

4. What is a Part 2 Amendment Process?

- Sibanye Gold was granted an environmental authorisation (EA) to construct a 200MW photovoltaic (PV) solar energy facility on 16 January 2017 (ref no. 14/12/16/3/2/919).
- Since 2017, the Competent Authority (the authority legally designated to deal with these EAs) has changed from the national Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environmental (DFFE) to the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD) (ref. no. Gaut 006/21-22/E0087).
- The 2017 EA authorised the installation of PV panels with a height of 2.1m and a control room building of 115m².
- Since then, advances have been made in renewable energy technology. The current more efficient PV panels have a height of 4.5m to enable installation of the latest bi-facial PV panels and the building size is proposed to be increased to 250m². The EA must be amended to allow for these changes.
- These amendments are proposed through a “Part 2” (Substantive) amendment process, in which the changes in environmental impacts must be assessed (ref. no. is 006/22-23/E0014).
- A Basic Assessment (BA) process is also required to approve the development on agricultural land (ref. no. is Gaut 002/22-23/E3298).
- The EA also requires the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the plant to be updated, provided for public comment and submitted to the GDARD for approval. This EMPr will include all requirements of the Part 2 Amendment Application process and the BA process.
- Zutari (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake these three processes according to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014, (GN R 982 of 2014).

5. What has been done to date?

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process was completed in 2016.



An EA was granted in 2017.



A Part 1 Amendment Application was approved in April 2022 to extend the validity of the EA to 2027.



A Part 2 Amendment, BA Report and EMPr have been prepared and are available for public review.

6. Why are we sending you this notice?

The proposed design changes require a substantive amendment process. Anyone who is interested in or potentially affected by the project can comment on these environmental applications.

- These processes require a 30-day commenting period on the proposed changes for Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs).
- This BID brief I&APs about this amendment process.
- The applicable reports have been compiled and made available to the I&APs for a period of 30 days.

- All issues and comments received during the PPP will be captured in a Comments and Response Report (CRR) and will be incorporated into the submission to the GDARD.
- GDARD must approve or refuse authorisation for the Part 2 Amendment, BA and EMPr processes after they have reviewed the environmental reports, which include comments received from I&APs like yourself.

Background Information Document for the applications for a Part 2 Amendment, Basic Assessment and updated EMPr for the 200 Megawatt (MW) Sibanye Gold Limited Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facility



1. What is planned?

Sibanye Gold, a private subsidiary of Sibanye-Stillwater Ltd, was granted an environmental authorisation (EA) to construct a 200MW photovoltaic (PV) solar energy facility to supply renewable electricity to Sibanye Gold’s Driefontein and Kloof mining operations near Westonaria in the Gauteng Province on in 2017 (ref no. 14/12/16/3/2/919).

Sibanye intends to apply to increase the authorised height of the PV panels from 2.1m to 4.5m; to increase the control room building size from 115m² to 250m²; and to update the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the project.

Interested and affected parties (I&APs) have a right to comment on these processes within a period of 30 days.

2. How to get involved

This Background Information Document (BID) notifies you of the application for a Part 2 Amendment of the EA, a Basic Assessment (BA) process and updated EMPr and notifies you of your right to comment on these processes.

The reports are available for review from **Friday, 02 September 2022 to Monday, 03 October 2022** at the following link: www.zutari.com/sibanyePV

To comment or ask a question on the project, please contact our Public Participation Process (PPP) office:

✉	PPP@Zutari.com
📞	012 427 2072
📧	PO Box 74381, Lynnwood Ridge, 0040, South Africa

3. Where is it planned?

The proposed site for the solar PV facility is within the Westonaria Local Municipality on portions 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 of the Farm Uitval 280 near Sibanye Stillwater's Driefontein and Kloof mining operations. The site is located approximately 8 km southwest of Westonaria, in Gauteng and 50 km southwest of Johannesburg.

The site is currently used for dryland agriculture. The site proposed for development belongs to the Far West Rand Dolomitic Water Association (FWRDWA), of which Sibanye Gold is a majority member.

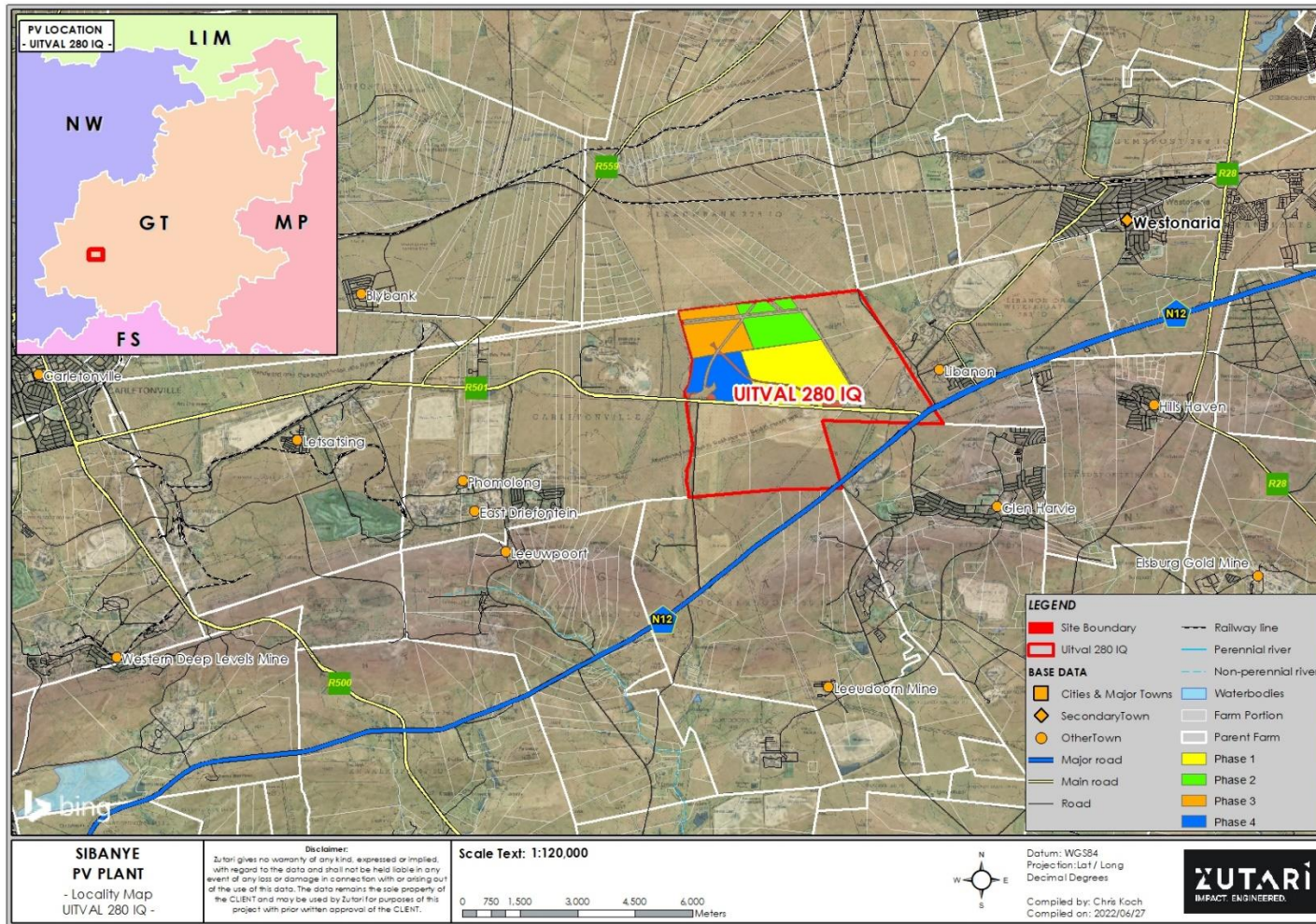


Figure 1 The location of the proposed PV solar energy facility