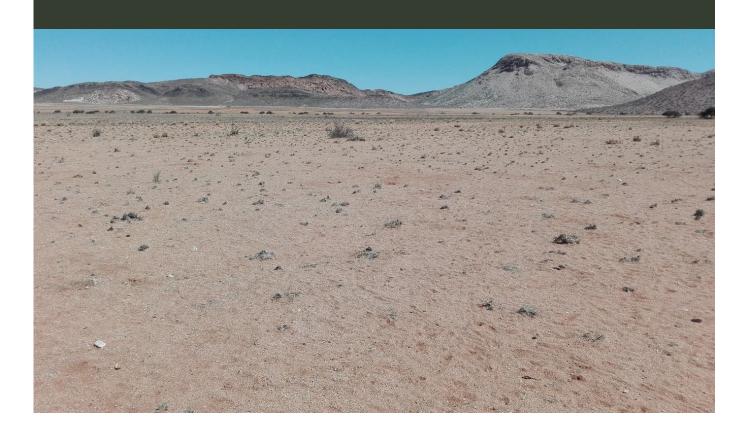
Veld PV South Public Participation Report



1 INTRODUCTION

The proposed Veld PV South Solar Energy Facility and Associated Infrastructure is located near Aggeneys in the Namakwa District Municipality of the Northern Cape. The Veld PV South project requires environmental authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA). Veld PV South (Pty) Ltd (Veld PV South) proposes developing a 75 MW Photovoltaic (PV) solar energy facility on Haramoep (Remainder of Farm 53) in the Namakwa District Municipality approximately 20 km north-west of Aggeneys in the Northern Cape. The development has been designed with the intention that the Veld PV South solar facility would form part of a consolidated solar development which will consist of the proposed Veld PV South (75 MW) and the proposed Veld PV South (75 MW) PV facilities. These proposed facilities would utilise shared infrastructure where possible to minimise their overall footprint. To evacuate the power generated by the proposed Veld PV South (and South), a grid connection is required between the solar farm project area and the Aggenys substation.

Note that a Scoping and EIA process was initiated for this project in 2016 but the process was halted. No application was submitted at the time, but a pre-application meeting was held with DEA – see below.

The process has now changed to a Basic Assessment due to the site being within the Springbok REDZ.

The PPP was undertaken in accordance with regulations 39 – 44 of the EIA Regulations. Additional guidance has been incorporated from the Western Cape¹ Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) Guideline Document on Public Participation (March 2013).

This Public Participation Report (PPR) has therefore been compiled to collectively represent the consultation process that has been undertaken through the PPP. The following sections include:

- Section 2 A database of interested and affected parties (I&APs) was created in the pre-application phase of the proposed Veld PV South project. This database was updated and maintained throughout the Basic Assessment process.
- Section 3 The consultation that were undertaken during the Pre-application phase of project has been described
- Section 4 The consultation that took place for the Basic Assessment
- Section 5 Comments and responses were summarised into a table in this section. All original comments and responses are attached an appendix to this PPR.

2 I&AP DATABASE

During the pre-application phase, affected parties were identified, including: landowners, adjacent landowners, commenting authorities and key stakeholders (such as conservancies).

Table 1 summarises the I&AP database for the project. Please note that contact details have been omitted for privacy reasons.

¹ These guidelines have been considered as best practice even though the project is located in the Northern Cape.

Table 1 | I&AP Database

Stakeholder	Contact	Organisation
State	Mr Thando Booi	Department of Environmental Affairs
authority- national	Admin (Hard copy of draft was couriered)	Department of Environmental Affairs: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation
	Serah Muobeleni	DAFF: Land Use & Soil Management
	Peter Motaung	Council for Geoscience
	Amber August	Department of Health
	Jasper Nieuwoudt	Department of Mineral Resources
	Zethu Kapika	National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)
	Ms René de Kock	The South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL)
	Mr John Geerigh and Edmund Aggenbag	Eskom
	Katie Smuts	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)
State	Andrew Timothy	Northern Cape Provincial Heritage
authority - provincial		(Boswa ya Kapa Bokone)
	RC Barlow	Department of Transport
	Tebogo Lentswe	Department of Energy
	Sibongile Manamathela	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS):
		Deputy Director Lower Orange WMA
	P Cloete	Department of Environment and Nature Conservation
	E Swart	
	T Makaudi	
	Leon Terblanche	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform &
	NA 11 NA II	Rural Development, Northern Cape
	Ms Lisa Muller	Department of Social Development
Municipality	Madeleinne Brandt	Namakwa District Municipality
	Mr E Vries	Khai-Ma Local Municipality
	Mr Munman (Municipal Manager)	Khai-Ma Local Municipality
	Mr A De Waal	RE/53 (Current application)
Landowner and adjacent	Mr A.J. de Waal	Haramoep Boerdery cc
landowners	Mr F.B. Agenbag	6-09
	Republiek Van Suid-Afrika	1/45
	Daniel Gerhardus Petrus Jacobs	4/66
	Republiek Van Suid-Afrika	RE/27
	Republiek Van Suid-Afrika	2/27
	Republiek Van Suid-Afrika	1/27
	Martiq 1281 Cc	3/62
	P C Van Den Heever	1/42
	Oonab Boerdery Cc	1/43
	Khai-Ma Municipality	RE/44
	Haramoep Boerdery Cc	1/53
	Khai-Ma Municipality	3/54
	Republiek Van Suid-Afrika	RE/29
	Black Mountain Mining Pty Ltd	RE/41
	Khai-Ma Municipality	RE/54
	Black Mountain Mining Pty Ltd	1/56

	Blommeland Boerdery Bk	2/62
	Black Mountain Mining Pty Ltd	4/62
	Blommeland Boerdery Cc	6/62
	Khai-Ma Municipality	RE/55
	Khai-Ma Municipality	2/54
	Mr and Mrs Aggenbag	RE/45
	Republiek Van Suid-Afrika	RE/53
	Republiek Van Suid-Afrika	RE/28
Key	Mr Simon Gear	Birdlife South Africa
stakeholders	Ms Sam Ralston	Birdlife South Africa
	Dr Adrian Tiplady	Square Kilometer Array (SKA)
	Tshegofatso Monama	SKA
	Kate MacEwan	IWS-SA
	Peter Mckuchsne	Northern Cape Tourism Authority
	Philippa Huntly	Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)
	Morgan Griffiths	WESSA
	Lourens Leeuwner	Wildlife Energy Programme (EWT)
	Jan Coetzee	World Wildlife Fund -South Africa (WWF-SA)
	Lizell Stroh	Civil Aviation Authority
	Rydall Jardine	Weather SA
	Kate MacEwan	SABAA
	Johan Koegelenberg and Mr Serame Motlhake	SENTECH (Solar)
	Peter Mckuchsne	Birdlife South Africa
	A Lategan	Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA)
	JO Links	COGHSTA
	Ms Linda van Wyk	Khai Ma Tourism
	Mr DJ Julie	Khai Ma Business Forum
	Nishika Indurjeeth	Vendata Zinc International
	Yolandie Coetzee	
	Koos Smit	
Interested parties	Elleine van Tonder	Springbok Tent Rent

3 PRE-APPLICATION PHASE CONSULTATION

During the pre-application phase, the following components of the PPP were undertaken.

- A **pre-application meeting** was held on 18 November 2016 with the competent authority, DEA, to ensure that an appropriate EIA process would be followed. This included confirmation that appropriate specialists had been appointed to contribute to the scientific findings.
- Landowners have been consulted by the Proponent as an agreement regarding their land is required. Proof of emails to all authorities and I&AP's are included in Annexures C1.2 and C1.3.

3.1 Pre-application meeting with DEA

The minutes of the pre-application meeting with DEA, is included in Annexure C1.4.

3.2 Landowner consultation

Ongoing landowner consultation is critical for the successful implementation of the proposed project, provided the necessary legal requirements are met. The Proponent has entered an agreement with the landowner for the use of their land, which has been attached as part of the Application to DEA.

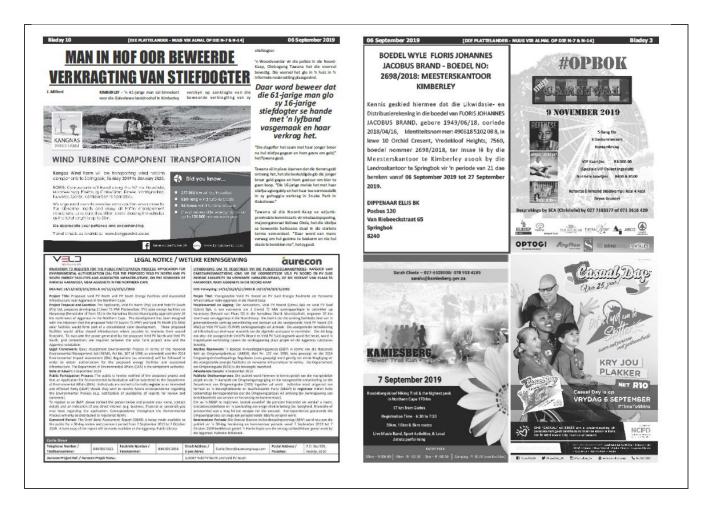
4 BASIC ASSESSMENT CONSULTATION

4.1 The PPP during the <u>pre-application phase</u>

The Draft Basic Assessment Report has been made available for a 30-day public comment period from 6 September 2019 until 7 October 2019.

4.2 Notifications about the BA process for Veld PV South:

Newspaper advertisements: Advertisements in English and Afrikaans were placed in a local newspaper,
Die Plattelander, notifying the broader public of the initiation of the BA process and inviting them to register
as I&Aps and inform them of the availability of the draft Basic Assessment Report at Aggeneys Library.
Refer to the proof below. Refer to Annexure C1.5.1 and C1.5.2 for the wording of the Advertisement.



• **Site notices:** posters in English and Afrikaans were erected at the entrance of the proposed site. Refer to Annexure C11.5.1 and C1.5.2 for the wording of the Site Notices.





- Written notification: Letters and/ or emails were issued to all authorities and the landowner informing
 them of the proposed project including a notification of the availability of the draft Basic Assessment Report
 for comment. Each letter included a CD. Refer to Annexure C1.6 for the wording of the Letters. Identified
 I&APs were notified of this comment period via letters delivered by post and email. The proof of delivery
 has been included as an appendix to this report. Electronic copies were made available to I&APs on
 request via CD or Dropbox and Google Drive. Advertisements
- A Hardcopy of the draft Basic Assessment Report was made available at the Aggeneys Public Library.
 Refer to Annexure C1.7.1 and C1.7.2 for the proof of delivery.

Refer to Annexure C1.8.1 for proof the site notice, Annexure 1.8.2 for proof of delivery to Biodiversity DEA, Annexure C1.8.3 for proof of the advert, Annexure C1.8.4 for proof of delivery of Letters and CDs to authorities and Annexures C1.8.5, C1.8.6 and C1.8.7 for proof of posted letters.

5 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES DURING THE PRE-APPLICATION PHASE

Throughout the pre-application process, any comments received from I&APs were summarised in Table 2 with the response from Aurecon. The original comments and responses are included in Annexure C1.9.1- C1.9.14 and responses are included in Annexure C1.10.1 – C1.10.13.

Table 2 | I&AP Comments and Responses

Draft Basic Assessment Report for the Proposed Veld PV South Solar Energy Facility and associated infrastructure near Aggeneys in the Northern Cape

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT (PRE - APPLICATION PHASE)

Date	Comment	Response
John Geerigh - ESKO	M	
9 September 2019	Energy Facility on the remainder of farm (53) Haramoep / Voorgestelde Veld PV Noord Energie Fasiliteit en Veld PV Suid Fasiliteit op die restant van plaas (53) Haramoep I was not aware of this project and it does not appear in my database. Please send me the following: Copies of the EA's KMZ files of the affected properties and proposed grid connections	Hi John, I refer to your email below: Attached are the kmz'e for the two proposed Veld PV South and Veld PV South facilities. Please take note that we are busy with a basic assessment process (due to the development area falling in the REDZ zone) and there are no EA's available yet. We have received your email with the Eskom requirements.
	Please find attached Eskom requirements for works at or near Eskom infrastructure	Please let us know if you have any other questions. Kind regards Corlie Steyn
	and renewable energy development setbacks from Eskom infrastructure.	

Date	Comment	Response	
	Yes, thanks, were there no BID documents sent out earlier? However, do not worry,		
	the comments I sent through covers Eskom.		
Edmund Agenbag -ESK	OM		
9 September 2019	Baie dankie. Ek het ontvang.	Baie dankie vir u kennisgewing.	
	Thank you. I have received the mail.	Groete	
		Thank you for your notification.	
		Regards	
Johan Koegelenberg- S	ENTECH		
9 September 2019	Please note that my responsibilities have changed and would recommend that you	Much appreciated, thank you Johan	
	discuss your requirement with Mr. Serame Motlhake (CC'd in e-mail).	We will be in contact with Serame.	
Pieter van der Merwe - I	Khaima		
9 September 2019	Jy moet asseblief die eposse ten opsigte van die Proposed Veld PV South and	Hallo Pieter,	
	South Energy Facility na Mnr. E. Vries (<u>vries@khaima.gov.za</u>) en Munisipale	Ek maak so, baie dankie.	
	Bestuurder (munman@khaima.gov.za) toe stuur.	Groete	
	You need to address the emails in reference to the Proposed Veld PV South and	Hi Pieter	
	South Energy Facility to Mnr. E. Vries (<u>vries@khaima.gov.za</u>) and the Municipal	Ek will do that	
	Manager (munman@khaima.gov.za)	Regards	
	, <u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>		
		Good day,	
		We refer to the email from Mr Pieter van der Merwe below and therefore	
		address the email to you. (Refer to proof sent to Mnr. E. Vries	
		(vries@khaima.gov.za) and the Municipal Manager	
		(munman@khaima.gov.za)	
René de Kock - SANRA	René de Kock - SANRAL		
9 September 2019	Yes, thank you. We did receive your email.	Thank you for your acknowledgement.	
Kate MacEwan - IWS-S	A		
9 September 2019	Dear Corlie	Thank you for your acknowledgement Kate.	

Date	Comment	Response
Edward Anarlan E0	Received, Thanks Kate	Kind regards
Edmund Agenbag - ES		
9 September 2019	Baie dankie. Ek het ontvang.	Baie dankie vir u kennisgewing.
Adrian Tiplady - SKA		
10 September 2019	Hi Corlie, Yes - received. I have copied my colleagues who will respond. Kind Regards, Adrian	Hi Adrian, Thank you for your acknowledgement. Kind regards
•	endata Zinc International	
10 September 2019	Dear Corlie, With respect to your below email. We confirm receipt of your email dated 05 September 2019. Many thanks.	Dear Nishika, Thank you for your acknowledgement. Please be advised that a person(s) need to indicate whether he/she would like to register as an I&AP for the proposed projects as per the attached notices. Kind regards
Sam Ralston-Paton – E	nergy Bird Life	
11 September 2019	Received with thank	Thank you for your notification. Kind regards
Elleine van Tonder – S	pringbok Tent Rent	
30 September 2019	Good day Herewith I would like to request information regarding the proposed veld PV South and PV South energy facilities and associated infrastructure of farm 53 Haramoep, near Aggeneys in the Northern Cape. I would also like to take this opportunity to present our company to you. Please find attached our general presentation. Kindly have a look at the following links to see the promo video of recent work done by tent rent Company. https://www.facebook.com/tentrentcompany/videos/1266357800133191/	Good day, We have registered you as an I&AP on our data base. Please note that we are independent consultants who has been appointed to do the environmental compliance and authorisation process. We do not recruit any companies for construction should the project be authorised. Kind regards

Date	Comment	Response	
	our Facebook page is https://www.facebook.com/tentrentcompany. website address: www.sanco.co.za / www.tentrent.co.za We have been directly involved with tents, waste removals and mobile units for solar parks Xuxu, Xina, Khi, Bokpoort, Ilanga, Gamsberg, Aggeneys Solar and now currently supply mobile units for Kangnas Windfarm and Konkoonsies 11. We have Branches in Upington, Springbok Postmasburg and Kathu. You can trust SANCO and Tent Rent Company to comply with all statutory requirements, and to be reliable and thorough. From the moment of your initial enquiry we will treat you with value and respect. We are always happy to provide a free quote for your convenience. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.		
René de Kock - SAN	IRAL		
2 October 2019	Good day Corlie SANRAL received the traffic impact assessment from Infratrans in September 2019. We are still busy with the application regarding the access. Do I need to request extension of time? Kind regards	Dear Rene, We can unfortunately not give an extension. Any comments you have must be directed straight to DEA and you will have to copy us in. Mr Thando Booi: TBooi@environment.gov.za for Veld PV South Mr Siswe Mnkomo: smnkomo@environment.gov.za for Veld PV North Kind regards	
Thando Booi - DEA			
1 October 2019	Refer to Annexure C1.10.14	Refer to Annexure C1.10.15 for the response. All the comments from DEA have been addressed in the new application Form which is attached as Annexure F to this Draft BAR. The reviewed Hydrology report has been attached as Annexure D9	
Thobekile Zungu – Biodiversity DEA			
7 October 2019	Good day, Please find the attached comments for Veld PV south. Kind regards. Refer to Annexure C1.9.13.1, C1.13.2 and C1.10.1	Good day Thobekile, In reference to your comments on Veld PV South please see our response below: 1. See section 2.2.1 of the project EMPR. 2. To be recommended as a condition of authorisation. Kind regards	

Date	Comment	Response		
	PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED AFTER THE CLOSURE OF THE 30-DAY PPP TIME PERIOD			
Jacobus Hendrik Louw Smit -Black Mountain Mining				
9 October 2019	Refer to Annexure C1.10.16-17	Refer to Annexure C1.10.18-19 for the response.		

Refer to Annexures C1.11.1- 10 for the attempts to elicit comments during the pre-application process.

5.1 The PPP after the application has been submitted

An updated Draft Basic Assessment Report has been made available for a 30-day public comment period from 5 December 2019 until 27 January 2020. The 30-day comment period excluded the holiday period from 15 December 2019 to 5 January 2020.

5.2 Notifications about the BA process for Veld PV North:

 Newspaper advertisements: Advertisements in English and Afrikaans were placed in a local newspaper, Die Plattelander, notifying the broader public of the initiation of the BA process and inviting them to register as I&Aps and inform them of the availability of the draft Basic Assessment Report at Aggeneys Library. Refer to the proof below. Refer to Annexure C1.12.1 and C1.12.2 for the wording of the Advertisement.



• **Site notices:** posters in English and Afrikaans were erected at the entrance of the proposed site. Refer to Annexure C1.12.1 and C1.12.2 for the wording of the Site Notices. Refer to image below for the proof of the site notice on the site during the application phase.



• Written notification: Letters and/ or emails were issued to all authorities and the landowner informing them of the proposed project including a notification of the availability of the draft Basic Assessment Report for comment. Each letter included a CD. Refer to Annexure C1.13.1-C1.13.4 for the wording of the Letters. Identified I&APs were notified of this comment period via letters delivered by post and email. The proof of delivery has been included in Annexure C1.13.5 Electronic copies were made available to I&APs on request via CD or Dropbox and Google Drive. Refer to Annexures C1.13.6 – C1.13.12 for the proof of emails sent

A Hardcopy of the draft Basic Assessment Report was made available at the Aggeneys Public Library. Refer to Annexure C1.13.13 for the proof of delivery

6 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES DURING THE APPLICATION PHASE

Throughout the application process, any comments received from I&APs were summarised in Table 3 with the response from Aurecon. The original comments and responses are included in Annexure C1.14.1 – C1.14.8.

Table 3 | I&AP Comments and Responses

Draft Basic Assessment Report for the Proposed Veld PV North Solar Energy Facility and associated infrastructure near Aggeneys in the Northern Cape

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT (APPLICATION PHASE)

Date	Comment	Response	
Peter Cloete - Northern	Peter Cloete - Northern Cape Department Environment and Nature Conservation		
11 December 2019	Telephonic conversation with Peter Cloete confirming email address and sending all	Dear Peter	
	the information requested per email.	Trust you are well.	
		As per our telephonic discussion a few minutes earlier, please see attached	
		and email below with links where you can	
		access a digital copy.	
		If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.	
		Kind Regards	
John Geerigh - ESKOM			
17 December 2019	My original comments submitted has not changed thus can be used in this	Hi John,	
	application.	Thank you, your previous comment will be included in our CRR.	
		Kind regards	
Nondwe Khanye -ESKOM			
10 December 2019	Dear Corlie,	Good day,	
	I hereby acknowledge that I have received the above notification.	There is no original EA.	

Date	Comment	Response
	Kindly forward me if possible, the original EA for more details.	This is a new application.
		Kind regards
		Corlie Steyn
Peter Cloete - Northern	n Cape Department Environment and Nature Conservation	
6 January 2020	Dear Marianna (Corlie Steyn was on annual leave)	Dear Peter,
	Compliments for the new year.	We will add Mr. Aviwe Nyakaza to our I&AP list.
	Thank you for your email. Please note that Mr. Aviwe Nyakaza is the newly	Kind regards
	appointed Impact Officer for Namakwa	Corlie Steyn
	Region. Please forward all EIA related enquiries in the Namakwa Region to him. He	
	will be able to assist you. I have also CC him in this email.	
Mr Thando Booi – Dep	artment of Environmental Affairs	
17 January 2020	Letter from DEA – Refer to Annexure C1.15.0	Cover letter from Aurecon – Refer to Annexure C1.15.0.0
Peter Cloete - Norther	Cape Department Environment and Nature Conservation	
23 January 2020	Dear Corlie	Dear Peter,
	Herewith I would like to request extension of the commenting period for the above-	Thank you for your email.
	mentioned applications. The Department are in the process of finalising the	We take note of your request and will await your comment by Friday 31
	comments and it will be forward for your attention by Friday, 31 January 2020.	January 2020.
	Hope it is in order	Kind regards
	PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED AFTER THE	CLOSURE OF THE 30-DAY PPP TIME PERIOD
Portia Makitla – Biodiv	ersity Conservation	
30 January 2020	Morning	Dear Portia
	Please find the attached comments.	Thank you for your email. We confirm that we have received the Biodiversity
	Regards	Conservation Directorate's comments on the above application (DEA Ref:
	Portia	14/12/16/3/3/1/2103). While the comments were received after the closure
	Refer to Annexure C1.15.1 for the original comments.	of the public participation period, they will be incorporated into the Final
		Basic Assessment Report and responded to in the Comment and
		Responses Report that will be made available to all stakeholders who
		commented.
		Kind regards
		Charles

Date	Comment	Response
		Refer to Annexure C1.15.2 and C15.2.1 for the response to Biodiversity
Peter Cloete - Northe	rn Cape Department Environment and Nature Conservation	
31 January 2020	Dear Corlie As promised, please find attached the comments: Draft Basic Assessment Haramoep Solar CSP and PV developments. A letter to DEA was also send today. I hope you find this in order. Refer to Annexure C1.15.3 and C1.15.4 for the original comments.	Dear Peter Our telephone conversation refers. Thank you for your Department's comments on the Basic Assessment for Veld PV North and South Energy Facilities on Farm 53 Haramoep, Khai Ma Local Municipality, Namakwa District, dated 24 January 2019 and received by us on 31 January 2019. Please find attached the responses to your comments compiled by us with contributions from the Botanical and Avifauna specialists. Kind regards Charles
		Refer to Annexure C1.15.5 and C1.15.6 for the responses to DENC.

Annexure C1 PPP REPORT

Annexure C1.1-C10 (Pre-App)

Copies of Comments, Copies of Answers and Copies of Attempts to Elicit Comment

Proof of Notifications

Advert and Site Notices

Annexure C1.11 – C1.15 (App)

Copies of Comments, Copies of Answers and Copies of Attempts to Elicit Comment

Proof of Notifications

Advert and Site Notices

Annexure C2 DEA Pre-App Meeting Minutes

Annexure C3 Approval Letter Water Sedibeng