

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the
Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar &
Hanover

Annexure H: Comments and Response Report



MEMBERS: J.A. Bowers (M Tech, Pr.Sci.Nat.) & S.D. MacGregor (M.Sc., Pr.Sci.Nat.)
Reg: 2006/023163/23

1

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A Summary of the Main Issues raised by Interested and Affected Parties

- 1) Safety and crime due to the development.
- 2) Nigh-time illumination of the area for 'security reasons.'
- 3) View impairment - the view will no longer be a nature scenery.
- 4) Decrease in property value
- 5) Road conditions
- 6) Risk of veld fires caused by workers during the construction of the plant.
- 7) Risk of solar panels being damaged during the hunting season
- 8) Heat generation and reflection by the thousands of black solar panels, angled directly in our direction, namely due north.

A Summary of the Response from the Practitioner to the Issues raised by the Interested and Affected Parties

- 1) Security during construction
 - Security during construction will be mitigated by erecting the perimeter fence first to prevent any movement out of the development footprint.
 - No accommodation shall be provided for contractors and sub-contractors on the construction site.
 - Furthermore, the number of construction workers will be limited by building the facility in sequential phases of 100 MW blocks as opposed to trying to build the 400 MW facility in one go.
 - Security will be appointed throughout construction. All contractors and workers will need to wear photo identification cards and vehicles will need to display vehicle logos, making it easier for surrounding landowners (farmers) to identify strangers. Furthermore, it will be proposed that the applicant communicate with the landowners before the construction phase commences to formalise and familiarise the local farmers with the aforesaid security arrangements.
 - An induction programme that includes a Code of Conduct for all contractors and sub-contractors shall be developed.

MEMBERS: J.A. Bowers (M Tech, Pr.Sci.Nat.) & S.D. MacGregor (M.Sc., Pr.Sci.Nat.)
Reg: 2006/023163/23

Security during operation

- Security will be appointed throughout operation to discourage criminal elements. The facility will also be fenced off with a 2.5 m high wire mesh security fence with controlled access using a security gate. Furthermore, the perimeter fence line will be secured using multiple FLIR PTZ security cameras which have a 2km range in absolute darkness.
- 2) There will be no to minimum lighting (the exceptions being the substation as it is an Eskom requirement, and key operational areas like the security control room and gate). The fence line will be secured using multiple FLIR PTZ cameras which have a 2km range in absolute darkness.
 - 3) A Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment will be undertaken during the EIA process. The appointed specialist undertaking the Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment is Stephen Stead of Visual Resource Management Africa. The site assessment for the above specialist assessment is scheduled for 14 March 2022. Stephen will contact you beforehand for permission to access your farm so that he can investigate your concern. We will keep you updated on the findings and any proposed mitigation measures proposed by the appointed visual specialist during the EIA process.
 - 4) A Socio-economic Impact Assessment will be undertaken during the EIA process. We have asked the specialist to as far as is possible research the validity of the said claim that solar PV facilities in rural areas reduce the property value of farms. We will keep you updated on the findings and any mitigation measures proposed by the appointed specialist during the EIA process.
 - 5) The applicant shall maintain any deterioration to the district gravel roads resulting from increased traffic during construction.
A Traffic Impact Assessment shall be undertaken. Specialist Assessment and a Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment will be undertaken during the EIA process. We will keep you updated on the findings and any mitigation measures proposed by the appointed specialist during the EIA process.
 - 6) Risk of veld fires both during the construction and operational phases has been identified as a potential impact. It should be noted that no accommodation shall be provided for contractors and sub-contractors on the construction site. Nonetheless, we intend on addressing this concern by proposing the following mitigations.
 - Open fires are prohibited;
 - Burning of waste is prohibited; and
 - Maintenance of firebreaks around the perimeter of the proposed development.
 - 7) Your concern is a real risk and very much appreciated. We welcome any suggestions that will improve the safety of neighbouring landowners and their property during the hunting season, such as identifying no shooting zones, notifying neighbouring properties of imminent hunts, hunters taking out the appropriate insurances, etc.

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

8) Heat generation is something we will be researching; it is a phenomenon called the heat island effect but should be localised to the footprint where the sun's energy is absorbed.

Name of Authority informed	Comments Received (Yes or No)
Emthanjeni Local Municipality	No
Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality	No
Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	No
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry– Northern Cape	No
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & Environment (National)	No
Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) (Orange Proto Catchment Management Agency)	No
Department of Minerals and Resources (DMR)	No
Department of Energy	No
Department of Roads & Public Works	No
South African Heritage Resources Agency	No
South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)	No
SALT (South African Large Telescope)	No
South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO) – SKA and MeerKAT	Yes – “project represents a low risk of interference” as per response letter dated 16 March 2022 (Annexure E)

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Reg: 2006/023163/23

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

Name & Contact Details	Type of Correspondence & Date	Comment	Response
<p>John Geeringh Senior Consultant Environmental Management Grid Planning: Land and Rights Eskom Transmission Division Megawatt Park D1Y42 Maxwell Drive Sunninghill Sandton P O Box 1091 Johannesburg 2000. Tel: 011 516 7233 Cell: 083 632 7663 Fax: 086 661 4064 E-mail: john.geeringh@eskom.co.za</p>	<p>Email on Friday, 11 February 2022 09:43</p>	<p>“Bletterman/Taaibos 1 132kV Overhead Line is the power line running right next to the proposed Phase 3, there are no Tx lines close to this proposed development, however the Hydra Poseidon 1 & 2 400kV power lines runs through the property on the south western side.”</p>	<p>Email on Friday, 11 February 2022 11:34</p> <p>“Hi John, Thank you for this information. Do you have a spatial map showing this or google earth files I could overlay? Yours sincerely, Shannon Farnsworth (Reg. EAP)”</p>
	<p>Email on Friday, 11 February 2022 13:44</p>	<p>“Here is an indication. Lines names and numbers are on the poles on site. Regards John”</p>	<p>Map received.</p>
<p>Leona Reynolds South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) PO Box 174 Cape Town International Airport 7525 Tel: 021 934 4744 Email: reynoldsl@caa.co.za</p>	<p>Email on Thursday, 17 February 2022 08:23</p>	<p>“To whom it may concern Please direct all correspondence to Themba Thabethe on thabethet@caa.co.za Sincerely, Leona Reynolds“</p>	
<p>Ms. Aulicia Maifo Intern: Biodiversity Conservation,</p>	<p>Email on Thursday, 17 February 2022</p>	<p>“Good morning Hlengile Hope you are well.</p>	<p>Email on Thursday, 17 February 2022 15:14</p>

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

<p>Mainstreaming EIA Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Environment House 473 Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Streets PRETORIA Tel: (012) 399 9627 Cell: 076 958 0761 E-mail: amaifo@dffe.gov.za Call Centre: 086 111 2468</p>	<p>8:14 AM</p>	<p>DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge the receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the mentioned project. Kindly notify us as soon as the report becomes available.</p> <p>Please note that all Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota.</p> <p>Kind Regards, Ms. Aulicia Maifo”</p>	<p>“Hello Aulicia,</p> <p>Thank you for the below email and acknowledgment of receipt. Yourself and Mr Seoka Lekota have been added to the Interested and Affected Parties register in order to receive further reports during the public participation process.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, Shannon Farnsworth (Reg. EAP)”</p>
<p>Corneulis Oosthuizen Owner of Remainder of Leuwe Fountain No. 27 (neighbor) Cell: 074 114 3950 Email: cmo.karoo@gmail.com</p>	<p>Telephonically on 18 February 2022 at 10:25</p>	<p>Cornelius mentioned he can provide fencing, machinery and accommodation for phase 3.</p>	<p>Shannon Farnsworth noted his telephonic comments and would provide the information to the applicant.</p>
<p>Richard Vimpany Owner of Remainder of Farm No. 149 (Farm Goodhope) (neighbor) Cell: 082 775 6699 Email: richard.vimpany@bravospa.co.za</p>	<p>Anika Steynberg of ecoleges phoned Richard on 22 February 2022</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Visual Effect – He is mainly concerned with the fact that the solar plant will impact his view. He explained that they have a ridge behind the big dam we saw when driving along the border fence-line, and that they have quite an extensive view over Willem’s farm and that they will then possibly be looking right onto the panels. 2) Increased traffic & number of people – He is concerned that the major increase in people working on the construction of the plant will pose a risk to both their personal 	<p>Email on Tuesday, 22 February 2022 15:42</p> <p>“Hi Richard,</p> <p>As discussed over the phone, please find attached the kmz. files of the proposed areas for the Phase 3 development. If you download the files and you click on them they will open Google Earth on your computer and show you the demarcated areas identified for the development. Please note that on the kmz. file it does for example cover the ridge next to your access gate</p>

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Reg: 2006/023163/23

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

		<p>safety as well as to their livestock and game (theft & poaching).</p> <p>3) The effect on the value of their farm – He is concerned that if their farm does have a view over the solar plant or is being affected by things like theft/poaching, that it could potentially affect the resale value of their farm.</p> <p>4) He had a concern with the access road to the Phase 2 & 3 area, but I have told him that it will not be on the road/close to his access gate and that it will be located on the road running parallel to the railway (in-between Willem’s farms), so that issue seems resolved.</p> <p>He asked to see the following:</p> <p>1) Proposed area demarcated for the Phase 2 and Phase 3 development (Map) to see the possible areas where it might affect their farm.</p> <p>2) He hasn't received a BID yet, so I said I would email that to him as well.</p>	<p>(where the notice was put up), however that area has been marked by specialists as a “No-go” area and no panels will therefore be put up on that ridge. There might be other areas like that as well, but this footprint will just provide you with a broad overview of the proposed area.</p> <p>I have also attached the BID where you can find more detailed information about the project. You can find the Registration and Comment Sheet towards the end of the document where you can express any concerns or suggestions. Please note that this will be documented and form an important part of the final application.</p> <p>Thank you very much for reaching out. You are welcome to contact us at any time with any questions or concerns.</p> <p>Kind regards, Anika Steynberg</p>
<p>Manual (Manny) Orfao Owner of Portion 2 & 5 Taaibosch Fontein No. 41 (Farm: Skilpadskuil) Cell: 082 784 1972 Email: kmss@worldonline.co.za</p>	<p>Anika Steynberg of ecoleges phoned Manual on 23 February 2022</p>	<p>He had the following concerns:</p> <p>1) Power line – He was concerned with the fact that on the notice board it indicates that the power line will be right on the border, i.e. if you look at the power line structure as an H that one pole will be planted on Willem’s side of the fence and the other will be planted on his side of the fence instead of the whole power line structure being put up on Willem’s side of the fence.</p> <p>2) Safety – He is also concerned with the fact</p>	<p>Response given once formal comments were received on the BID on 22nd March 2022.</p>

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Reg: 2006/023163/23

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

		<p>that the increase in people in the area (during construction) might lead to stock theft and break-ins.</p> <p>3) Value of the farm – He is also concerned with the fact that the Solar plant might affect the resale value of his farm in future. This links to the fact that there might be a possible increase in crime due to the increased number of people, as well as the view that might be affected by the solar plant.</p> <p>4) Visual impact – He is not too concerned with the visual impact on its own but is concerned that it could affect the resale value of his farm.</p> <p>5) Extent of the solar plant- both phase 2 and phase 3 will be alongside 1/3 of his farm boundary.</p> <p>6) Effect of a solar plant next-door on possible development on his farm –he wanted to know what possible effect the solar plant might have on him doing a similar type of development in future.</p> <p>He did receive a BID and said that he would fill in the Registration & Comment Sheet.</p>	
<p>Corneulis Oosthuizen Owner of Remainder of Leuwe Fountain No. 27 (neighbor) Cell: 074 114 3950 Email: cmo.karoo@gmail.com</p>	<p>Email on Monday, February 28, 2022, 10:49</p>	<p>From: Anoulize Strydom: “Good day Justin / Shannon Farmsworth / Developers from Soventix and JP de Villiers Shannon, with reference to our telephonic conversation on 17 February 2002 , with myself, Cornelis Oosthuizen , owner of CMO</p>	<p>Email on 01 March 2022 at 08:34: “Good morning Anoulize, Thank you for the information you submitted on both your ability to provide various services during the construction phases, and the accommodation options. I see you did include the client (Soventix) in your email,</p>

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

		<p>Grondverskuiwing en Algemene konstruksie PTY LTD , and owner of Leeuwfontein, neighbour farm of De Bad and Goedehoop, where development of a 300 MW solar PV Facility in De Aar is planned , the following was discussed:</p> <p>CMO Grondverskuiwing en Algemene Kostruksie Pty LTD is Registered at CIPC and CIDB. Registration number 2017/254195/07 and also BEE Registered.</p> <p>CMO has previously worked on the 2 solar farms outside De Aar as an outsourced contractor for Scatec and also the wind farm (2015 - 2017) at Phillipstown as an outsourced contractor for CSV Construction and Adenco</p> <p>Flat wrap and high security and low security fencing was done at the solar farms in De Aar. At the wind farm , Phillipstown, we have installed all the gates and redirected some fencing and has put up new fencing where needed. Farm fencing and double swing gates were installed on wind farm Phillipstown as required.</p> <p>The following services by CMO are also available Fencing, high and low security, electric, bob and flat wire Gates and poles can be installed. Preparing and levelling of land and area where solar panels need to be put up.</p> <p>CMO Grondverskuiwing en Algemene konstruksie PTY Ltd has also done work for the following companies , Sentec, Dept Agriculture, Eskom, Transtel and many more!</p>	<p>so they are also aware of your offering. We have also let our specialists know of your accommodation options, who will be carrying out the Phase 2 & 3 specialist assessments.</p> <p>Kind regards, Justin Bowers”</p>
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Reg: 2006/023163/23

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

The following equipment is also available for hiring:
 Water car – 5000 Lt
 Tractor with trailer
 Tractor with slasher
 Tractor with scraper
 We also do recovering of veld on prevention of erosion
 We build gravel roads and cement weirs. Stacking of walls and gabions

Quotation available on request
 Cornelis Oosthuizen 0741143950 / E mail : cmo.karoo@gmail.com

Accommodation
 As we are only about 7 km from construction site we also have accommodation to offer
 We have a 4 bed self-catering flat with shower and toilet, a kitchen with gas stove and gas fridge, Microwave, build in braai and use of the outside braai and Lapa at R 20160 PM

Breakfast and dinner can be served on prior arrangements and at extra cost (Breakfast Mondays to Fridays.
 Dinner Mondays to Thursdays and lunch boxes also Monday to Friday. Weekend is self-catering.
 Lunch boxes can be arrange daily at extra cost
 Dinner on request at extra cost
 Menu and prices available on request
 No Alcohol will be served

This is a non-Smoking area so smoking is not allowed in the flat but outside the building

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

		<p>NO TV NO Wi Fi No Eskom – ONLY Gas and solar Washing once a week at extra cost Cleaning of flat twice a week (included in price per month) Linnen and cutlery will be supplied – NO Towels Coffee, sugar rusks and milk will be supplied daily Flat rental payable in advanced. Breakfast, dinner, lunch boxes will be payable at the end of every month.</p> <p>For ANY further info regarding CMO Grondverskuiwing en Algemene Konstruksie you can contact me, Cornelis Oosthuizen at : 074 114 3950 or via e mail at : cmo.karoo@gmail.com</p> <p>For Self-catering flat arrangements you can contact Anoulize at 083 309 7309 or via e mail at : anoulizes@gmail.com</p> <p>Hope to hear from you soon</p> <p>Kind regards Cornelis Oosthuizen”</p>	
<p>Richard Vimpany Owner of Remainder of Farm No. 149 (Farm Goodhope) (neighbor) Cell: 082 775 6699 Email:richard.vimpany@bravospa.co.za</p>	<p>Email on Thursday, 03 March 2022 at 17:14</p>	<p>“Dear Anika</p> <p>As per our recent discussions, please find the formal concerns attached, as prepared on behalf of my father Neville R. Vimpany, the land owner.</p>	<p>Responded via Email on Friday, March 4, 2022 at 12:26 PM</p> <p>“Afternoon Richard, Thank you very much! Thank you for your precipitation, please feel free to</p>

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Reg: 2006/023163/23

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

		<p>Kind regards Richard Vimpany”</p> <p>(Comments attached as Annexure E)</p>	<p>contact us if there are any more questions or concerns.</p> <p>Kind regards, Anika Steynberg”</p> <p>Responded via Email on Thursday, 10 March 2022 at 14:28</p> <p>“Hi Richard,</p> <p>Please find attached the response to the comments you filled in on the BID.</p> <p>Kind regards, Anika Steynberg”</p> <p>(Response attached as Annexure E)</p>
<p>Email on Friday, 11 March 2022 at 17:14</p>		<p>“Dear Shannon and Anika</p> <p>Thank you for your response.</p> <p>Unfortunately having an excerpt from the <i>Firearms Control Act</i> recited to me, along with several other dismissive counter-arguments, has not offered us any comfort whatsoever. As such, I will respond in kind.</p> <p><i>Shall we call a meeting with my springbok, gemsbok and blesbok and instruct them to limit their movements to the opposite site of the camps during the next hunt, to ensure that no rifles are ever pointed in the direction of Soventix’s nice new</i></p>	<p>Responded via Email on Friday, 11 March 2022 at 22:25</p> <p>“Good evening, Richard</p> <p>I am the lead EAP overseeing the EIA process. Anika is responsible for engaging directly with I&APs as she has done, and I am particularly proud of her following up on leads and teasing comments out of Interested and Affected Parties, like yourself instead of waiting for them to approach us. It buys everyone time; the earlier we can start engaging on sensitive and serious concerns such as yours the more time we have to investigate and find amicable solutions. Shannon works alongside Anika by drafting the formal responses, but I am ultimately responsible for reviewing and revising the responses</p>

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover


		<p><i>solar panels???</i></p> <p>The moment a neighbour does anything that impacts our present freedoms and forces us to change the way we live and operate, this becomes a problem.</p> <p>Having engaged with my own associates within the solar power generation industry, who have themselves been instrumental in similar solar PV developments throughout Southern Africa, our concerns have been validated.</p> <p>In particular, but not limited to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidently, <i>“the De Aar area ranks as one of the highest incidents of Foetal Alcohol Syndrome in SA, a likely by-product of the influx of labour from outside, which then remains behind once such projects have been completed.”</i> <p>I accept that such post-development socio economic factors are not the developer’s concern...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. “Increased crime during the construction phases in particular, but likely to continue thereafter.” <p>Crime may be an inevitable reality in SA, but I have a right to oppose this in my vicinity and object to any risk forced upon our family.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. The likelihood of large industrial diesel generators having to be added to supplement production at night, should the development exceed a specified 	<p>including those that are the subject of your email below.</p> <p>I hope you do not mind, but I have taken the liberty of responding with bolded text in your email below.</p> <p>Thank you and keep strong.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, Shaun MacGregor</p> <p>Dear Shannon and Anika</p> <p>Thank you for your response.</p> <p>Unfortunately having an excerpt from the <i>Firearms Control Act</i> recited to me, Shannon did warn me that you would not like it, but I couldn’t resist along with several other dismissive counter-arguments I am genuinely sorry you feel that way. It certainly was not our intention to come across as dismissive, particularly by asking the applicable specialists to revise their scope to include your concerns, offering solutions by way of mitigations and in the case of unknowns, referring to the studies that will hopefully provide us with answers to make informed decisions going forward. Your concerns are now a part of our EIA process, and I assure you that they will not be dismissed ... please immediately contact me if you believe we have dropped the ball in any of our reports</p>
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Reg: 2006/023163/23

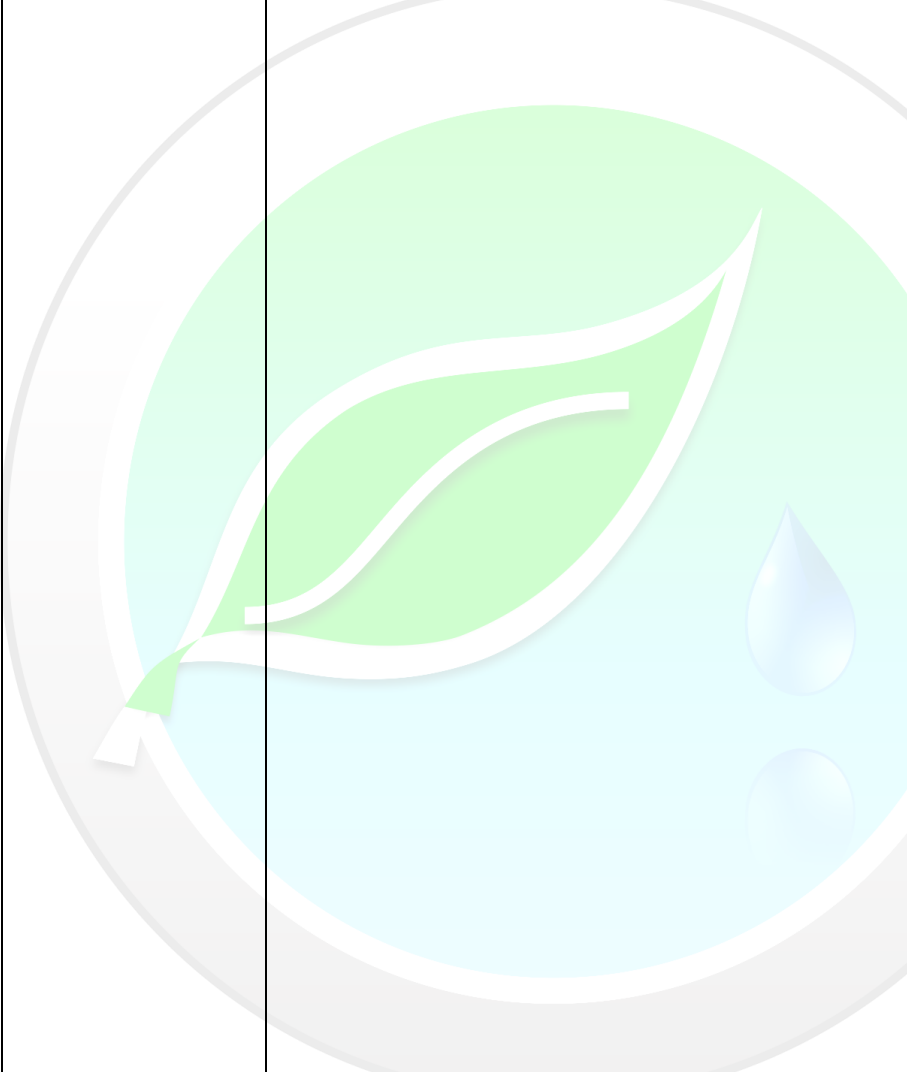
Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

		<p>size/output.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Nigh-time illumination of the area for 'security reasons.' 5. Heat generation and reflection by the thousands of black solar panels, angled directly in our direction, namely due north. <p>In conclusion, I will address your request for elaboration concerning the <u>Comment #3</u> in the bid document, once we have consulted with all our animals. We're scientifically uncertain whether any of the above factors might upset them or their habitat in any way. Maybe they can be swayed by way of a profit-share scheme... Nevertheless, this is your job by way of the EIA.</p> <p>All jokes aside, we eagerly await your findings and will only escalate our concerns in the event that this becomes necessary.</p> <p>Thank you for keeping us informed."</p>	<p>(excluded any one of your concerns) , has not offered us any comfort whatsoever If I felt I was being brushed off, I would also feel uncomfortable. As such, I will respond in kind</p> <p><i>Shall we call a meeting with my springbok, gemsbok and blesbok and instruct them to limit their movements to the opposite site of the camps during the next hunt, to ensure that no rifles are ever pointed in the direction of Soventix's nice new solar panels???</i> That won't be necessary.</p> <p>The moment a neighbour does anything that impacts our present freedoms and forces us to change the way we live and operate, this becomes a problem. I presume you are specifically talking about the freedom to shoot an animal that is between the hunter and Willem's property. Assuming there is a slope towards Willem's property, is it possible from your elevation to only shoot an animal as long as there is earth behind it, e.g., below the natural horizon, or is the slope too gradual? We could also investigate the feasibility of pulling the solar panels a bit further back from the common boundary, ... that might reduce their height above the natural horizon from your perspective? Please respond to these questions so that I know whether we need to action them.</p> <p>Having engaged with my own associates within the solar power generation industry, who have themselves</p>
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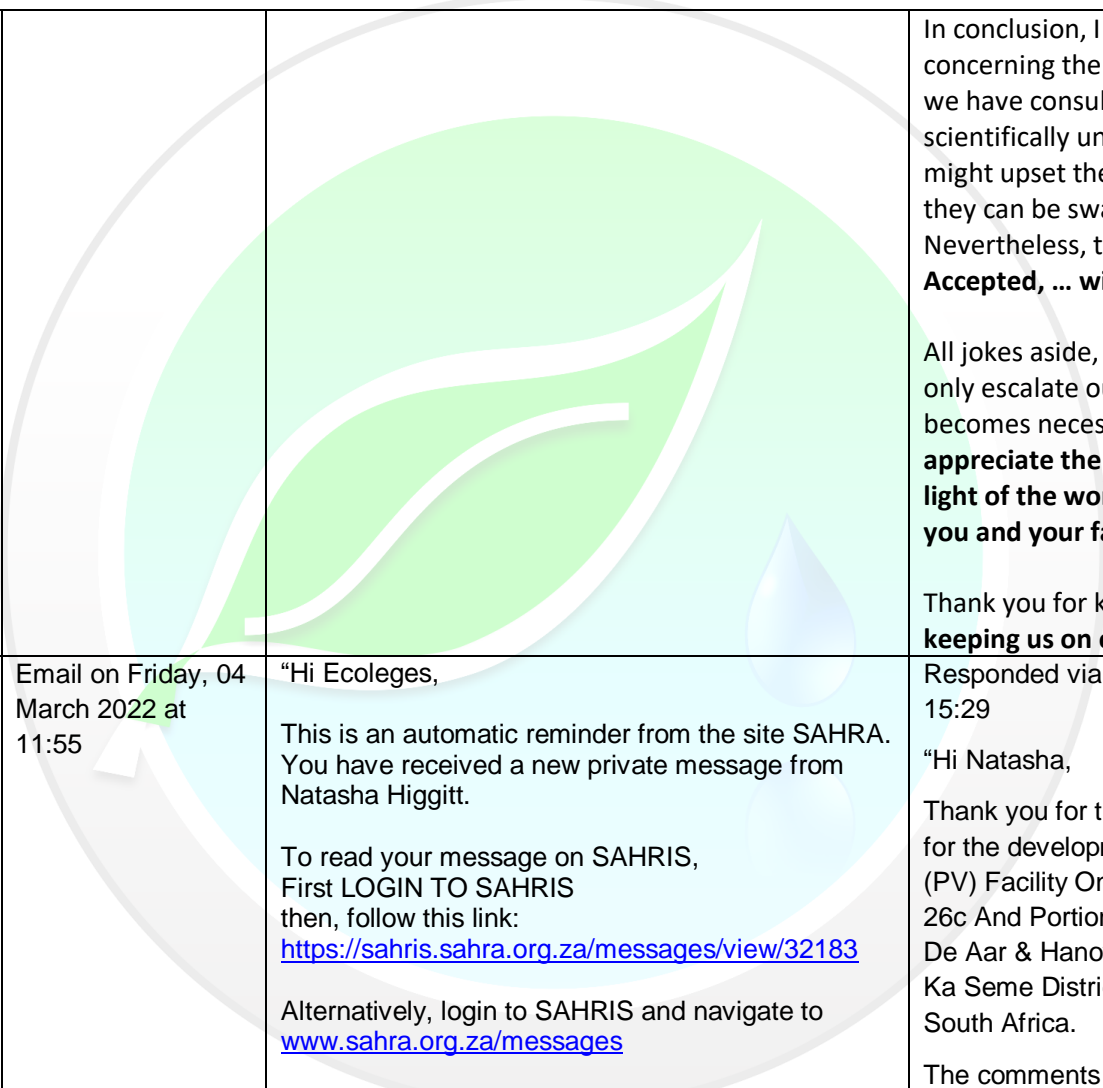
Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

		<p>been instrumental in similar solar PV developments throughout Southern Africa, our concerns have been validated.</p> <p>In particular, but not limited to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidently, <i>“the De Aar area ranks as one of the highest incidents of Foetal Alcohol Syndrome in SA, a likely by-product of the influx of labour from outside, which then remains behind once such projects have been completed.”</i> Please can you be so kind as to reference or provide the source of this quote. I would like to read it in its entirety and bring it to the attention of our Socio-economic specialist. I accept that such post-development socio economic factors are not the developer’s concern... 2. <i>“Increased crime during the construction phases in particular, but likely to continue thereafter.”</i> Again, the reference would be useful. Crime may be an inevitable reality in SA, but I have a right to oppose this in my vicinity and object to any risk forced upon our family. We wholeheartedly support your right to oppose crime! 3. The likelihood of large industrial diesel
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			<p>generators having to be added to supplement production at night, should the development exceed a specified size/output. There will be no diesel generators; it doesn't form part of our application.</p> <p>4. Nigh-time illumination of the area for 'security reasons.' There will be no to minimum lighting (the exceptions being the substation as it is an Eskom requirement, and key operational areas like the security control room and gate). The fence line will be secured using multiple FLIR PTZ cameras which have a 2km range in absolute darkness.</p> <p>5. Heat generation and reflection by the thousands of black solar panels, angled directly in our direction, namely due north. Heat generation is something we will be researching; it is a phenomenon called the heat island effect but should be localised to the footprint where the sun's energy is absorbed. Then forgive me for sounding dismissive, and yes the solar panels will be facing the northern hemisphere, but they will be tracking the sun, e.g. facing/reflecting toward the sky, and from an elevated position relative to your farm.</p>
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Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

			<p>In conclusion, I will address your request for elaboration concerning the <u>Comment #3</u> in the bid document, once we have consulted with all our animals. We're scientifically uncertain whether any of the above factors might upset them or their habitat in any way. Maybe they can be swayed by way of a profit-share scheme... Nevertheless, this is your job by way of the EIA. Accepted, ... wish Dr Dolittle was on the team.</p> <p>All jokes aside, we eagerly await your findings and will only escalate our concerns in the event that this becomes necessary. Please do, and we sincerely appreciate the light-hearted humour, particularly in light of the worries this development has raised with you and your family.</p> <p>Thank you for keeping us informed. Thank you for keeping us on our toes.</p>
<p>Natasha Higgitt Heritage Officer SAHRA Cell: 021 462 4502 Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za</p>	<p>Email on Friday, 04 March 2022 at 11:55</p>	<p>"Hi Ecoleges,</p> <p>This is an automatic reminder from the site SAHRA. You have received a new private message from Natasha Higgitt.</p> <p>To read your message on SAHRIS, First LOGIN TO SAHRIS then, follow this link: https://sahris.sahra.org.za/messages/view/32183</p> <p>Alternatively, login to SAHRIS and navigate to www.sahra.org.za/messages</p>	<p>Responded via Email on Sunday, 06 March 2022 at 15:29</p> <p>"Hi Natasha,</p> <p>Thank you for the interim comments (case No. 17965) for the development Of A 400 Mw Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility On The Remainder Of Farm Goede Hoop 26c And Portion 3 Of Farm Goede Hoop 26c, Between De Aar & Hanover, Emthanjeni Local Municipality, Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality, Northern Cape Province, South Africa.</p> <p>The comments have been incorporated into the public</p>

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 Reg: 2006/023163/23

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

		<p>The body of your message reads: ****</p> <p>Good morning,</p> <p>Please note that an Interim Comment has been issued on SAHRIS Case ID 17965. Please see link to the case.</p> <p>Kind regards, Natasha Higgitt”</p> <p>Main comments as per Interim Comment (Annexure E):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An application specific Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is required. This must include an archaeological component, palaeontological component and any other applicable heritage components. • The assessment must include an assessment of the impact to archaeological and palaeontological resources. The assessment of archaeological resources must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and the report comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports. • A field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist. The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments. • Any other heritage resources as defined in 	<p>participation process of the EIA.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, Shannon Farnsworth (<i>Reg, EAP.</i>)”</p>
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		<p>section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewscapes must also be assessed.</p>	
<p>Thato Nape South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO) Tel: 011 442-2434 Email: tnape@sarao.ac.za</p>	<p>Email received on Thursday, 17 March 2022 at 16:23</p>	<p>“Dear Shannon</p> <p>Kindly see the attached SARAO response letter for the 400 MW Solar PV facility.</p> <p>Regards, Thato Nape”</p> <p>Main comment (Annexure E):</p> <p>SARAO has undertaken a high-level impact assessment and based on the information provided it was determined that the project represents a low risk of interference to the SKA radio telescope with a compliance surplus of 57.02 dBm/Hz. As such, we do not have any objection to the proposed development.</p>	<p>Responded via Email on Friday, 18 March 2022 at 09:44</p> <p>“Hi Thato,</p> <p>Thank you very much for the response letter.</p> <p>Excuse my ignorance but this is the first EIA project I have worked on where radio frequency interference (RFI) has been identified as an impact using the National Department of Environmental Screening Tool as well as the AGAA has come up.</p> <p>The National Department requests a “compliance statement” to confirm or dispute the medium sensitivity rating for RFI that was given when doing the desktop screening report tool, could the letter you have provided be regarded as confirming the risk to be low with regards to SKA and Meerkat and any other projects in the area relating to SARAO or does the letter only apply to SKA?</p> <p>Lastly, in the response it is mentioned “based on the information provided it was determined that the project represents a low risk of interference to the SKA radio telescope with a compliance surplus of 57.02 dBm/Hz”. Can you please explain what a compliance surplus of 57.02 dBm/Hz is and what is considered to be a high</p>

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			<p>risk?</p> <p>Apologies for the questions!</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>Shannon Farnsworth (Reg. EAP)</p>
<p>Richard Vimpany</p> <p>Owner of Remainder of Farm No. 149 (Farm Goodhope) (neighbor) Cell: 082 775 6699 Email: richard.vimpany@bravospa.co.za</p>	<p>Email on Tuesday, 22 March 2022 at 22:04</p>	<p>“Good evening Shaun</p> <p>I wish to confirm that I met with Steve Stead yesterday and we travelled around the affected portion of our farm, Good Hope.</p> <p>I wish to thank Steve for taking the time to visit and engage with me on this matter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our discussion was incitefull and I’m grateful for the opportunity to participate. • Whilst you await Steve’s report, I would like to comment specifically on the proximity of the proposed Phase 3 to our boundary fence. • Evidently, the solar development is intended to extend to within 50 metres of the boundary fence, with solar panels towering some 3,3 metres high. • The impact of a 3,3m high wall of black, hot, reflective solar panels a mere 50m from our property is alarming to say the least. If this doesn’t repell wild game and 	<p>Responded via Email on Tuesday, 22 March 2022 at 22:20</p> <p>“Steve,</p> <p>Thank you so much for engaging with Richard and your obvious professionalism, it is very much appreciated.</p> <p>Richard,</p> <p>It is very kind of you to keep us informed, thank you. Your continued objection is noted and respected. We too look forward to the results of the investigations and seeing how we can address your principal concerns.</p> <p>Thank you and keep strong.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>Shaun MacGregor”</p>

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

		<p>livestock, thereby affecting their utilisation of all available grazing pasture, then nothing will.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whilst I await the subsequent investigations by the other appointed experts, I can confirm that we will continue to object to the proposed development in respect of the visual impact as well as the close proximity to our boundary. • The current Phase 3 proposal in its present format, represents an obvious and unacceptable WIN/LOSE scenario for us, in every respect. <p>Kind regards Richard Vimpany (on behalf of Neville R. Vimpany)"</p>	
<p>Manual (Manny) Orfao Owner of Portion 2 & 5 Taaibosch Fontein No. 41 (Farm: Skilpadskuil) Cell: 082 784 1972 Email: mcorfao@worldonline.co.za</p>	<p>Email on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 9:13 PM</p>	<p>"Goeie Dag Hoop als gaan goed? Vind asb aangeheg fase 2 en fase 3 se kommentaar. Groete Manuel Orfao." (Comments attached as Annexure E)</p>	<p>Responded via Email on Saturday, 26 March 2022 at 11:30: "Goeie môre Manny, Sien asb aangeheg die reaksies op die kommentaar in die BID wat jy ingedien het. Baie dankie vir jou deelname in hierdie proses. Jou kommentaar is geregistreer en is nou deel van ons Omgewingsimpakstudie.</p>

Public Participation Report: Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic (Pv) Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover

		<p><u>Translation of comments from Afrikaans to English:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Safety of the residents and visitors. 2) Theft and burglary due to the development. 3) View impairment – The area designated for the solar panels are visible from Skilpadskuil, which means that the view will no longer be a nature scenery. 4) Land/Farm Value – The value of the land/farm will most likely decrease due to the development, which may have an effect on future buyers (including farmers – looking to buy the land). 5) Road conditions – The condition of the roads will most likely deteriorate as a result of the heavy vehicles using the roads. 6) Risk of veld fires caused by workers during the construction of the plant. 7) Risk of solar panels being damaged during the hunting season (1/3 of Skilpadskuil borders the Phase 2 & Phase 3 development). 	<p>Kontak ons gerus as jy enige verdere vrae of bekommernisse het.</p> <p>Vriendelike groete,</p> <p>Anika Steynberg</p> <p>(Response attached as Annexure E)</p>
<p>Dr Ilse Aucamp</p> <p>Equispectives Research and Consulting Services</p> <p>Tel: 082 828 0668 Fax: 086 648 3149 Email: ilse@equispectives.co.za</p>	<p>Email on Tuesday, 10 May 2022 at 18:14</p>	<p>“Hallo Steve,</p> <p>The NE farm receptor is Corneulis Oosthuizen 061 271 0268 or cmo.karoo@gmail.com. His wife is Louisa louisa.oosthuizen25@gmail.com or 074 114 3950. They stay on the farm Leuwe Fontein. They are Willem Retief’s neighbours. If you need to contact them WhatsApp is best, as the signal on the farm is iffy. Louisa is more responsive on e-mail than Corneulis. They don’t seem to have issues about the visual impact, as they think it won’t affect them. We did show them on Google Earth, but they seem to thing that they won’t see it, and if they see</p>	<p>Response from Stephen Stead (Visual Specialist) on Tuesday, 10 May 2022 at 20:34:</p> <p>“Hi Ilse,</p> <p>I had this locality down as low intensity so this is good as the response confirms the rating. Thanks.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Steve”</p> <p>Stephen Stead</p>

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it, it won't be an issue.

KInd regards

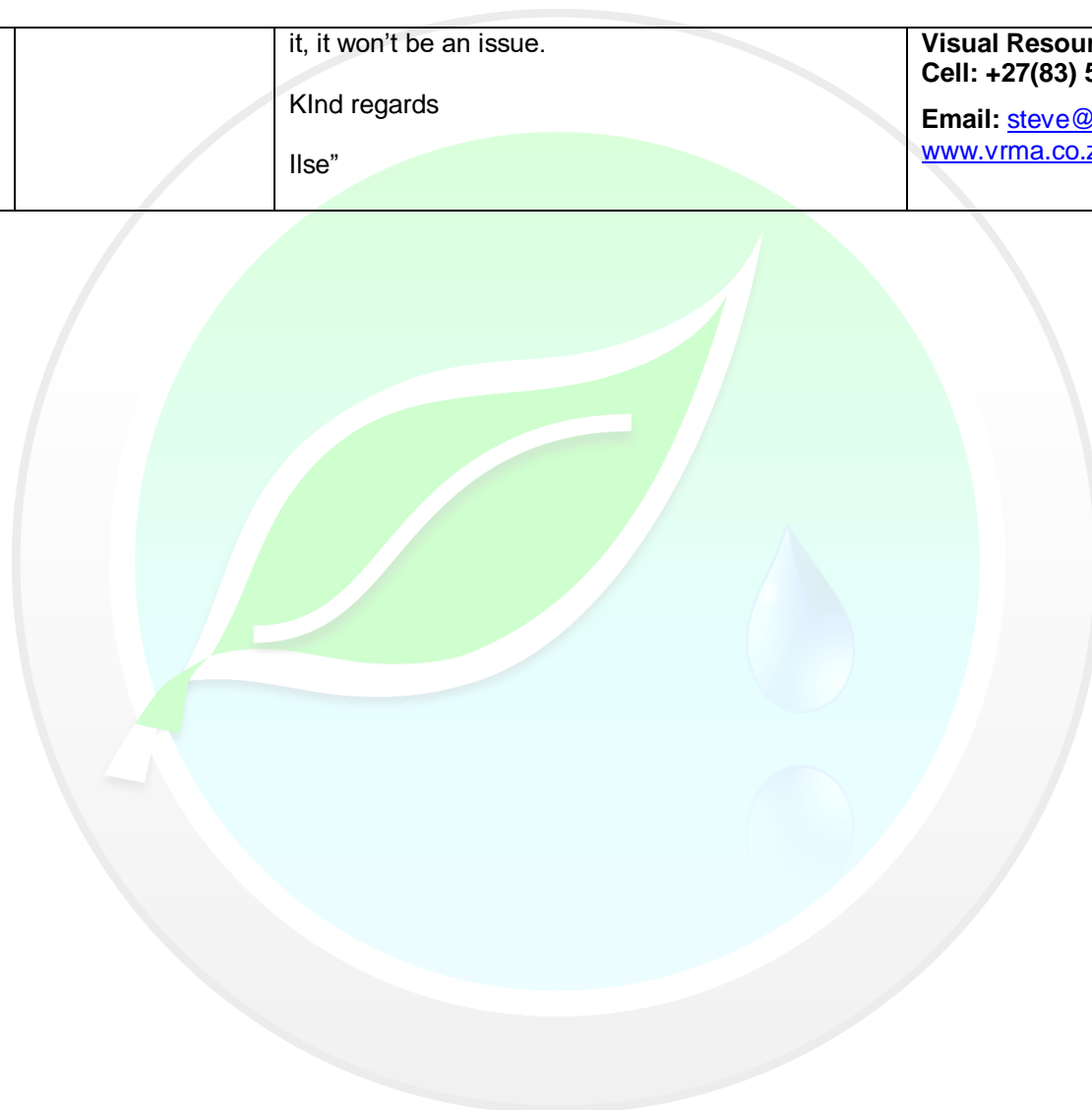
Ilse”

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