to be submitted.
- In the reports to be submitted it must clearly be demonstrated in which way the proposed development will meet the requirements of sustainable development. You must also consider energy efficient technologies and water saving devices and technologies for the proposed development. This could include measures such as the recycling of waste, the use of low voltage or compact fluorescent lights instead of incandescent globes, maximising the use of solar heating, the use of dual flush toilets and low-flow shower heads and taps, the management of storm water, the capture and use of rainwater from gutters and roofs, the use of locally indigenous vegetation during landscaping and the training of staff to implement good housekeeping techniques.
- A detailed and complete EMPr must be submitted with the EIR. This EMPr must not
 provide recommendations but must indicate actual remediation activities which will be
 binding on the applicant. Without this EMPr the documents will be regarded as not
 meeting the requirements and will be returned to the applicant for correction.
- The applicant/EAP is required to inform this Department in writing upon submission of any draft report, of the contact details of the relevant State Departments (that administer laws relating to a matter affecting the environment) to whom copies of the draft report were submitted for comment. Upon receipt of this confirmation, this Department will in accordance with Section 24O (2) & (3) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) inform the relevant State Departments of the commencement date of the 40 day commenting period, or 60 days in the case of the Department of Water Affairs for waste management activities which also require a licence in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998).
- Should it be necessary to apply for a permit in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999), please submit the necessary application to SAHRA or the relevant provincial heritage agency and submit proof thereof with the Environmental Impact assessment Report. The relevant heritage agency should also be involved during the public participation process and have the opportunity to comment on all the reports to be submitted to this Department.

You are required to submit the final site layout plan together with the Final EIR to the Department. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout plan. The site layout plan must indicate the following:

- Positions of solar/wind facilities;
- Foundation footprint;
- Permanent laydown area footprint;
- Construction period laydown 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);

· Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating

the type of bridging structures that will be used;

• The location of Heritage sites;

- Sub-station(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint;
- Cable routes and trench dimensions (where they are not along internal roads);
- Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;
- Cut and fill areas at solar panels/ wind turbines sites along roads and at substation/transformer sites indicating the expected volume of each cut and fill;

Borrow pits;

- Spoil heaps (temporary for topsoil and subsoil and permanently for excess material);
- All existing infrastructure on the site, especially roads;
- Buildings including accommodation;

All "no-go" areas; and

 A map combining the final layout plan must be superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.

The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the application for environmental authorisation must include the following:

All recommendations and mitigation measures to be recorded in the Final EIR.

 A plant rescue and protection plan which allows for the maximum transplant of conservation important species from areas to be transformed. This plan must be compiled by a vegetation specialist familiar with the site in consultation with the ECO and be implemented prior to commencement of the construction phase.

An open space management plan to be implemented during the construction and

operation of the facility.

- A re-vegetation and habitat rehabilitation plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility including timeframes for restoration which must indicate rehabilitation within the shortest possible time after completion of construction activities to reduce the amount of habitat converted at any one time and to speed up the recovery to natural habitats.
- An alien invasive management plan to be implemented during construction and operation
 of the facility. The plan must include mitigation measures to reduce the invasion of alien
 species and ensure that the continuous monitoring and removal of alien species is
 undertaken.
- A storm water management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation
 of the facility. The plan must ensure compliance with applicable regulations and prevent
 off-site migration of contaminated storm water or increased soil erosion. The plan must
 include the construction of appropriate design measures that allow surface and subsurface
 movement of water along drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and
 subsurface flows. Drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water runoff.
- An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of all hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use and storage. This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems.

 An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Appropriate erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and

reduce the risk of any potential erosion.

 A traffic management plan for the site access roads to ensure that no hazards would results from the increased truck traffic and that traffic flow would not be adversely impacted. This plan must include measures to minimize impacts on local commuters e.g. limiting construction vehicles travelling on public roadways during the morning and late afternoon commute time and avoid using roads through densely populated built-up areas so as not to disturb existing retail and commercial operations.

• An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features

identified during the EIA process.

 Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.

The EAP must, in order to give effect to regulation 56 (2), before submitting the final basic assessment report/environmental impact assessment report to the Department give registered interested and affected parties access to, and an opportunity to comment on the report in writing within 21 days.

In terms of regulation 67 of the EIA Regulations, 2010 this application will lapse if the applicant (or the EAP on behalf of the applicant) fails to comply with a requirement in terms of the Regulations for a period of six months after having submitted the application, unless the reasons for failure have been communicated to and accepted by this Department.

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

Yours sincerely

Mr Mark Gordon

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Mr Herman Alberts

Designation: Environmental Officer: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Date: 26/03/20/3

1	CC:	Mr Warren	Morse	Mulilo Renewable Energy (Pty) Ltd	Fax: 021 935 0505
٠	- 00.	Ms Anga Yaphi		NCDEANC	Fax: 054 331 1155
		The	Municipal	Siyathemba Local Municipality	Fax: 053 353 1386
		Manager			<u> </u>

A. ___EIA INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES

1. General site Information

The following general site information is required:

- Descriptions of all affected farm portions
- 21 digit Surveyor General codes of all affected farm portions
- Copies of deeds of all affected farm portions
- Photos of areas that give a visual perspective of all parts of the site
- Photographs from sensitive visual receptors (tourism routes, tourism facilities, etc.)
- Solar plant design specifications including:
 - Type of technology
 - Structure height
 - Surface area to be covered (including associated infrastructure such as roads)
 - Structure orientation
 - > Laydown area dimensions (construction period and thereafter)
 - Generation capacity
- Generation capacity of the facility as a whole at delivery points

This information must be indicated on the first page of any Scoping or EIA document. It is also advised that it be double checked as there are too many mistakes in the applications that have been received that take too much time from authorities to correct.

Site maps and GIS information

Site maps and GIS information should include at least the following:

- All maps/information layers must also be provided in ESRI Shapefile format
- All affected farm portions must be indicated
- The exact site of the application must be indicated (the areas that will be occupied by the application)
- A status quo map/layer must be provided that includes the following:

- Current use of land on the site including:
 - Buildings and other structures
 - Agricultural fields
 - Grazing areas
 - Natural vegetation areas (natural veld not cultivated for the preceding 10 years) with an indication of the vegetation quality as well as fine scale mapping in respect of Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas
 - Critically endangered and endangered vegetation areas that occur on the site
 - Bare areas which may be susceptible to soil erosion
 - Cultural historical sites and elements
- > Rivers, streams and water courses
- Ridgelines and 20m continuous contours with height references in the GIS database
- Fountains, boreholes, dams (in-stream as well as off-stream) and reservoirs
- High potential agricultural areas as defined by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
- Buffer zones (also where it is dictated by elements outside the site):
 - 500m from any irrigated agricultural land
 - 1km from residential areas
- Indicate isolated residential, tourism facilities on or within 1km of the site
- A slope analysis map/layer that include the following slope ranges:
 - Less than 8% slope
 - > between 8% and 12% slope
 - between 12%and 14% slope
 - > steeper than 18 % slope
- A map/layer that indicate locations of birds and bats including roosting and foraging areas (specialist input required)
- A site development proposal map(s)/layer(s) that indicate:
 - Positions of solar facilities
 - Foundation footprint

- Permanent laydown area footprint
- > Construction period laydown 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)
- River, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used
- > Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint.
- > Cable routes and trench dimensions (where they are not along internal roads)
- Connection routes to the distribution/transmission network (the connection must form part of the EIA even if the construction and maintenance thereof will be done by another entity such as ESKOM)
- Cut and fill areas along roads and at substation/transformer sites indicating the expected volume of each cut and fill
- Borrow pits
- Spoil heaps (temporary for topsoil and subsoil and permanently for excess material)
- Buildings including accommodation

With the above information authorities will be able to assess the strategic and site impacts of applications.

Regional map and GIS information

The regional map and GIS information should include at least the following:

- All maps/information layers must also be provided in ESRI Shapefile format
- The map/layer must cover an area of 20km around the site
- Indicate the following:
 - roads including their types (tarred or gravel) and category (national, provincial, local or private)
 - Railway lines and stations
 - Industrial areas
 - > Harbours and airports

- Electricity transmission and distribution lines and substations
- > Pipelines
- Waters sources to be utilised during the construction and operational phases
- > A visibility assessment of the areas from where the facility will be visible
- > Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas
- > Critically Endangered and Endangered vegetation areas
- Agricultural fields
- > Irrigated areas
- An indication of new road or changes and upgrades that must be done to existing roads in order to get equipment onto the site including cut and fill areas and crossings of rivers and streams

4. Important stakeholders

Amongst other important stakeholders, comments from the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries must be obtained and submitted to the Department. Request for comment must be submitted to:

Mrs. Anneliza Collett

Directorate: Land Use & Soil Management Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries

Tel: 012 - 319 7508 Fax: 012 - 329 5938

e-mail: AnnelizaC@nda.agric.za

www.agis.agric.za

In addition, comments must be requested from Eskom (Mr Kevin Leask or Mr Ronald Marais (011) 8008111) regarding grid connectivity and capacity.

B. AGRICULTURE STUDY REQUIREMENTS

- Detailed soil assessment of the site in question, incorporating a radius of 50 m surrounding the site, on a scale of 1:10 000 or finer. The soil assessment should include the following:
 - Identification of the soil forms present on site
 - The size of the area where a particular soil form is found
 - GPS readings of soil survey points

- The depth of the soil at each survey point
- Soil colour
- Limiting factors
- Clay content
- Slope of the site
- A detailed map indicating the locality of the soil forms within the specified area,
- Size of the site
- Exact locality of the site
- Current activities on the site, developments, buildings
- Surrounding developments / land uses and activities in a radius of 500 m of the site
- Access routes and the condition thereof
- Current status of the land (including erosion, vegetation and a degradation assessment)
- Possible land use options for the site
- Water availability, source and quality (if available)
- Detailed descriptions of why agriculture should or should not be the land use of choice
- Impact of the change of land use on the surrounding area
- A shape file containing the soil forms and relevant attribute data as depicted on the map

ANNEXURE A2 APPLICATION FORM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

• Acceptance of FSR



Private Bag X 447 PRETORIA · 0001 · Fedsure Building · 315 Pretorius Street · PRETORIA Tel (+ 27 12) 310 3911 · Fax (+ 2712) 322 2682

NEAS Reference: DEA/EIA/0001754/2013, DEA/EIA/0001755/2013, DEA/EIA/0001756/2013, DEA/EIA/0001757/2013, DEA/EIA/0001758/2013, DEA/EIA/0001759/2013, DEA/EIA/0001760/2013, DEA/EIA/0001761/2013, DEA/EIA/0001762/2013, DEA/EIA/0001763/2013

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/493, 14/12/16/3/3/2/494, 14/12/16/3/3/2/495, 14/12/16/3/3/2/496, 14/12/16/3/3/2/497, 14/12/16/3/3/2/498, 14/12/16/3/3/2/499, 14/12/16/3/3/2/500, 14/12/16/3/3/2/501, 14/12/16/3/3/2/502

Enquiries: Ms Thulisile Nyalunga

Telephone: (012) 310 3249 Fax: (012) 320 7539 E-mail: TNyalunga@environment.gov.za

Ms Franci Gresse Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd PO Box 1494 CAPE TOWN 8000

Fax Number: (086) 723 1750

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Gresse

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: PROPOSED PV2-PV11 PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES ON HOEKPLAAS FARM NEAR COPPERTON, SIYATHEMBA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated July 2013 and received by this Department on 19 July 2013 refer.

This Department has evaluated the submitted FSR and the PoSEIA dated July 2013 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2010. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of regulation 30(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

You may proceed with the Environmental Impact Assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment and the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

All comments and recommendations made by all stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in the Draft Scoping Report and submitted as part of the FSR must be taken into consideration when preparing an environmental impact assessment report in respect of the proposed development. Please ensure that all mitigation measures and recommendations in the specialist studies are addressed and included in the final EIR and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This includes but is not limited to the Northern Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Nature Conservation, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (DAFF), the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), the Western Cape Department of Transport, the Emthanjeni Local Municipality, the district municipality, the Department of Water Affairs (DWA), the Department of Energy, the South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL), Transnet, the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and the Square Kilometre Array (SKA).

Please be advised that the contact person for renewable projects at the SKA office is Dr Adrian Tiplady and he can be contacted on Tel: 011 442 2434 or E-mail: atiplady@ska.ac.za.

You are also required to address all issues raised by organs of state and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) prior to the submission of the EIR to the Department.

Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final EIR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.

The EAP must, in order to give effect to Regulation 56(2), give registered interested and affected parties access to, and an opportunity to comment on the report in writing within 21 days before submitting the final environmental impact assessment report to the Department.

Please ensure that the Final EIR includes at least one legible A3 regional map of the area and the site layout map to illustrate the turbines positions and associated infrastructure. The maps must be of acceptable quality and as a minimum, have the following attributes:

- Maps are relatable to one another:
- Cardinal points:
- Co-ordinates:
- Legible tegends;
- Indicate alternatives;
- Latest land cover:
- Vegetation types of the study area; and
- A3 size locality map.

in addition, the following additional information are required for the EIR:

- i. The Environmental Impact Assessment report must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- ii. Written comment from the provincial Department of Environmental Affairs indicating that the activities applied for under GNR 546 applies.
- iii. 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.
- iv. The total footprint of the proposed development should be indicated. Exact locations of the power lines and associated infrastructure should be mapped at an appropriate scale.
- v. Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.
- vi. Information on services required on the site, e.g. sewage, refuse removal, water and electricity. Who will supply these services and has an agreement and confirmation of capacity been obtained? Proof of these agreements must be provided.
- vii. A copy of the final site 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:
 - Foundation footprint;

- Permanent laydown area footprint;
- Construction period laydown 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);
- Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used;
- 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;
- Sub-station(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint;
- Cable routes and trench dimensions (where they are not along internal roads);
- Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;
- Cut and fill areas at turbine sites, along roads and at sub-station/transformer sites indicating the
 expected volume of each cut and fill;
- Borrow pits;
- Spoil heaps (temporary for topsoil and subsoil and permanently for excess material);
- All existing infrastructure on the site, especially roads;
- Buffer areas:
- Buildings, including accommodation; and
- All "no-go" areas.
- viii. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
- ix. A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.
- A shapefile of the preferred development layout/footprint must be submitted to this Department. The shapefile must be created using the Hartebeesthoek 94 Datum and the data should be in Decimal Degree Format using the WGS 84 Spheroid. The shapefile must include at a minimum the following extensions i.e. .shp; .shx; .dbf; .prj; and, .xml (Metadata file). If specific symbology was assigned to the file, then the .avl and/or the .lyr file must also be included. Data must be mapped at a scale of 1:10 000 (please specify if an alternative scale was used). The metadata must include a description of the base data used for digitizing. The shapefile must be submitted in a zip file using the EIA application reference number as the title.

The shape file must be submitted to:

Postal Address:

Department of Environmental Affairs
Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Physical address:

Department of Environmental Affairs
Fedsure Forum Building (corner of Pretorius and Lillian Ngoyi Streets)
4th Floor South Tower
315 Pretorius Street
Pretoria
0002

For Attention: Muhammad Essop Integrated Environmental Authorisations Strategic Infrastructure Developments Telephone Number: (012) 395 1734 Fax Number:

(012) 320 7539

Email Address:

MEssop@environment.gov.za

The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) to be submitted as part of the EIR must include the following:

- i. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIR and the specialist studies conducted.
- The final site layout map.
- iii. Measures as dictated by the final site layout map and micro-siting.
- iv. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
- v. A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.
- vi. An alien invasive management plan to be implemented during construction and operation of the facility. The plan must include mitigation measures to reduce the invasion of alien species and ensure that the continuous monitoring and removal of alien species is undertaken.
- vii. A plant rescue and protection plan which allows for the maximum transplant of conservation important species from areas to be transformed. This plan must be compiled by a vegetation specialist familiar with the site and be implemented prior to commencement of the construction phase.
- viii. A re-vegetation and habitat rehabilitation plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. Restoration must be undertaken as soon as possible after completion of construction activities to reduce the amount of habitat converted at any one time and to speed up the recovery to natural habitats.
- ix. An open space management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
- A traffic management plan for the site access roads to ensure that no hazards would results from the increased truck traffic and that traffic flow would not be adversely impacted. This plan must include measures to minimize impacts on local commuters e.g. limiting construction vehicles travelling on public roadways during the morning and late afternoon commute time and avoid using roads through densely populated built-up areas so as not to disturb existing retail and commercial operations.
- xi. A transportation plan for the transport of turbine components, main assembly cranes and other large pieces of equipment.
- xii. A storm water management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. The plan must ensure compliance with applicable regulations and prevent off-site migration of contaminated storm water or increased soil erosion. The plan must include the construction of appropriate design measures that allow surface and subsurface movement of water along drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface flows. Drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water run-off.
- xiii. An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Appropriate erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion.
- xiv. An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of all hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use and storage. This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems.
- xv. Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.

The EIR must include a <u>cumulative assessment</u> of the facility if there are other similar facilities in the region. The specialist studies e.g. biodiversity, visual, noise etc. must also assess the facility in terms of potential cumulative impacts.

Please ensure that all the relevant Listing Notice activities are applied for, that the Listing Notice activities applied for are specific and that they can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure in the project description.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of regulation 67 with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations, and regulations 56 and 57 with regard to the allowance of a comment period for interested and affected parties on all reports submitted to the competent authority for decision-making. The reports referred to are listed in regulation 56(3a-3h).

Furthermore, it must be reiterated that, should an application for Environmental Authorisation be subject to the provisions of Chapter II, Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999, then this Department will not be able to make nor issue a decision in terms of your application for Environmental Authorisation pending a letter from the pertinent heritage authority categorically stating that the application fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority as described in Chapter II, Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999.

You are requested to submit two (2) electronic copies (CD/DVD and two (2) hard copies of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to the Department as per regulation 34(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

Please also find attached information that must be used in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Report. This will enable the Department to speedily review the EIR and make a decision on the application.

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

Yours faithfully

Mr Ishaam Abader

Deputy Director-General: Legal, Authorisations, Compliance and Enforcement

Department of Environmental Affairs Letter signed by: Ms Milicent Solomons

Designation: Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Date: 02/07/2013.

					'
	cc:	Ms Anga Yaphi	Northern Cape Department of Environmental	Tel: 054 332 2885	Fax: 054 331 1155
			Affairs and Nature Conservation	1 1	
		Municipal Manager	Siyathemba Local Municipality	Tel: 053 353 5300	Fax: 053 353 1386
٠		Mr Warren Morse	Muillo Renewable Energy (Pty) Ltd	Tel: 021 934 5278	Fax: 021 935 0505

A. EIA INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES

1. General site information

The following general site information is required:

- Descriptions of all affected farm portions
- 21 digit Surveyor General codes of all affected farm portions
- Copies of deeds of all affected farm portions
- Photos of areas that give a visual perspective of all parts of the site
- Photographs from sensitive visual receptors (tourism routes, tourism facilities, etc.)
- Solar plant design specifications including:
 - Type of technology
 - Structure height
 - > Surface area to be covered (including associated infrastructure such as roads)
 - Structure orientation
 - Laydown area dimensions (construction period and thereafter)
 - Generation capacity
- Generation capacity of the facility as a whole at delivery points

This information must be indicated on the first page of any Scoping or EIA document. It is also advised that it be double checked as there are too many mistakes in the applications that have been received that take too much time from authorities to correct.

2. Site maps and GIS Information

Site maps and GIS information should include at least the following:

- All maps/information layers must also be provided in ESRI Shapefile format
- All affected farm portions must be indicated
- The exact site of the application must be indicated (the areas that will be occupied by the application)
- A status quo map/layer must be provided that includes the following:
 - > Current use of land on the site including:
 - Buildings and other structures
 - Agricultural fields
 - Grazing areas
 - Natural vegetation areas (natural veld not cultivated for the preceding 10 years) with an indication of the vegetation quality as well as fine scale mapping in respect of Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas
 - Critically endangered and endangered vegetation areas that occur on the site
 - Bare areas which may be susceptible to soil erosion.
 - Cultural historical sites and elements
 - Rivers, streams and water courses
 - > Ridgelines and 20m continuous contours with height references in the GIS database
 - Fountains, boreholes, dams (in-stream as well as off-stream) and reservoirs
 - High potential agricultural areas as defined by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
 - Buffer zones (also where it is dictated by elements outside the site):
 - 500m from any irrigated agricultural land

- 1km from residential areas
- Indicate isolated residential, tourism facilities on or within 1km of the site
- A slope analysis map/layer that include the following slope ranges:
 - Less than 8% slope
 - between 8% and 12% slope
 - > between 12% and 14% slope
 - steeper than 18 % slope
- A site development proposal map(s)/layer(s) that indicate:
 - Positions of solar facilities
 - > Foundation footprint
 - Permanent laydown area footprint
 - Construction period laydown 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)
 - River, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used
 - Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint.
 - Cable routes and trench dimensions (where they are not along internal roads)
 - Connection routes to the distribution/transmission network (the connection must form part of the EIA even if the construction and maintenance thereof will be done by another entity such as ESKOM)
 - Cut and fill areas along roads and at substation/transformer sites indicating the expected volume of each cut and fill
 - Borrow pits
 - Spoil heaps (temporary for topsoil and subsoil and permanently for excess material)
 - Buildings including accommodation

With the above information authorities will be able to assess the strategic and site impacts of applications.

Regional map and GIS information

The regional map and GIS information should include at least the following:

- All maps/information layers must also be provided in ESRI Shapefile format
- The map/layer must cover an area of 20km around the site
- Indicate the following:
 - roads including their types (tarred or gravel) and category (national, provincial, local or private)
 - Railway lines and stations
 - > Industrial areas
 - Harbours and airports
 - Electricity transmission and distribution lines and substations
 - Pipelines
 - Waters sources to be utilised during the construction and operational phases
 - > A visibility assessment of the areas from where the facility will be visible
 - Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas
 - Critically Endangered and Endangered vegetation areas
 - Agricultural fields
 - Irrigated areas

An indication of new road or changes and upgrades that must be done to existing roads in order to get equipment onto the site including cut and fill areas and crossings of rivers and streams

4. Important stakeholders

Amongst other important stakeholders, comments from the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries must be obtained and submitted to the Department. Any application, documentation, notification etc. should be forwarded to the following officials:

Ms Mashudu Marubini
Delegate of the Minister (Act 70 of 1970)
E-mail: MashuduMa@daff.gov.za
Tel 012- 319 7619

Ms Thoko Buthelezi AgriLand Liaison office E-mail: <u>ThokoB@daff.gov.za</u> Tel 012- 319 7634

All hardcopy applications / documentation should be forwarded to the following address:

Physical address:

Delpen Building
Cnr Annie Botha and Union Street
Office 270
Attention: Delegate of the Minister Act 70 of 1970

Postal Address:

Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Private Bag X120
Pretoria
0001
Attention: Delegate of the Minister Act 70 of 1970

In addition, comments must be requested from Eskom regarding grid connectivity and capacity. Request for comment must be submitted to:

Mr John Geeringh Eskom Transmission Megawatt Park D1Y38 PO Box 1091 JOHANNESBURG 2000

Tel: 011 516 7233 Fax: 086 661 4064

John.geeringh@eskom.co.za

B. AGRICULTURE STUDY REQUIREMENTS

- Detailed soil assessment of the site in question, incorporating a radius of 50 m surrounding the site, on a scale of 1:10 000 or finer. The soil assessment should include the following:
 - Identification of the soil forms present on site
 - The size of the area where a particular soil form is found
 - GPS readings of soil survey points
 - The depth of the soil at each survey point
 - Soil colour
 - Limiting factors
 - Clay content
 - Slope of the site
 - A detailed map indicating the locality of the soil forms within the specified area.
 - Size of the site
- Exact locality of the site
- · Current activities on the site, developments, buildings
- · Surrounding developments / land uses and activities in a radius of 500 m of the site
- Access routes and the condition thereof
- Current status of the land (including erosion, vegetation and a degradation assessment)
- Possible land use options for the site
- Water availability, source and quality (if available)
- Detailed descriptions of why agriculture should or should not be the land use of choice
- · Impact of the change of land use on the surrounding area
- · A shape file containing the soil forms and relevant attribute data as depicted on the map.

C. ASTRONOMY GEOGRAPHIC ADVANTAGE ACT, 2007 (ACT NO. 21 OF 2007)

The purpose of the Act is to preserve the geographic advantage areas that attract investment in astronomy. The entire Northern Cape Province excluding the Sol Plaatjie Municipality had been declared an astronomy advantage area. The Northern Cape optical and radio telescope sites were declared core astronomy advantage areas. The Act allowed for the declaration of the Southern Africa Large Telescope (SALT), MeerKAT and Square Kilometre Array (SKA) as astronomy and related scientific endeavours that had to be protected.

You are requested to indicate the applicability of the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act, Act No. 21 of 2007 on the application in the BAR/EIR. You must obtain comments from the Southern African Large Telescope (SALT) if the proposed development is situated within a declared astronomy advantage area.