



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road · PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/724
Enquiries: Mr Herman Alberts
Telephone: (012) 399 9371 Email: HAlberts@environment.gov.za

Mr Michael Mangnall
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7753

Telephone number: (021) 657 4058
Email Address: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Mangnall

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998: GN R. 543/544/545/546 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 100 MEGAWATTS KENTANI PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS SUPPORTING ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSED BY SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The environmental authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 10(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 (the Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 12 (twelve) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's decision in respect of your application as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 7 of the Regulations, which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. This procedure is summarised in the attached document. Kindly include a copy of this document with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties.

Should the applicant or any other party wish to appeal any aspect of the decision a notice of intention to appeal must be lodged by all prospective appellants with the Minister, within 20 days of the date of the EA, by means of one of the following methods:

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria, 0001; or

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria

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If the applicant wishes to lodge an appeal, it must also serve a copy of the notice of intention to appeal on all registered interested and affected parties as well as a notice indicating where, and for what period, the appeal submission will be available for inspection, should you intend to submit an appeal.

Appeals must be submitted in writing to:

Mr Z Hassam, Director: Appeals and Legal Review, of this Department at the above mentioned addresses. Mr Hassam can also be contacted at:

Tel: (012) 399 9356

Email: AppealsDirectorate@environment.gov.za

The authorised activities shall not commence within twenty (20) days of the date of signature of the authorisation. Further, please note that in terms of section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, an appeal under section 43 of that Act will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs**

Date: 6/06/2016

cc	Surina Laurie	CSIR	Tel: (021) 888 2490	Email: slaurie@csir.co.za
	Grace Mkhosana	FS DEDTEA	Tel: (051) 400 4812	Email: mkhosana@detea.fs.gov.za
	Kelehile Motlhale	Tokologo Local Municipality	Tel: (082) 043 4477	Email: kelehilem@gmail.com

APPEALS PROCEDURE IN TERMS OF CHAPTER 7 OF THE NEMA EIA REGULATIONS, 2010 (THE REGULATIONS) AS PER GN R. 543 OF 2010 TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE APPLICANT AND INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES UPON RECEIPT OF NOTIFICATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (EA)

APPLICANT	INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (IAPs)
1. Receive EA from the relevant Competent Authority (the Department of Environmental Affairs [DEA]).	1. Receive EA from Applicant/Consultant.
2. Within 12 days of date of the EA notify all IAPs of the EA and draw their attention to their right to appeal against the EA in terms of Chapter 7 of the Regulations.	2. N/A.
3. If you want to appeal against the EA, submit a notice of intention to appeal within 20 days of the date of the EA with the Minister of Environmental Affairs (the Minister).	3. If you want to appeal against the EA, submit a notice of intention to appeal within 20 days of the date of the EA. with the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs (the Minister).
4. After having submitted your notice of intention to appeal to the Minister, provide each registered IAP with a copy of the notice of intention to appeal within 10 days of lodging the notice.	4. After having submitted your notice of intention to appeal to the Minister, provide the applicant with a copy of the notice of intention to appeal within 10 days of lodging the notice.
5. The Applicant must also serve on each IAP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection. 	5. Appellant must also serve on the Applicant within 10 days of lodging the notice, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection by the applicant.
6. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the Minister within 30 days after the lapsing of the period of 20 days provided for the lodging of the notice of intention to appeal.	6. The appeal must be submitted to the Minister within 30 days after the lapsing of the period of 20 days provided for the lodging of the notice of intention to appeal.
7. Any IAP who received a notice of intention to appeal may submit a responding statement to that appeal to the Minister within 30 days from the date that the appeal submission was lodged with the Minister.	7. An Applicant who received notice of intention to may submit a responding statement to the appeal to the Minister within 30 days from the date that the appeal submission was lodged with the Minister.

NOTES:

1. **An appeal must be:-**
 - a) submitted in writing;
 - b) accompanied by:
 - a statement setting out the grounds of appeal;
 - supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal; and
 - a statement that the appellant has complied with regulation 62 (2) or (3) together with copies of the notices referred to in regulation 62.



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 36 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010

The proposed construction and operation of the 100 Megawatts (MW) Kentani Photovoltaic (PV) Solar Energy Facility and supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province

Lejweleputswa District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	<i>14/12/16/3/3/2/724</i>
Last amended:	<i>First issue</i>
Holder of authorisation:	<i>South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd</i>
Location of activity:	<i>Remaining Extent of the Farm Overshot, No. 31; Remaining Extent of the Farm Doornrandjes, No. 546; Remaining Extent of the Farm Leliehoek, No. 748; Remaining Extent of the Farm Klipfontein, No. 305; Remaining Extent of the Farm Kentani, No. 953; Remaining Extent of the Farm Oxford, No. 1030; Remaining Extent of the Farm Braklaagte No. 149; Remaining Extent of the Farm Doornrandjes, No. 546; Remaining Extent and Portion 1 of the Farm Walkerville No. 1031; Remaining Extent of the Farm Boschrand, No. 148; Remaining Extent of the Farm Walvischkuil, No. 749 within Tokologo Local Municipality in the Free state Province</i>

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

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Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this environmental authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and the EIA regulations.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 the Department hereby authorises:

SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD

(hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details –

Mr Michael Mangnall

PO Box 45063

CLAREMONT

7753

Telephone number: (021) 657 4058

Fax number: (021) 674 5665

E-mail address: mike.mangnal@mainstreamrp.com

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in Listing Notices 1; Listing Notice 2 and 3 (GN R. 544, 545 & 546):

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>GN R.544: Activity: 10</u></p> <p><i>"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity:</i> <i>(i) Outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts."</i></p>	<p>The distribution powerline's voltage does not exceed 33 kV but the transmission powerline connecting the onsite substation to the collector substation will be more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 1:</u></p> <p><i>"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity</i> <i>(i) Output is 20 megawatts or more."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development is for the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 100 megawatts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 3:</u></p> <p><i>"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or the storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity exceeding 500 cubic metres."</i></p>	<p>Mainstream is proposing to construct a battery storage facility on site. The battery uses electrolytes which may be deemed hazardous. The storage capacity of the facility will exceed 500 cubic metres.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 8:</u></p> <p><i>"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV and more.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 15:</u></p> <p><i>"Physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land for residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the total area to be transformed is 20 hectares or more."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the physical alteration of an area of more than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation for transformation to industrial use.</p>
<p><u>GN R.546: Activity 12:</u></p>	

<p><i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation</i></p> <p><i>a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will require the clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>GN R.546: Activity 14:</u></p> <p><i>"The clearance of an area of 5 hectares or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation</i></p> <p><i>a) In the Free State Province,</i></p> <p><i>All areas outside urban areas."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 5 hectares of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation. The project require more than 150 ha and have minimal disturbed areas.</p>

In terms of Regulation 53 (3) of 2014 Regulations, the competent authority hereby authorise activities which are similarly listed in terms of 2014 Regulations and are as follows:

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>GN R.983: Activity: 11</u></p> <p><i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity-</i></p> <p><i>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts."</i></p>	<p>The distribution powerline's voltage does not exceed 33 kV but the transmission powerline connecting the onsite substation to the collector substation will be more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 1:</u></p> <p><i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more</i></p>	<p>The proposed development is for the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 100 megawatts.</p>

<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 4:</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or the storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity exceeding 500 cubic metres."</i></p>	<p>Mainstream is proposing to construct a battery storage facility on site. The battery uses electrolytes which may be deemed hazardous. The storage capacity of the facility will exceed 500 cubic metres.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 9:</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV and more.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 12:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will require the clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 15:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for- (i) the undertaking of a linear activity."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation for the undertaking of a linear activity.</p>
<p><u>GN R.985: Activity 12:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation (a) in Free State Province: (a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 5 hectares of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation. The facility require more than 150 ha and have minimal disturbed areas.</p>

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<i>that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i>	
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as described in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated January 2016 and the additional information received on 18 April 2016 at:

Site coordinates:

	Latitude	Longitude
	28°37'28.91"S	25°43'4.68"E

Substation coordinates:

	Latitude	Longitude
A	28°37'24.01"S	25°44'58.21"E
B	28°37'40.28"S	25°44'57.94"E
C	28°37'40.42"S	25°45'16.38"E
D	28°37'24.23"S	25°45'16.50"E

Powerline corridor:

	Latitude	Longitude
A	28°36'40.72"S	25°44'41.21"E
B	28°38'16.83"S	25°44'55.44"E
C	28°38'22.81"S	25°44'41.22"E
D	28°38'29.07"S	25°44'34.85"E
E	28°39'20.62"S	25°44'14.29"E
F	28°39'30.84"S	25°43'53.20"E
G	28°40'53.99"S	25°42'54.19"E
H	28°43'1.52"S	25°42'2.67"E
I	28°43'8.07"S	25°42'38.55"E
J	28°43'46.36"S	25°42'30.43"E
K	28°43'54.65"S	25°41'36.64"E
L	28°44'12.55"S	25°41'24.28"E
M	28°44'26.18"S	25°41'44.90"E

N	28°44'16.40"S	25°42'49.02"E
O	28°44'10.77"S	25°43'0.20"E
P	28°43'58.47"S	25°43'4.73"E
Q	28°43'27.33"S	25°43'2.53"E
R	28°43'27.15"S	25°42'53.35"E
S	28°43'9.04"S	25°42'49.52"E
T	28°42'13.86"S	25°42'58.05"E
U	28°42'2.07"S	25°43'16.64"E
V	28°41'7.37"S	25°43'28.05"E
W	28°40'55.99"S	25°43'36.14"E
X	28°40'46.54"S	25°43'30.41"E
Y	28°40'18.66"S	25°43'49.00"E
Z	28°40'16.30"S	25°44'4.04"E
AA	28°39'54.79"S	25°44'18.85"E
AB	28°39'50.25"S	25°44'29.73"E
AC	28°39'40.45"S	25°44'20.54"E
AD	28°39'34.76"S	25°44'33.09"E
AE	28°39'37.55"S	25°44'46.51"E
AF	28°38'58.91"S	25°45'1.80"E
AG	28°38'48.14"S	25°44'55.15"E
AH	28°37'28.54"S	25°45'24.80"E
AI	28°36'50.06"S	25°45'18.39"E

- for the proposed construction and operation of the 100 MW Kentani PV Solar Energy Facility and its supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

The project components for the Kentani PV Solar Facility include:

Solar field

- Solar Arrays
 - Solar technology: PV; and

- Mounting system technology: Single Axis Tracking PV, Dual Axis Tracking PV or Fixed Axis Tracking PV.
- Building infrastructure
 - Offices;
 - Operational control centre;
 - Warehouse/workshop;
 - Ablution facilities;
 - Converter station;
 - Battery facility; and
 - On-site substation and substation building.
- Electrical infrastructure
 - 33 kV distribution lines.

Associated infrastructure

- Transmission lines;
- Underground cabling;
- Access roads;
- Internal gravel roads;
- Fencing;
- Operation and Maintenance Area;
- Laydown Area;
- Stormwater channels; and
- Water pipelines.

Technical details for the proposed facility:

Component	Description / dimensions
Height of PV panels	15 m
Area of PV Array	316 ha
Number of inverters required	94
Area occupied by inverter / transformer stations / substations	50 ha
Capacity of on-site substation	33kV/132kV
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	50 ha
Area occupied by buildings	25 ha

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Length of internal roads	30 km
Width of internal roads	Less than 8m
Proximity to grid connection	3, 20 km
Height of fencing	3 m
Type of fencing	High Security Barrier

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The proposed construction and operation of the Kentani PV Solar Energy Facility and its supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province as described above is hereby approved.
2. The construction of an on-site substation where the power produced will be transmitted via a 132 kV overhead or underground transmission line to the Northern B Collector Substation from where the voltage will be increased and transmitted to the national grid via a 400 kV overhead powerline to the existing Perseus Substation, is approved.
3. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this authorisation, which form part of the environmental authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
4. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
5. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
6. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further authorisation in terms of the regulations.
7. This activity must commence within a period of five (05) years from the date of issue of this authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation

lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.

8. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.
9. The holder of an environmental authorisation must notify the competent authority of any alienation, transfer and change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

10. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 12 (twelve) calendar days of the date of this environmental authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
11. The notification referred to must –
 - 11.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 11.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in Chapter 7 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010;
 - 11.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 11.4. give the reasons of the competent authority for the decision.
12. The holder of the authorisation must publish a notice –
 - 12.1. informing interested and affected parties of the decision;
 - 12.2. informing interested and affected parties where the decision can be accessed; and
 - 12.3. drawing the attention of interested and affected parties to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against this decision in the newspaper(s) contemplated and used in terms of regulation 54(2)(c) and (d) and which newspaper was used for the placing of advertisements as part of the public participation process.

Management of the activity

13. A copy of the final development layout map must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final development layout map must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. All available 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:

- 13.1. Position of solar facilities and its associated infrastructure;
 - 13.2. All sensitive features e.g. heritage sites, wetlands, pans and drainage channels that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - 13.3. All existing infrastructure on the site, e.g. roads, buildings, substations, powerlines etc.; and,
 - 13.4. All "no-go" and buffer areas.
14. Furthermore, a shapefile of the development layout/footprint must be submitted to this Department within two months from the date of this decision. 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 or 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
Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia, Pretoria

For Attention: Mr Muhammad Essop
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Strategic Infrastructure Developments

Telephone Number: (012) 399 9406

Email Address: MEssop@environment.gov.za

15. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the EIAr is not approved and must be amended to include measures as dictated by the final site lay-out map and micro-siting, and the provisions of this environmental authorisation. The EMPr must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final EMPr must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. Once approved the EMPr must be implemented and adhered to.
 16. The EMPr amendment must include the following:
 - 16.1. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIAr and specialist studies attached as part of the EIAr.
 - 16.2. The requirements and conditions of this environmental authorisation.
 - 16.3. 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.
 - 16.4. 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.
 - 16.5. 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.
 - 16.6. A storm water and wash 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 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.
 - 16.7. An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion.
 - 16.8. An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of any hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use or storage. This must include
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- precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems.
- 16.9. 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.
 - 16.10. A fire management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
 - 16.11. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmentally sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
 - 16.12. The final site layout map.
 - 16.13. The final site layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map. This map must reflect the approved location of the PV as stated in the EIAr and this environmental authorisation.
17. The final amended EMPr (once approved) must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It must be seen as a dynamic document and must be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.
 18. Should the holder of this environmental authorisation propose any changes to the EMPr, the holder of this environmental authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.
 19. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the EIAr be discovered.

Environmental Control Officer (ECO) and duties

20. The holder of this environmental authorisation must appoint an independent and qualified Environmental Control Officer (ECO) with experience or expertise in undertaking ECO functions. The ECO will have the responsibility to ensure that the conditions referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.
 21. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activity.
 22. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring of this Department.
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23. The ECO must meet with the contractors to discuss the conditions of the EA and the contents of the EMPr prior to any site clearing occurring.
24. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.
25. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to the competent authority in respect of this development.
26. The duties of the ECO must include the following:
 - 26.1. Keeping record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
 - 26.2. Keeping and maintaining a detailed incident (including spillage of bitumen, fuels, chemicals, or any other material) and complaint register on site indicating how these issues were addressed, what rehabilitation measures were taken and what preventative measures were implemented to avoid re-occurrence of incidents/complaints.
 - 26.3. Keeping and maintaining a daily site diary.
 - 26.4. Keeping copies of all reports submitted to the Department.
 - 26.5. Keeping and maintaining a schedule of current site activities including the monitoring of such activities.
 - 26.6. Obtaining and keeping record of all documentation, permits, licences and authorisations such as waste disposal certificates, hazardous waste landfill site licences etc. required by this facility.
 - 26.7. Compiling a monthly monitoring report.

Recording and reporting to the Department

27. The holder of this environmental authorisation must keep all records relating to monitoring and auditing on site and make them available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.
28. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring at this Department.

Environmental audit report

29. The holder of this environmental authorisation must submit an environmental audit report to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
30. The environmental audit report must:
 - 30.1. Be compiled by an independent environmental auditor;
 - 30.2. Indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit;
 - 30.3. Evaluate compliance with the requirements of the approved EMPr and this environmental authorisation;
 - 30.4. Include measures to be implemented to attend to any non-compliances or degradation noted;
 - 30.5. Include copies of any approvals granted by other authorities relevant to the development for the reporting period;
 - 30.6. Highlight any outstanding environmental issues that must be addressed, along with recommendations for ensuring these issues are addressed;
 - 30.7. Include a copy of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr;
 - 30.8. Include all documentation such as waste disposal certificates, hazardous waste landfill site licences etc. pertaining to this environmental authorisation; and
 - 30.9. Include evidence of adherence to the conditions of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr where relevant such as training records and attendance records.

Commencement of the activity

31. The authorised activity must not commence within twenty (20) days of the date of signature of the environmental authorisation.

Notification to authorities

32. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence. This notification period may coincide with the Notice of Intent to Appeal period.

Operation of the activity

33. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

34. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of this environmental authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.

Specific conditions

35. The footprint of the development must be limited to the areas required for actual construction works and operational activities.
36. Clearing of vegetation must be restricted to clearing of areas for development of service infrastructure.
37. Mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and the invasion of alien species.
38. Areas outside of the development footprint, including sensitive areas and buffer areas, must be clearly demarcated (using fencing and signage) before construction commences and must be regarded as "no-go" areas. Contractors and construction workers must be clearly informed of the no-go areas.
39. The holder of this environmental authorisation must train safety representatives, managers and workers on workplace safety. The construction process must be compliant with all safety and health measures as prescribed by the relevant act.
40. Before clearing of the site, permits must be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) for the removal of plants listed in the National Forest Act and from the relevant provincial department for the destruction of species protected in terms of the specific provincial legislation. Copies of the permits must be kept by the ECO and made available to this Department on request.
41. All areas of disturbed soil must be reclaimed using only indigenous grass and shrubs. Reclamation activities must be undertaken according to the rehabilitation plan to be included in the final EMPr.

42. Topsoil from all excavations and construction activities must be salvaged and reapplied during reclamation.
43. Should any archaeological sites, artefacts, paleontological fossils or graves be exposed during construction work, work in the immediate vicinity of the find must be stopped, the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be informed and the services of an accredited heritage professional obtained for an assessment of the heritage resources to be made.
44. The collection, hunting, or harvesting of any plants or animals at the site is strictly forbidden.
45. Watercourses outside the approved footprint/layout must be treated as "no-go" areas and demarcated as such. No vehicles, machinery, personnel, construction material, fuel, oil, bitumen or waste must be allowed into these areas without the express permission of and supervision by the ECO, except for rehabilitation work in these areas.
46. Underground cables and internal access roads must be aligned as much as possible along existing infrastructure to limit damage to vegetation and watercourses.
47. Anti-erosion measures such as silt fences must be installed in disturbed areas.
48. Cleared alien vegetation must be temporarily stored in a demarcated area. Once clearing is completed, they must be moved to a licenced waste disposal facility.
49. Signs must be placed along construction roads to identify speed limits, travel restrictions, and other standard traffic control information.
50. Should abnormal loads have to be transported by road to the site, a permit must be obtained from the relevant Provincial and National Transport Authority.
51. All construction vehicles should adhere to a low speed limit to avoid collisions with susceptible species such as snakes and tortoises.
52. Leakage of fuel must be avoided at all times and if spillage occurs, it must be remedied immediately. Spill kits must be made available on-site for the clean-up of spills.
53. No dumping or temporary storage of any materials may take place outside designated and demarcated laydown areas, and these must all be located within areas of low environmental sensitivity.
54. Hazardous substances must be stored in a bunded and designated area to avoid accidental leakage into the environment.
55. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation. Where waste is disposed of, such disposal must only occur at a landfill licensed in terms of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008).

56. The holder of this environmental authorisation must take note that no temporary site camps will be allowed outside the footprint of the development area as the establishment of such structures might trigger a listed activity as defined in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010.
57. Foundations and trenches must be backfilled with originally excavated materials as much as possible. Excess excavation materials must be disposed of only in approved areas or, if suitable, stockpiled for use in reclamation activities.
58. Borrow materials must be obtained only from authorised and permitted sites. Permits must be kept on site by the ECO.
59. The holder of this authorisation must train safety representatives, managers and workers in workplace safety. The construction process must be compliant with all safety and health measures as prescribed by the relevant act.
60. Dust suppression techniques must be implemented on all exposed surfaces during the construction phase. Such measures may include wet suppression, chemical stabilisation, the use of a wind fence, covering surfaces with straw chippings and re-vegetation of open areas.
61. The holder of this environmental authorisation must reduce visual impacts during construction by minimising areas of surface disturbance, controlling erosion, using dust suppression techniques and restoring exposed soil as closely as possible to their original contour and vegetation.
62. Monitoring for erosion must take place to ensure that no erosion problems are occurring at the site as a result of the roads and other infrastructure. All erosion problems observed must be rectified as soon as possible as outlined in the erosion management plan within the EMPr.
63. Kerbs and storm water channels must be designed in such a way that they can allow small animals and reptiles to move freely.
64. The holder of this environmental authorisation must comply with the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983) articles 7. 1 and (3) b of Regulation 9238.
65. Top soil and subsoil must be stockpiled separately and replaced according to the correct profile i.e. topsoil replaced last. Stockpiles must not be situated such that they obstruct natural water pathways and drainage channels.
66. Top soil stockpiles must not exceed 2m in height, stockpiles older than 6 months must be enriched before they can be used to ensure the effectiveness of the topsoil.
67. Any fauna directly threatened by the construction activities must be removed to a safe location by a qualified person.
68. The washing of panels during maintenance must be done with biodegradable soaps to avoid soil contamination and poisoning of small animals.

69. Lighting for both the construction period and through the operation of the facility must be of low-pressure sodium type, preferably yellow. All perimeter and security lighting must be attached to motion detectors, and must be dark-sky friendly.
70. Electric fencing must not have any strands within 30cm of the ground, which must be sufficient to allow smaller mammals, reptiles and tortoises to pass through (tortoises retreat into their shells when electrocuted and eventually succumb from repeated shocks), but still remain effective as a security barrier.
71. All new powerlines must be marked with bird flight diverters along their entire length. To create a net benefit, where possible, the new lines must run parallel to existing marked lines so as to reduce the collision risk posed by the older lines.
72. The poles must be fitted with bird perches on top of the poles to draw birds, particularly vultures away from the potentially risky insulators.
73. All pylons to be constructed must make use of "bird friendly" structures, fitted with a bird perch, as per Eskom standard guidelines.
74. The washing of panels during maintenance must be done with biodegradable soaps to avoid soil contamination and poisoning of small animals.
75. During operation, any electrocution and collision events that occur must be recorded, including the species affected and the date. If repeated collisions occur within the same area, then, further mitigation and avoidance measures may need to be implemented.
76. Liaison with land owners/farm managers must be done prior to construction in order to provide sufficient time for them to plan agricultural activities.
77. Dust abatement techniques must be used before and during surface clearing, excavation, or blasting activities.
78. During operation, any electrocution and collision events that occur should be recorded, including the species affected and the date. If repeated collisions occur within the same area, then, further mitigation and avoidance measures may need to be implemented.
79. Excavations must be inspected regularly in order to rescue trapped animals.
80. The recommendations of the EAP in the EIAR dated January 2016 and the specialist studies attached must be adhered to. In the event of any conflicting mitigation measures and conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the specific condition of this Environmental Authorisation will take preference.

General

81. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.
82. A copy of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr must be kept at the property where the activity will be undertaken. The environmental authorisation and approved EMPr must be produced to any authorised official of the Department who requests to see it and must be made available for inspection by any employee or agent of the holder of the environmental authorisation who undertakes work at the property.
83. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this environmental authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the environmental authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the environmental authorisation with the conditions of environmental authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of environmental authorisation.

Date of environmental authorisation: 6/06/2016


Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the amended application form dated 26 January 2016;
- b) The information contained in the EIAr dated January 2016;
- c) The comments received from organs of state, the Department of Water and Sanitation, the Road Asset Management Systems Department of Police, Roads and Transport (Free State Province), the South African Heritage Resource Agency, Telkom SA Limited and interested and affected parties as included in the EIAr dated January 2016;
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the EIAr dated January 2016 and the draft EMPr;
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the EIAr dated January 2016 as appears below:

Title	Prepared by	Date
Visual Impact Assessment	Mr Henry Holland	July 2015
Soil and Agricultural Impact Assessment	Mr Johann Lanz	July 2015
Aquatic Impact Assessment	Dr Brian Colloty	July 2015
Heritage Impact Assessment	Dr Jayson Orton	July 2015
Socio-economic Impact Assessment	Dr Hugo van Zyl	July 2015
Terrestrial Ecological Impact Assessment	Mr Andrew Skowno and Mr Simon Todd	July 2015
Avifaunal Impact Assessment	Luke Strugnell	July 2015

- f) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) Details provided of the qualifications of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

- b) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- c) The need for the proposed project stems from the provision of electricity to the national grid in terms of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme as required by the Department of Energy.
- d) The EIA dated January 2016 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the EIA.
- e) The description of the environment that may be affected by the activity and the manner in which the physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment may be affected by the proposed activity.
- f) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the EIA dated January 2016 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- g) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2010 for public involvement.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the EIA dated January 2016 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- d) The information contained in the EIA dated January 2016 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- e) EMP measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the EIA and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction process.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the approved activity will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the proposed activity can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/724/AM1

Enquiries: Ms Mathodi Mogorosi

Telephone: (012) 399 9388 **E-mail:** MMogorosi@environment.gov.za

Mr Eugene Marais
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4052
Email Address: Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com

PER MAIL / EMAIL

Dear Mr Marais

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 06 JUNE 2016 FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 100 MEGAWATTS (MW) KENTANI PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS SUPPORTING ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSED BY SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 06 June 2016, your application for amendment of the EA received by the Department on 16 April 2021 and the acknowledgement letter e-mailed to you on 26 April 2021, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended, has decided to amend the EA dated 06 June 2016 as amended, as follows:

Amendment 1: Change of contact details of the Holder of the EA, on page 2 of the EA:

From:

Mr Michael Mangnall
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7735

Telephone Number: (012) 657 4058
Email Address: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

To:

Mr Eugene Marais
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd

MS

PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4052
Email Address: Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com

Reason for the amendment is as follows:

The contact person for the holder on the EA is no longer Mr Michael Mangnall. The contact details in the EA were required to be updated to reflect the new contact details of the holder of the EA, which is Mr. Eugene Marais.

Amendment 2: Extension of validity period of the EA:

The validity period of the EA is hereby extended by an additional five (5) years to **06 June 2026**. Condition 7 of the EA dated 06 June 2016 is thus amended as follows:

"7. This activity must commence within a period of ten (10) years from the date of issue of the authorisation (i.e. the EA lapses on 06 June 2026). If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken."

The Department is aware that the environment changes constantly, as a result it might be significantly different from the one that existed at the time of the issuing of this EA, hence the validity of the EA cannot exceed a maximum period of 10 years. Failure to commence with construction activities within the maximum 10 year period, your EA will be deemed to have lapsed and a new application for Environmental Authorisation will have to be lodged.

Reason for the amendment is as follows:

The key motivating factor to amend the EA validity period, was to ensure that the holder of the EA had a project that is compliant with the requirements of the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy ("DMRE") (previously the Department of Energy) Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement ("REIPPP") Programme. Due to various reasons, outside of the EA holder's control, the planned announcements and roll-out of bidding rounds have not occurred as previously planned for. As a result, the REIPPP Programme has been delayed, resulting in the project not yet being selected as a preferred bidder, further necessitating the need for the EA's validity period to be extended. The amendment does not change the scope of the existing EA, nor increase the level or nature of the impact, which impact was initially assessed and considered when the application was made for an Environmental Authorisation.

General

This EA amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 06 June 2016.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013) which stipulate that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable, should the Department abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/724/AM1

2

Amendment of the EA issued on 06 June 2016 for the proposed construction and operation of the 100 megawatts (MW) Kentani Photovoltaic (PV) Solar Energy Facility and its supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province

14 (fourteen) days of the date of the decision, of the Department's decision, as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@environment.gov.za;

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria,
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria,
0001;

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@environment.gov.za.

Yours faithfully


Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 21/05/2016

cc:	Abulele Adams	CSIR	E-mail: aadams1@csir.co.za
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MS



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA ·0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2460/AM1

Enquiries: Juliet Mahlangu

Telephone: (012) 399 9420 E-mail: jmmahlangu@dffe.gov.za

Mr Eugene Marais
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7735

Telephone Number: 021 657 4045
Email Address: eugene.marais@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Eugene

CORRECTION TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 19 APRIL 2022 FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 132KV/400KV ON-SITE MAIN TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION (MTS) AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE LOCATED NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE TOKOLOGO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, LEJWELEPUTSWA DISTRICT IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the above application by this Department on 19 April 2022, your letter dated 13 May 2022 and received by this Department on 13 May 2022 refer.

In terms of Regulation 27 (4) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended this Department has decided to amend the abovementioned decision.

From:

Activity number	Activity description
Listing Notice 1, Item 11: <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity- (ii) Inside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of 275kV or more."</i>	The proposed 132 kilovolt powerline will connect the proposed MTS to the authorised Kentani Solar PV on-site substation (14/12/16/3/3/2/724) and will be approximately 4km in length.

To:

Activity number	Activity description
Listing Notice 1, Item 11: <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity- (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts."</i>	The proposed 132 kilovolt powerline will connect the proposed MTS to the authorised Kentani Solar PV on-site substation (14/12/16/3/3/2/724) and will be approximately 4km in length.

MS.

Reason for the correction:

To correct the sub-activity of Listing Notice 1 Activity 11 in the table on Pages 03 of the EA dated 19 April 2022.

Please note that this letter must be read in conjunction with the Environmental Authorisation dated 19 April 2022, as amended.

Yours faithfully



Ms Milicent Solomons

Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Date: 13/06/2022.

cc:	Liandra Scott-Shaw	SLR Consulting Africa (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	Email: lscottshaw@slrconsulting.com
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Department
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Tel: (+27 12) 389 8000

Enquiries: Devnagie Bendeman Telephone: 012 399 9337 E-mail: vbendeman@diffa.gov.za

Ms. Milicent Solomons
Director: Prioritized Infrastructure Projects

Dear Mrs Solomons

APPOINTMENT AS ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATIONS FOR THE PERIOD OF 25 APRIL 2022 UNTIL 31 OCTOBER 2022

I hereby inform you that I have decided to appoint you as the Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations for the period of 25 April to 31 October 2022 whilst Mr Sabelo Malaza is fulfilling his temporary reassignment function at the Forestry Branch.

All the correspondence and other documents that are usually signed by the Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations must be signed under Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations during the above-mentioned period.

Your appointment in the above acting position remains subject to the provisions of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation No. 103 of 1994), as amended, the Government Employees Pension Fund Act, 1996 (Proclamation No. 21 of 1996), the regulations promulgated under these Acts and relevant circulars.

In the execution of your duties and the exercising of the powers delegated to you, you will furthermore be subjected to the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, compliance with the Promotion of Access to Information Act, Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, the Minimum Information Security Standard, Departmental Policies and other applicable legislations with the Republic of South Africa. You are therefore advised to make yourself familiar with the provisions of these legislations and policies and the amendments thereof. (Copies of Departmental policies can be obtained from the Human Resource Office).

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for all your assistance on behalf of the department.

Yours sincerely

Ms Devnagie Bendeman
Deputy Director-General: RCSM (Regulatory Compliance and
Sector Monitoring)

Date 20 April 2022

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I ACCEPT / ~~DO NOT ACCEPT~~
appointment as Acting Chief
Director: Integrated Environmental
Authorizations

Signed:

Date:

20/04/2022



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2460/AM2

Enquiries: Ms Matlhodi Mogorosi

Telephone: (012) 399 9388 **E-mail:** MMogorosi@dfffe.gov.za

Mr Eugen Marais
Klipfontein Solar Facility (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4052
Email Address: eugene.marais@mainstreammp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Marais

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 19 APRIL 2022 FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 132KV/400KV ON-SITE MAIN TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION (MTS) AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE LOCATED NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE TOKOLOGO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, LEJWELEPUTSWA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 19 April 2022, the first EA amendment issued by this Department on 13 June 2022, your application for amendment of the EA received by the Department on 06 July 2022, and the acknowledgement thereof on 13 July 2022, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended, has decided to amend the EA dated 19 April 2022 as amended, as follows:

Amendment 1: Amendment of the EA Holder:

From:

South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd

To:

Klipfontein Solar Facility (Pty) Ltd

The reason for the amendment is as follows:

Klipfontein Solar Facility (Pty) Ltd is the Project Company Name and is responsible for the construction and operation of the Solar Energy Facility. Klipfontein Solar Facility (Pty) Ltd is a subsidiary of South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd. On 28 October 2021, the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy announced that the proposed Solar Energy Facility has received Preferred Bidder Status as part of the fifth bid submission of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement

Programme (REIPPPP). Having reached Preferred Bidder Status, the project moves to the construction phase and is required to be registered in its Project Company Name, namely Klipfontein Solar Facility (Pty) Ltd.

This proposed amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 19 April 2022 as amended.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013) which stipulate that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dffe.gov.za;

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria,
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria,
0001;

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Ms Milicent Solomons
Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 26/07/2022.

cc:	Liandra Scott-Shaw	SLR Consulting Africa (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	E-mail: lscottshaw@slrconsulting.com
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**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447 PRETORIA 0001 Environment House • 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia• PRETORIA
Tel(+27 12) 388 9000
Enquiries: Devinagle Bendeman Telephone: 012 399 9337 E-mail: vbendeman@ddfe.gov.za

Ms. Milicent Solomons
Director: Prioritized Infrastructure Projects

Dear Mrs Solomons

**APPOINTMENT AS ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATIONS
FOR THE PERIOD OF 25 APRIL 2022 UNTIL 31 OCTOBER 2022**

I hereby inform you that I have decided to appoint you as the Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations for the period of 25 April to 31 October 2022 whilst Mr Sabelo Malaza is fulfilling his temporary reassignment function at the Forestry Branch.

All the correspondence and other documents that are usually signed by the Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations must be signed under Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations during the above-mentioned period.

Your appointment in the above acting position remains subject to the provisions of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation No. 103 of 1994), as amended, the Government Employees Pension Fund Act, 1996 (Proclamation No. 21 of 1996), the regulations promulgated under these Acts and relevant circulars.

In the execution of your duties and the exercising of the powers delegated to you, you will furthermore be subjected to the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, compliance with the Promotion of Access to Information Act, Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, the Minimum Information Security Standard, Departmental Policies and other applicable legislations with the Republic of South Africa. You are therefore advised to make yourself familiar with the provisions of these legislations and policies and the amendments thereof. (Copies of Departmental policies can be obtained from the Human Resource Office).

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for all your assistance on behalf of the department.

Yours sincerely

Ms. Devinagle Bendeman
Deputy Director-General: RCSM (Regulatory Compliance and
Sector Monitoring)

Date 20 April 2022

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I ACCEPT / ~~DO NOT ACCEPT~~
appointment as Acting Chief
Director: Integrated Environmental
Authorizations

Signed:

Date:

20/04/2022



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia · PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2460

Enquiries: Ms Julliet Mahlangu

Telephone: (012) 399 9320 **E-mail:** jmmahlangu@environment.gov.za

Mr Eugene Marais
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7735

Telephone Number: 021 657 4045
Email Address: eugene.marais@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Marais

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 132KV/400KV ON-SITE MAIN TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION (MTS) AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE LOCATED NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE TOKOLOGO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, LEJWELEPUTSWA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The Environmental Authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the decision as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, Act No. 3 of 2000, you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, Act No. 4 of 2013 which stipulate that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998 National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any

organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dfpe.gov.za;

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dfpe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Date: 19/04/2022

cc:	Ms Liandra Scott-Shaw	SLR Consulting Africa (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	Email: lscottshaw@slrconsulting.com
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M-S



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 25 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended

Construction and operation of the 132kV/400kV on-site Main Transmission Substation (MTS) and associated infrastructure located near Dealesville in the Tokologo Local Municipality, Free State Province

Lejweleputswa District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	14/12/16/3/3/1/2460
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation:	South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	Remaining Extent of the Farm Klipfontein No. 305, The Farm Leliehoek No. 748, The Farm Overshot No. 31, Remainder of the Farm Oxford No. 1030, Portion 1 of the Farm Walkerville No. 1031, Remainder of the Farm Walkerville No. 1031, Within Ward 1 of Tokologo Local Municipality, Free State Province

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this Environmental Authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Department hereby authorises –

SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD

(hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details –

Eugene Marais

South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 45063

CLAREMONT

7735

Telephone Number: 021 657 4045

Cellphone Number: 073 871 5781

Email Address: eugene.marais@mainstreamrp.com

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as “the activity”) indicated in Listing Notice 1, Listing Notice 2 and Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended:

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 11:</u></p> <p><i>“The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity-</i></p> <p><i>(ii) Inside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of 275kV or more.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed 132 kilovolt powerline will connect the proposed MTS to the authorised Kentani Solar PV on-site substation (14/12/16/3/3/2/724) and will be approximately 4km in length.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 12:</u></p> <p>The development of –</p> <p>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more, where such development occurs</p> <p>(a) within a watercourse; and</p> <p>(c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.</p>	<p>The proposed project will require the placement of linear infrastructure, i.e., access roads and overhead power lines with a combined physical footprint of more than 100 m².</p> <p>As the site consists of a number drainage lines and watercourses, one (1) or more roads and/or powerlines will cross these watercourses or drainage lines or be within 32 m thereof.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 19:</u></p> <p><i>“The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10m³ into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock from a watercourse.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed project will involve the construction of internal roads, upgrades to existing roads and laying of underground cables within the project area, which will require the removal and/or infilling of soil from a watercourse in excess of 10 m³.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1 Item 24:</u></p> <p><i>“The development of road with</i></p> <p><i>(ii) a road reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 m..”</i></p>	<p>The project will involve the construction of access roads up to 8m wide, that can accommodate large vehicles transporting transformers and other electrical equipment to the proposed MTS site.</p>

<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 27:</u></p> <p><i>“The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for—</i></p> <p><i>(i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or</i></p> <p><i>(ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.;</i></p>	<p>The construction of the proposed MTS and BESS will require the clearance of an area of 1 hectare (ha) or more, but less than 20ha, of indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 28:</u></p> <p><i>Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial, or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes, or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development will occur</i></p> <p><i>(ii) outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.</i></p>	<p>The MTS, BESS and associated powerline infrastructure are situated on land currently used for agriculture and the footprint of the substation and BESS is larger than 1 hectare. The footprint of the substation site will be 64 hectares, while the BESS will be 4 hectares.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 56:</u></p> <p><i>The widening of a road by more than 6 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre</i></p> <p><i>(i) where the existing reserve is wider than 13, 5 meters;</i></p> <p><i>or</i></p> <p><i>(ii) where no road reserve exists, where the existing road is wider than 8 metres.</i></p>	<p>Existing roads will be upgraded / widened to up to 8m and lengthened by more than 1km, if required and where possible.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 2, Item 4</u></p> <p><i>The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of more than 500 cubic metres.</i></p>	<p>The proposed MTS requires transformer oil to insulate and suppress corona discharge and arcing, and to serve as a coolant. Storage facilities require a capacity of > 500 m³.</p>

<p><u>Listing Notice 2, Item 9</u> <i>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex</i></p>	<p>The proposed loop-in-loop-out power lines will have a capacity of 400 kilovolts. The power lines are approximately 800m in length.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 2, Item 15</u> <i>The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation.</i></p>	<p>The footprint of the proposed MTS is 64 hectares, while the BESS will be 4 hectares.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3, Item 4</u> <i>The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres</i> <i>(b) Free State</i> <i>(i) outside urban areas</i> <i>(ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans</i></p>	<p>A temporary road corridor up to 8 m will be impacted during the construction phase. This will be rehabilitated after the completion of construction activities to allow for a permanent 4-6 m wide road surface with side drains on one (1) or both sides, where necessary. Most of the site constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3, Item 12</u> <i>The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation in the</i> <i>(b) the Free State</i> <i>(ii) Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans;</i> <i>(iv) Areas within a watercourse or wetland; or within 100 metres from the edge of a watercourse or wetland.</i></p>	<p>The development of substation, BESS and powerline infrastructure will require the clearance of more than 300 m² of indigenous vegetation. Clearance of vegetation will take place within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs), which have been identified within the project site. Clearance of vegetation will also take place within 100 m from a watercourse or wetland.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3, Item 14</u> <i>The development of</i></p>	<p>The development of the substation, powerline and BESS infrastructure and internal roads with</p>

<p><i>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more</i></p> <p><i>where such development occurs-</i></p> <p><i>(a) within a watercourse;</i></p> <p><i>(c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</i></p> <p><i>(b) Free State</i></p> <p><i>i. Outside urban areas:</i></p> <p><i>(ff) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans.</i></p>	<p>a physical footprint in excess of 10 m² will be required within and adjacent to watercourses. In addition, certain project infrastructure will traverse CBAs in places.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3, Item 18</u></p> <p><i>The widening of a road by more than 4 metres and the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre</i></p> <p><i>(b) Free State</i></p> <p><i>i. Outside urban areas:</i></p> <p><i>(ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans,</i></p> <p><i>(hh) Areas within a watercourse or wetland; or within 100 metres from the edge of a watercourse or wetland.</i></p>	<p>Existing roads may require widening of up to 6 m (up to 15 m during construction) and/or lengthening by more than 1 km, to accommodate the movement of vehicles, in areas containing indigenous vegetation. The widening and/or lengthening of existing roads will take place within CBAs, which have been identified within the project site. Widening and/or lengthening of existing roads will also take place within watercourses and/or wetlands or within 100 m thereof.</p>

as described in the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated February 2022 at:

SG 21 Code

F	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
F	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	4	8	0	0	0	0	0
F	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0

MJS

F	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
F	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	1
F	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0

Project Footprint Coordinates (132kV/400kV MTS and BESS to be placed within this footprint)	Latitude	Longitude
A	28° 39.856'S	25° 43.609'E
B	28° 40.095'S	25° 44.228'E
C	28° 40.324'S	25° 44.090'E
D	28° 40.276'S	25° 43.968'E
E	28° 40.319'S	25° 43.594'E
F	28° 40.266'S	25° 43.434'E

Powerline 1 co-ordinates (400kV)		Latitude	Longitude
	Start	28° 39.930'S	25° 43.250'E
	End	28° 40.027'S	25° 43.536'E
Powerline 2 co-ordinates (400kV)		Latitude	Longitude
	Start	28° 39.953'S	25° 43.372'E
	End	28° 40.048'S	25° 43.533'E
Powerline 3 co-ordinates (132kV)- Connection from the proposed MTS to the authorised Kentani on-site substation (14/12/16/3/3/2/724)		Latitude	Longitude
	Start	28° 37.914'S	25° 43.372'E
	End	28° 40.038'S	25° 43.533'E
Powerline 4 coordinates (33kV)- Connection from the proposed MTS to the 75MW Sonoblomo PV facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/723)		Latitude	Longitude
	Start	25° 43.372'E	28° 37.914'S
	End	25° 44.296'E	28° 37.228'S

- for the construction and operation of the 132kV/400kV on-site Main Transmission Substation (MTS) and associated infrastructure located near Dealesville in the Tokologo Local Municipality, Lejweleputswa District Municipality in the Free State Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

The substation will comprise the following:

- Main Transmission Substation: 132/400 kilovolt (kV)
- Road servitude and access roads

- Operation and maintenance (O&M) Building: The O&M Building will be located within the project footprint and will be 1ha in extent.
- Solid state (Lithium-ion) BESS: will occupy an area of up to 4ha within the project footprint

Technical details proposed project:

Component	Details
Project footprint	
Project footprint	68 ha in extent. The MTS and BESS will be placed with this footprint
Main Transmission Substation	
MTS Capacity:	132/400 kilovolts (kV)
MTS Footprint:	Approximately 64 hectares (ha) (i.e., 800m x 800m)
Powerlines	
Connection from the proposed MS to the existing 400kV powerline	
Powerline Capacity:	Two (2) 400kV overhead powerlines
Powerline length:	Approximately 800m
Powerline corridors width:	300m (150m on either side of the centre line)
Powerline servitude	55m per 1x 400kV powerline
Powerline pylons	Monopole or Lattice pylons, or a combination of both where required
Powerline pylon height	Maximum 40m
Minimum conductor ground clearance	8.1 m
Distance between conductors	Between 2.4m and 4 m
Connection from the proposed MTS to the authorised Kentani on-site substation (14/12/16/3/3/2/724)	
Powerline Capacity	One (1) 132kV powerline
Powerline Length	Approximately 4km
Powerline corridors width	300m (150m on either side of the centre line)
Powerline servitude	32m per 1x 132 kV powerline
Powerline pylon :	Monopole or Lattice pylons, or a combination of both where required
Powerline pylon height	Maximum 40m
Minimum conductor ground clearance	8.1 m
Distance between conductors	Between 2.4m and 3.8m

Connection from the proposed MTS to the 75MW Sonoblomo PV facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/723)	
Powerline Capacity:	One (1) 33kV powerline
Powerline servitude:	32 m per 1x 132kV power line
Powerline length:	Approximately 2km
Powerline corridors:	No corridor is considered
Powerline width:	N/A
Powerline pylons:	Monopole or Lattice pylons, or a combination of both where required
Powerline Pylons height:	Maximum 32m
Powerline conductor ground clearance	8.1m
Distance between conductors	Between 2,4 m and 3,8m
Supporting Infrastructure	
Road servitude and access roads	Approximately 4-8 meters wide, connecting to the R64 provincial route
Solid state (lithium-ion) BESS	will occupy an area of up to 4ha within the project footprint
Operations and maintenance (O&M) Building	The O&M Building will be located within the project footprint and will be 1ha in extent

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The construction and operation of the 132kV/400kV on-site Main Transmission Substation (MTS) and associated infrastructure located near Dealesville in the Tokologo Local Municipality, Lejweleputswa District Municipality in the Free State Province is approved as per the geographic coordinates cited in the table above.
2. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation, which form part of the Environmental Authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
3. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.

4. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
5. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this Environmental Authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further Environmental Authorisation in terms of the regulations.
6. The holder of an Environmental Authorisation must apply for an amendment of the Environmental Authorisation with the Competent Authority for any alienation, transfer or change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.
7. This activity must commence within a period of ten (10) years from the date of issue of this Environmental Authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for Environmental Authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
8. Construction must be completed within five (05) years of the commencement of the activity on site.
9. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this Environmental Authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

10. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this Environmental Authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
11. The notification referred to must –
 - 11.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 11.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014;
 - 11.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request;
and
 - 11.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

Commencement of the activity

12. The authorised activity shall not commence until the period for the submission of appeals has lapsed as per the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, and no appeal has been lodged against the decision. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No.

107 of 1998, as amended will suspend the Environmental Authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.

Management of the activity

13. The site layout plans as attached as Appendix 4 (Maps) of the BAR dated February 2022 is approved.
14. The Generic Environmental Management Programmes (EMPrs) submitted as part of the BAR dated February 2022 is approved and must be implemented and adhered to.
15. The Generic EMPrs must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It shall be seen as a dynamic document and shall be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.
16. Changes to the approved EMPr must be submitted in accordance to the EIA Regulations applicable at the time.
17. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the EIA be discovered.

Frequency and process of updating the EMPr

18. The EMPr must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 26 below, indicate insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity, or insufficient levels of compliance with the environmental authorisation or EMPr.
19. The updated EMPr must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
20. The updated EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report, as per Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. The updated EMPr must have been subjected to a public participation process, which process has been agreed to by the Department, prior to submission of the updated EMPr to the Department for approval.
21. In assessing whether to grant approval of an EMPr which has been updated as a result of an audit, the Department will consider the processes prescribed in Regulation 35 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. Prior to approving an amended EMPr, the Department may request such amendments to the EMPr as it deems appropriate to ensure that the EMPr sufficiently provides for avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity.

22. The holder of the authorisation must apply for an amendment of an EMPr, if such amendment is required before an audit is required. The amendment process is prescribed in Regulation 37 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The holder of the authorisation must request comments on the proposed amendments to the impact management outcomes of the EMPr or amendments to the closure objectives of the closure plan from potentially interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, by using any of the methods provided for in the Act for a period of at least 30 days.

Monitoring

23. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an experienced Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the construction phase of the development that will have the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation/rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.
 - 23.1. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
 - 23.2. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
 - 23.3. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
 - 23.4. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.

Recording and reporting to the Department

24. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
25. The holder of the environmental authorisation must, for the period during which the environmental authorisation and EMPr remain valid, ensure that project compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation and the EMPr are audited, and that the audit reports are submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
26. The frequency of auditing and of submission of the environmental audit reports must be as per the frequency indicated in the EMPr, taking into account the processes for such auditing as prescribed in Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

27. The holder of the authorisation must, in addition, submit environmental audit reports to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and a final environmental audit report within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
28. The environmental audit reports must be compiled in accordance with Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended and must indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit in terms of compliance with the environmental authorisation conditions as well as the requirements of the approved EMP.
29. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

Notification to authorities

30. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence, as well as a reference number.

Operation of the activity

31. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

32. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of the authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and Competent Authority at that time.

Specific conditions

Conditions for Non-operational aspects

33. No activities may take place, without the necessary authorisation from Department of Water and Sanitation.
34. Should any archaeological sites, artefacts, paleontological fossils or graves be exposed during construction work, work in the immediate vicinity of the find must be stopped, SAHRA must be informed, and the services of an accredited heritage professional obtained for an assessment of the heritage resources must be made.

35. A permit must be obtained from the relevant nature conservation agency for the removal or destruction of indigenous, protected or endangered plant or animal species and a copy of such permit/s must be submitted to the Department for record keeping.
36. No exotic plants may be used for rehabilitation purposes. Only indigenous plants of the area may be utilised.
37. Construction must include 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.
38. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal where appropriate. Any solid waste must be disposed of at a landfill licensed in terms of Section 20 (b) of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act No.59 of 2008).

General

39. A copy of this Environmental Authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMPr, must be made available for inspection and copying-
 - 39.1. at the site of the authorised activity;
 - 39.2. to anyone on request; and
 - 39.3. where the holder of the Environmental Authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.
40. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the authorisation with the conditions of authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of authorisation.

Date of Environmental Authorisation: 19/04/2022



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the application form received on 18 November 2021.
- b) The information contained in the BAR dated February 2022.
- c) The comments received from South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) Biodiversity Section) and interested and affected parties as included in the BAR dated February 2022.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the BAR and the EMPr.
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the BAR dated February 2022 and as appears below:

Title	Prepared by	Date
Agriculture Impact Assessment	Johann Lanz	27 October 2021
Aquatic Impact Assessment	EnviroSci (Pty) Ltd	14 November 2021
Avifaunal Impact Assessment	SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	November 2021
Heritage Impact Assessment	SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	09 November 2021
Archaeologist and Heritage Consultant	Urban-Econ Development Economists	Jayson David John Orton
Palaeontology	Banzai Environmental Pty Ltd	27 October 2021
Visual Impact Assessment	SiVEST	09 November 2021
Terrestrial Ecology and Plant Theme	David Hoare Consulting (Pty) Ltd	14 November 2021
Terrestrial Plant Species Compliance Statement	Dr David Hoare Consulting (Pty) Ltd	12 November 2021
Geotechnical	SMEC South Africa (Pty) Ltd	October 2020
EMPr	SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	April 2019

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- b) The need for the proposed project stems from the provision of electricity to the national grid.
- c) The BAR dated February 2022 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the BAR.
- d) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the BAR dated February 2022 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- e) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended for public involvement.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the BAR dated February 2022 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The information contained in the BAR dated February 2022 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- d) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- e) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the BAR and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction phase.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the authorised activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the authorised activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/726/AM1

Enquiries: Mr Thando Booï

Telephone: (012) 399 9387 E-mail: TBooi@environment.gov.za

Mr Eugene Marais
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 45063
Claremont
CAPE TOWN
7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4052
Email Address: Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Marais

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 06 JUNE 2016 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 75MW KLIPFONTEIN PHOTOVOLTAIC 2 SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS SUPPORTING ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSED BY SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE FREE-STATE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 06 June 2016, your application for amendment of the EA received by the Department on 16 April 2021 and the acknowledgement letter dated 20 April 2021, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended, has decided to amend the EA dated 06 June 2016, as follows:

Amendment 1: To amend the contact details of the holder of the EA

From:

Mr Michael Mangnall
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 45063
Claremont
CAPE TOWN
7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4058
Email: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

To:

Mr Eugene Marais
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 45063
Claremont
CAPE TOWN
7735

Telephone Number: (012) 657 4052
Email: Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com

The applicant applied to amend the details of the holder of the EA, as the holder of the EA has changed since the EA was issued.

Amendment 2: To extend the validity period of the EA

The activity must commence within a period of five (05) years from the date of expiry of the EA issued on 06 June 2016 (i.e. the EA lapses on 06 June 2026). If commencement of the activity does not occur within this period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.

The applicant applied to extend the validity period of the EA as the development was not awarded preferred bidder status in the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement (REIPPP). The applicant intends to bid this project in the DMRE REIPPP future rounds.

The Department is aware that the environment changes constantly, as a result it might be significantly different from the one that existed at the time of the issuing of this EA, hence the validity of the EA cannot exceed a maximum period of 10 years. Failure to commence with construction activities within the maximum 10 year period, your EA will be deemed to have lapsed and a new application for Environmental Authorisation will have to be lodged.

This proposed amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 06 June 2016.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013) which stipulates that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuses or compromises your personal information in any way.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribe the appeal procedure to be followed.

Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@environment.gov.za;

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria,
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria,
0001;

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@environment.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Date: 29/04/2024

cc:	Abulele Adams	CSIR	Tel: 021 888 2567	E-mail: aadams1@csir.co.za
	Kelehiile Motihale	Tokologo Local Municipality	Tel: 053 541 0360	E-mail: kelehilem@gmail.com
	Monde Walaza	DESTEA: Free State	Tel: 051 400 9417	E-mail: jonasb@destea.gov.za



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road · PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/726

Enquiries: Mr Herman Alberts

Telephone: (012) 399 9371 **Email:** HAlberts@environment.gov.za

Mr Michael Mangnall
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7753

Telephone number: (021) 657 4058
Email Address: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Mangnall

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998: GN R. 543/544/545/546 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 75 MEGAWATTS KLIPFONTEIN PHOTOVOLTAIC 2 SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS SUPPORTING ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSED BY SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The environmental authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 10(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 (the Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 12 (twelve) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's decision in respect of your application as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 7 of the Regulations, which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. This procedure is summarised in the attached document. Kindly include a copy of this document with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties.

Should the applicant or any other party wish to appeal any aspect of the decision a notice of intention to appeal must be lodged by all prospective appellants with the Minister, within 20 days of the date of the EA, by means of one of the following methods:

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria, 0001; or

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria

M.S

If the applicant wishes to lodge an appeal, it must also serve a copy of the notice of intention to appeal on all registered interested and affected parties as well as a notice indicating where, and for what period, the appeal submission will be available for inspection, should you intend to submit an appeal.

Appeals must be submitted in writing to:

Mr Z Hassam, Director: Appeals and Legal Review, of this Department at the above mentioned addresses. Mr Hassam can also be contacted at:

Tel: (012) 399 9356

Email: AppealsDirectorate@environment.gov.za

The authorised activities shall not commence within twenty (20) days of the date of signature of the authorisation. Further, please note that in terms of section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, an appeal under section 43 of that Act will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs

Date: 6/06/2016

cc	Surina Laurie	CSIR	Tel: (021) 888 2490	Email: slaurie@csir.co.za
	Grace Mkhosana	FS DEDTEA	Tel: (051) 400 4812	Email: mkhosana@detea.fs.gov.za
	Kelehile Motlhale	Tokologo Local Municipality	Tel: (082) 043 4477	Email: kelehilem@gmail.com

APPEALS PROCEDURE IN TERMS OF CHAPTER 7 OF THE NEMA EIA REGULATIONS, 2010 (THE REGULATIONS) AS PER GN R. 543 OF 2010 TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE APPLICANT AND INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES UPON RECEIPT OF NOTIFICATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (EA)

APPLICANT	INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (IAPs)
1. Receive EA from the relevant Competent Authority (the Department of Environmental Affairs [DEA]).	1. Receive EA from Applicant/Consultant.
2. Within 12 days of date of the EA notify all IAPs of the EA and draw their attention to their right to appeal against the EA in terms of Chapter 7 of the Regulations.	2. N/A.
3. If you want to appeal against the EA, submit a notice of intention to appeal within 20 days of the date of the EA with the Minister of Environmental Affairs (the Minister).	3. If you want to appeal against the EA, submit a notice of intention to appeal within 20 days of the date of the EA. with the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs (the Minister).
4. After having submitted your notice of intention to appeal to the Minister, provide each registered IAP with a copy of the notice of intention to appeal within 10 days of lodging the notice.	4. After having submitted your notice of intention to appeal to the Minister, provide the applicant with a copy of the notice of intention to appeal within 10 days of lodging the notice.
5. The Applicant must also serve on each IAP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection. 	5. Appellant must also serve on the Applicant within 10 days of lodging the notice, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection by the applicant.
6. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the Minister within 30 days after the lapsing of the period of 20 days provided for the lodging of the notice of intention to appeal.	6. The appeal must be submitted to the Minister within 30 days after the lapsing of the period of 20 days provided for the lodging of the notice of intention to appeal.
7. Any IAP who received a notice of intention to appeal may submit a responding statement to that appeal to the Minister within 30 days from the date that the appeal submission was lodged with the Minister.	7. An Applicant who received notice of intention to may submit a responding statement to the appeal to the Minister within 30 days from the date that the appeal submission was lodged with the Minister.

NOTES:

1. **An appeal must be:-**
 - a) submitted in writing;
 - b) accompanied by:
 - a statement setting out the grounds of appeal;
 - supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal; and
 - a statement that the appellant has complied with regulation 62 (2) or (3) together with copies of the notices referred to in regulation 62.



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 36 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010

The proposed construction and operation of the 75 Megawatts (MW) Klipfontein Photovoltaic (PV) 2 Solar Energy Facility and supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province

Lejweleputswa District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	14/12/16/3/3/2/726
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation:	South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	Remaining Extent and Portion 1 of the Farm Doornrandjes, No. 546; Remaining Extent of the Farm Leliehoek, No. 748; Remaining Extent of the Farm Klipfontein, No. 305; Remaining Extent of the Farm Kentani, No. 953; Remaining Extent of the Farm Oxford, No. 1030; Remaining Extent of the Farm Braklaagte No. 149; Remaining Extent of the Farm Walkerville No. 1031; Remaining Extent of the Farm Boschrand, No. 148; Remaining Extent of the Farm Walvischkuil, No. 749 within Tokologo Local Municipality in the Free state Province

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this environmental authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and the EIA regulations.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 the Department hereby authorises:

SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD

(hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details –

Mr Michael Mangnall

PO Box 45063

CLAREMONT

7753

Telephone number: (021) 657 4058

Fax number: (021) 674 5665

E-mail address: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as “the activity”) indicated in Listing Notices 1; Listing Notice 2 and 3 (GN R. 544, 545 & 546):

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>GN R.544: Activity: 10</u></p> <p><i>“The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity:</i></p> <p><i>(i) Outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts.”</i></p>	<p>The distribution powerline’s voltage does not exceed 33 kV but the transmission powerline connecting the onsite substation to the collector substation will be more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 1:</u></p> <p><i>“The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity</i></p> <p><i>(i) Output is 20 megawatts or more.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed development is for the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 75 megawatts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 3:</u></p> <p><i>“The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or the storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity exceeding 500 cubic metres.”</i></p>	<p>Mainstream is proposing to construct a battery storage facility on site. The battery uses electrolytes which may be deemed hazardous. The storage capacity of the facility will exceed 500 cubic metres.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 8:</u></p> <p><i>“The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV and more.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 15:</u></p> <p><i>“Physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land for residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the total area to be transformed is 20 hectares or more.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the physical alteration of an area of more than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation for transformation to industrial use.</p>

<p><u>GN R.546: Activity 12:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation</i> <i>a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will require the clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>GN R.546: Activity 14:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 5 hectares or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation</i> <i>a) In the Free State Province,</i> <i>All areas outside urban areas."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 5 hectares of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation. The project require more than 150 ha and have minimal disturbed areas.</p>

In terms of Regulation 53 (3) of 2014 Regulations, the competent authority hereby authorise activities which are similarly listed in terms of 2014 Regulations and are as follows:

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>GN R.983: Activity: 11</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity-</i> <i>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts."</i></p>	<p>The distribution powerline's voltage does not exceed 33 kV but the transmission powerline connecting the onsite substation to the collector substation will be more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 1:</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more</i></p>	<p>The proposed development is for the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 75 megawatts.</p>

M.S

<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 4:</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or the storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity exceeding 500 cubic metres."</i></p>	<p>Mainstream is proposing to construct a battery storage facility on site. The battery uses electrolytes which may be deemed hazardous. The storage capacity of the facility will exceed 500 cubic metres.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 9:</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV and more.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 15:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for- (i) the undertaking of a linear activity."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation for the undertaking of a linear activity.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 12:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will require the clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>GN R.985: Activity 12:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation (a) in Free State Province: (a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 5 hectares of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation. The facility require more than 150</p>

<i>NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i>	ha and have minimal disturbed areas.
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as described in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated January 2016 and the additional information received on 18 April 2016 at:

Site coordinates:

	Latitude	Longitude
	28°41'10.62"S	25°44'26.19"E

Substation coordinates:

	Latitude	Longitude
A	28°37'24.01"S	25°44'58.21"E
B	28°37'40.28"S	25°44'57.94"E
C	28°37'40.42"S	25°45'16.38"E
D	28°37'24.23"S	25°45'16.50"E

Powerline corridor:

	Latitude	Longitude
A	28°36'40.72"S	25°44'41.21"E
B	28°38'16.83"S	25°44'55.44"E
C	28°38'22.81"S	25°44'41.22"E
D	28°38'29.07"S	25°44'34.85"E
E	28°39'20.62"S	25°44'14.29"E
F	28°39'30.84"S	25°43'53.20"E
G	28°40'53.99"S	25°42'54.19"E
H	28°43'1.52"S	25°42'2.67"E
I	28°43'8.07"S	25°42'38.55"E
J	28°43'46.36"S	25°42'30.43"E
K	28°43'54.65"S	25°41'36.64"E
L	28°44'12.55"S	25°41'24.28"E

M	28°44'26.18"S	25°41'44.90"E
N	28°44'16.40"S	25°42'49.02"E
O	28°44'10.77"S	25°43'0.20"E
P	28°43'58.47"S	25°43'4.73"E
Q	28°43'27.33"S	25°43'2.53"E
R	28°43'27.15"S	25°42'53.35"E
S	28°43'9.04"S	25°42'49.52"E
T	28°42'13.86"S	25°42'58.05"E
U	28°42'2.07"S	25°43'16.64"E
V	28°41'7.37"S	25°43'28.05"E
W	28°40'55.99"S	25°43'36.14"E
X	28°40'46.54"S	25°43'30.41"E
Y	28°40'18.66"S	25°43'49.00"E
Z	28°40'16.30"S	25°44'4.04"E
AA	28°39'54.79"S	25°44'18.85"E
AB	28°39'50.25"S	25°44'29.73"E
AC	28°39'40.45"S	25°44'20.54"E
AD	28°39'34.76"S	25°44'33.09"E
AE	28°39'37.55"S	25°44'46.51"E
AF	28°38'58.91"S	25°45'1.80"E
AG	28°38'48.14"S	25°44'55.15"E
AH	28°37'28.54"S	25°45'24.80"E
AI	28°36'50.06"S	25°45'18.39"E

- for the proposed construction and operation of the 75 Megawatts Klipfontein PV 2 Solar Energy Facility and its supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

The project components for the Klipfontein PV 2 Solar Facility include:

Solar field

- Solar Arrays

MS

- Solar technology: PV; and
- Mounting system technology: Single Axis Tracking PV, Dual Axis Tracking PV or Fixed Axis Tracking PV.
- Building infrastructure
 - Offices;
 - Operational control centre;
 - Warehouse/workshop;
 - Ablution facilities;
 - Converter station;
 - Battery facility; and
 - On-site substation and substation building.
- Electrical infrastructure
 - 33 kV distribution lines.

Associated infrastructure

- Transmission lines;
- Underground cabling;
- Access roads;
- Internal gravel roads;
- Fencing;
- Operation and Maintenance Area;
- Laydown Area;
- Stormwater channels; and
- Water pipelines.

Technical details for the proposed facility:

Component	Description / dimensions
Height of PV panels	15 m
Area of PV Array	193 ha
Number of inverters required	71
Area occupied by inverter / transformer stations / substations	50 ha
Capacity of on-site substation	33kV/132kV
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	50 ha

Area occupied by buildings	25 ha
Length of internal roads	22 km
Width of internal roads	Less than 8m
Proximity to grid connection	9, 20 km
Height of fencing	3 m
Type of fencing	High Security Barrier

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The proposed construction and operation of the Klipfontein PV 2 Solar Energy Facility and its supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province as described above is hereby approved.
2. The construction of an on-site substation where the power produced will be transmitted via a 132 kV overhead or underground transmission line to the Northern B Collector Substation from where the voltage will be increased and transmitted to the national grid via a 400 kV overhead powerline to the existing Perseus Substation, is approved.
3. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this authorisation, which form part of the environmental authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
4. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
5. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
6. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further authorisation in terms of the regulations.

7. This activity must commence within a period of five (05) years from the date of issue of this authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
8. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.
9. The holder of an environmental authorisation must notify the competent authority of any alienation, transfer and change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

10. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 12 (twelve) calendar days of the date of this environmental authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
11. The notification referred to must –
 - 11.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 11.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in Chapter 7 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010;
 - 11.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 11.4. give the reasons of the competent authority for the decision.
12. The holder of the authorisation must publish a notice –
 - 12.1. informing interested and affected parties of the decision;
 - 12.2. informing interested and affected parties where the decision can be accessed; and
 - 12.3. drawing the attention of interested and affected parties to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against this decision in the newspaper(s) contemplated and used in terms of regulation 54(2)(c) and (d) and which newspaper was used for the placing of advertisements as part of the public participation process.

Management of the activity

13. A copy of the final development layout map must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider
-

such comments. Once amended, the final development layout map must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. All available 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:

- 13.1. Position of solar facilities and its associated infrastructure;
 - 13.2. All sensitive features e.g. heritage sites, wetlands, pans and drainage channels that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - 13.3. All existing infrastructure on the site, e.g. roads, buildings, substations, powerlines etc.;
and,
 - 13.4. All "no-go" and buffer areas.
14. Furthermore, a shapefile of the development layout/footprint must be submitted to this Department within two months from the date of this decision. 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 or 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
Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia, Pretoria
For Attention: Mr Muhammad Essop
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Strategic Infrastructure Developments

Telephone Number: (012) 399 9406
Email Address: MEssop@environment.gov.za

15. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the EIAr is not approved and must be amended to include measures as dictated by the final site lay-out map and micro-siting, and the provisions of this environmental authorisation. The EMPr must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final EMPr must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. Once approved the EMPr must be implemented and adhered to.
16. The EMPr amendment must include the following:
 - 16.1. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIAr and specialist studies attached as part of the EIAr.
 - 16.2. The requirements and conditions of this environmental authorisation.
 - 16.3. 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.
 - 16.4. 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.
 - 16.5. 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.
 - 16.6. A storm water and wash 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 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.

- 16.7. An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion.
- 16.8. An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of any hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use or storage. This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems.
- 16.9. 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.
- 16.10. A fire management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
- 16.11. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmentally sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
- 16.12. The final site layout map.
- 16.13. The final site layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map. This map must reflect the approved location of the PV as stated in the EIAR and this environmental authorisation.
17. The final amended EMPr (once approved) must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It must be seen as a dynamic document and must be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.
18. Should the holder of this environmental authorisation propose any changes to the EMPr, the holder of this environmental authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.
19. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the EIAR be discovered.

Environmental Control Officer (ECO) and duties

20. The holder of this environmental authorisation must appoint an independent and qualified Environmental Control Officer (ECO) with experience or expertise in undertaking ECO functions. The ECO will have the responsibility to ensure that the conditions referred to in this

environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.

21. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activity.
22. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring of this Department.
23. The ECO must meet with the contractors to discuss the conditions of the EA and the contents of the EMPr prior to any site clearing occurring.
24. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.
25. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to the competent authority in respect of this development.
26. The duties of the ECO must include the following:
 - 26.1. Keeping record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
 - 26.2. Keeping and maintaining a detailed incident (including spillage of bitumen, fuels, chemicals, or any other material) and complaint register on site indicating how these issues were addressed, what rehabilitation measures were taken and what preventative measures were implemented to avoid re-occurrence of incidents/complaints.
 - 26.3. Keeping and maintaining a daily site diary.
 - 26.4. Keeping copies of all reports submitted to the Department.
 - 26.5. Keeping and maintaining a schedule of current site activities including the monitoring of such activities.
 - 26.6. Obtaining and keeping record of all documentation, permits, licences and authorisations such as waste disposal certificates, hazardous waste landfill site licences etc. required by this facility.
 - 26.7. Compiling a monthly monitoring report.

Recording and reporting to the Department

27. The holder of this environmental authorisation must keep all records relating to monitoring and auditing on site and make them available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

28. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring at this Department.

Environmental audit report

29. The holder of this environmental authorisation must submit an environmental audit report to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
30. The environmental audit report must:
- 30.1. Be compiled by an independent environmental auditor;
 - 30.2. Indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit;
 - 30.3. Evaluate compliance with the requirements of the approved EMPr and this environmental authorisation;
 - 30.4. Include measures to be implemented to attend to any non-compliances or degradation noted;
 - 30.5. Include copies of any approvals granted by other authorities relevant to the development for the reporting period;
 - 30.6. Highlight any outstanding environmental issues that must be addressed, along with recommendations for ensuring these issues are addressed;
 - 30.7. Include a copy of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr;
 - 30.8. Include all documentation such as waste disposal certificates, hazardous waste landfill site licences etc. pertaining to this environmental authorisation; and
 - 30.9. Include evidence of adherence to the conditions of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr where relevant such as training records and attendance records.

Commencement of the activity

31. The authorised activity must not commence within twenty (20) days of the date of signature of the environmental authorisation.

Notification to authorities

32. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence. This notification period may coincide with the Notice of Intent to Appeal period.

Operation of the activity

33. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

34. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of this environmental authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.

Specific conditions

35. The footprint of the development must be limited to the areas required for actual construction works and operational activities.
36. Clearing of vegetation must be restricted to clearing of areas for development of service infrastructure.
37. Mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and the invasion of alien species.
38. Areas outside of the development footprint, including sensitive areas and buffer areas, must be clearly demarcated (using fencing and signage) before construction commences and must be regarded as "no-go" areas. Contractors and construction workers must be clearly informed of the no-go areas.
39. The holder of this environmental authorisation must train safety representatives, managers and workers on workplace safety. The construction process must be compliant with all safety and health measures as prescribed by the relevant act.
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40. Before clearing of the site, permits must be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) for the removal of plants listed in the National Forest Act and from the relevant provincial department for the destruction of species protected in terms of the specific provincial legislation. Copies of the permits must be kept by the ECO and made available to this Department on request.
41. All areas of disturbed soil must be reclaimed using only indigenous grass and shrubs. Reclamation activities must be undertaken according to the rehabilitation plan to be included in the final EMPr.
42. Topsoil from all excavations and construction activities must be salvaged and reapplied during reclamation.
43. Should any archaeological sites, artefacts, paleontological fossils or graves be exposed during construction work, work in the immediate vicinity of the find must be stopped, the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be informed and the services of an accredited heritage professional obtained for an assessment of the heritage resources to be made.
44. The collection, hunting, or harvesting of any plants or animals at the site is strictly forbidden.
45. Watercourses outside the approved footprint/layout must be treated as "no-go" areas and demarcated as such. No vehicles, machinery, personnel, construction material, fuel, oil, bitumen or waste must be allowed into these areas without the express permission of and supervision by the ECO, except for rehabilitation work in these areas.
46. Underground cables and internal access roads must be aligned as much as possible along existing infrastructure to limit damage to vegetation and watercourses.
47. Anti-erosion measures such as silt fences must be installed in disturbed areas.
48. Cleared alien vegetation must be temporarily stored in a demarcated area. Once clearing is completed, they must be moved to a licenced waste disposal facility.
49. Signs must be placed along construction roads to identify speed limits, travel restrictions, and other standard traffic control information.
50. Should abnormal loads have to be transported by road to the site, a permit must be obtained from the relevant Provincial and National Transport Authority.
51. All construction vehicles should adhere to a low speed limit to avoid collisions with susceptible species such as snakes and tortoises.
52. Leakage of fuel must be avoided at all times and if spillage occurs, it must be remedied immediately. Spill kits must be made available on-site for the clean-up of spills.

53. No dumping or temporary storage of any materials may take place outside designated and demarcated laydown areas, and these must all be located within areas of low environmental sensitivity.
54. Hazardous substances must be stored in a bunded and designated area to avoid accidental leakage into the environment.
55. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation. Where waste is disposed of, such disposal must only occur at a landfill licensed in terms of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008).
56. The holder of this environmental authorisation must take note that no temporary site camps will be allowed outside the footprint of the development area as the establishment of such structures might trigger a listed activity as defined in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010.
57. Foundations and trenches must be backfilled with originally excavated materials as much as possible. Excess excavation materials must be disposed of only in approved areas or, if suitable, stockpiled for use in reclamation activities.
58. Borrow materials must be obtained only from authorised and permitted sites. Permits must be kept on site by the ECO.
59. The holder of this authorisation must train safety representatives, managers and workers in workplace safety. The construction process must be compliant with all safety and health measures as prescribed by the relevant act.
60. Dust suppression techniques must be implemented on all exposed surfaces during the construction phase. Such measures may include wet suppression, chemical stabilisation, the use of a wind fence, covering surfaces with straw chippings and re-vegetation of open areas.
61. The holder of this environmental authorisation must reduce visual impacts during construction by minimising areas of surface disturbance, controlling erosion, using dust suppression techniques and restoring exposed soil as closely as possible to their original contour and vegetation.
62. Monitoring for erosion must take place to ensure that no erosion problems are occurring at the site as a result of the roads and other infrastructure. All erosion problems observed must be rectified as soon as possible as outlined in the erosion management plan within the EMPr.
63. Kerbs and storm water channels must be designed in such a way that they can allow small animals and reptiles to move freely.
64. The holder of this environmental authorisation must comply with the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983) articles 7. 1 and (3) b of Regulation 9238.

65. Top soil and subsoil must be stockpiled separately and replaced according to the correct profile i.e. topsoil replaced last. Stockpiles must not be situated such that they obstruct natural water pathways and drainage channels.
66. Top soil stockpiles must not exceed 2m in height, stockpiles older than 6 months must be enriched before they can be used to ensure the effectiveness of the topsoil.
67. Any fauna directly threatened by the construction activities must be removed to a safe location by a qualified person.
68. The washing of panels during maintenance must be done with biodegradable soaps to avoid soil contamination and poisoning of small animals.
69. Lighting for both the construction period and through the operation of the facility must be of low-pressure sodium type, preferably yellow. All perimeter and security lighting must be attached to motion detectors, and must be dark-sky friendly.
70. Electric fencing must not have any strands within 30cm of the ground, which must be sufficient to allow smaller mammals, reptiles and tortoises to pass through (tortoises retreat into their shells when electrocuted and eventually succumb from repeated shocks), but still remain effective as a security barrier.
71. All new powerlines must be marked with bird flight diverters along their entire length. To create a net benefit, where possible, the new lines must run parallel to existing marked lines so as to reduce the collision risk posed by the older lines.
72. The poles must be fitted with bird perches on top of the poles to draw birds, particularly vultures away from the potentially risky insulators.
73. All pylons to be constructed must make use of "bird friendly" structures, fitted with a bird perch, as per Eskom standard guidelines.
74. The washing of panels during maintenance must be done with biodegradable soaps to avoid soil contamination and poisoning of small animals.
75. During operation, any electrocution and collision events that occur must be recorded, including the species affected and the date. If repeated collisions occur within the same area, then, further mitigation and avoidance measures may need to be implemented.
76. Liaison with land owners/farm managers must be done prior to construction in order to provide sufficient time for them to plan agricultural activities.
77. Dust abatement techniques must be used before and during surface clearing, excavation, or blasting activities.

78. During operation, any electrocution and collision events that occur should be recorded, including the species affected and the date. If repeated collisions occur within the same area, then, further mitigation and avoidance measures may need to be implemented.
79. Excavations must be inspected regularly in order to rescue trapped animals.
80. The recommendations of the EAP in the EIAR dated January 2016 and the specialist studies attached must be adhered to. In the event of any conflicting mitigation measures and conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the specific condition of this Environmental Authorisation will take preference.

General

81. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.
82. A copy of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr must be kept at the property where the activity will be undertaken. The environmental authorisation and approved EMPr must be produced to any authorised official of the Department who requests to see it and must be made available for inspection by any employee or agent of the holder of the environmental authorisation who undertakes work at the property.
83. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this environmental authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the environmental authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the environmental authorisation with the conditions of environmental authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of environmental authorisation.

Date of environmental authorisation: 5/05/2016



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the amended application form dated 26 January 2016;
- b) The information contained in the EIAr dated January 2016;
- c) The comments received from organs of state, the Department of Water and Sanitation, the Road Asset Management Systems Department of Police, Roads and Transport (Free State Province), the South African Heritage Resource Agency, Telkom SA Limited and interested and affected parties as included in the EIAr dated January 2016;
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the EIAr dated January 2016 and the draft EMPr;
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the EIAr dated January 2016 as appears below:

Title	Prepared by	Date
Visual Impact Assessment	Mr Henry Holland	July 2015
Soil and Agricultural Impact Assessment	Mr Johann Lanz	July 2015
Aquatic Impact Assessment	Dr Brian Colloty	July 2015
Heritage Impact Assessment	Dr Jayson Orton	July 2015
Socio-economic Impact Assessment	Dr Hugo van Zyl	July 2015
Terrestrial Ecological Impact Assessment	Mr Andrew Skowno and Mr Simon Todd	July 2015
Avifaunal Impact Assessment	Luke Strugnell	July 2015

- f) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) Details provided of the qualifications of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

- b) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- c) The need for the proposed project stems from the provision of electricity to the national grid in terms of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme as required by the Department of Energy.
- d) The EIAr dated January 2016 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the EIAr.
- e) The description of the environment that may be affected by the activity and the manner in which the physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment may be affected by the proposed activity.
- f) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the EIAr dated January 2016 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- g) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2010 for public involvement.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the EIAr dated January 2016 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- d) The information contained in the EIAr dated January 2016 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- e) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the EIAr and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction process.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the approved activity will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts

resulting from the proposed activity can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/722/AM1

Enquiries: Ms Makhosazane Yeni

Telephone: (012) 399 9400 **E-mail:** MYeni@environment.gov.za

Mr Eugene Marais
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 45063
Claremont
CAPE TOWN
7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4052
Email Address: Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Marais

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 06 JUNE 2016 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 100MW KLIPFONTEIN PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS SUPPORTING ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSED BY SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE FREE-STATE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 06 June 2016, your application for amendment of the EA received by the Department on 16 April 2021 and the acknowledgement letter dated 22 April 2021, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended, has decided to amend the EA dated 06 June 2016, as follows:

Amendment 1: To amend the contact details of the holder of the EA

From:

Mr Michael Mangnall
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 45063
Claremont
CAPE TOWN
7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4058
Email: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

To:

Mr Eugene Marais
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 45063
Claremont
CAPE TOWN
7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4052
Email: Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com

The applicant applied to amend the details of the holder of the EA, as the holder of the EA has changed since the EA was issued.

Amendment 2: To extend the validity period of the EA

The activity must commence within a period of five (05) years from the date of expiry of the EA issued on 06 June 2016 (i.e. the EA lapses on 06 June 2026). If commencement of the activity does not occur within this period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.

The applicant applied to extend the validity period of the EA as the development was not awarded preferred bidder status in the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement (REIPPP). The applicant intends to bid this project in the DMRE REIPPP future rounds.

The Department is aware that the environment changes constantly, as a result it might be significantly different from the one that existed at the time of the issuing of this EA, hence the validity of the EA cannot exceed a maximum period of 10 years. Failure to commence with construction activities within the maximum 10 year period, your EA will be deemed to have lapsed and a new application for Environmental Authorisation will have to be lodged.

This proposed amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 06 June 2016.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013) which stipulates that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuses or compromises your personal information in any way.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribe the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@environment.gov.za;

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria,
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria,
0001;

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@environment.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Date: 26/04/2021

cc:	Abulele Adams	CSIR	Tel: 021 888 2567	E-mail: aadams1@csir.co.za
	Kelehile Motlhale	Tokologo Local Municipality	Tel: 053 541 0360	E-mail: kelehilem@gmail.com
	Monde Walaza	DESTEA: Free State	Tel: 051 400 9417	E-mail: jonasb@destea.fs.gov.za



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road · PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/722

Enquiries: Mr Herman Alberts

Telephone: (012) 399 9371 Email: HAlberts@environment.gov.za

Mr Michael Mangnall
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7753

Telephone number: (021) 657 4058
Email Address: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Mangnall

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998: GN R. 543/544/545/546 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 100 MEGAWATTS KLIPFONTEIN PV SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS SUPPORTING ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSED BY SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The environmental authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 10(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 (the Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 12 (twelve) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's decision in respect of your application as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 7 of the Regulations, which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. This procedure is summarised in the attached document. Kindly include a copy of this document with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties.

Should the applicant or any other party wish to appeal any aspect of the decision a notice of intention to appeal must be lodged by all prospective appellants with the Minister, within 20 days of the date of the EA, by means of one of the following methods:

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria, 0001; or

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria

MS

If the applicant wishes to lodge an appeal, it must also serve a copy of the notice of intention to appeal on all registered interested and affected parties as well as a notice indicating where, and for what period, the appeal submission will be available for inspection, should you intend to submit an appeal.

Appeals must be submitted in writing to:

Mr Z Hassam, Director: Appeals and Legal Review, of this Department at the above mentioned addresses. Mr Hassam can also be contacted at:

Tel: (012) 399 9356

Email: AppealsDirectorate@environment.gov.za

The authorised activities shall not commence within twenty (20) days of the date of signature of the authorisation. Further, please note that in terms of section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, an appeal under section 43 of that Act will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

Date: 6/06/2016

cc	Surina Laurie	CSIR	Tel: (021) 888 2490	Email: slaurie@csir.co.za
	Grace Mkhosana	FS DEDTEA	Tel: (051) 400 4812	Email: mkhosana@detea.fs.gov.za
	Kelehile Motlhale	Tokologo Local Municipality	Tel: (082) 043 4477	Email: kelehilem@gmail.com

APPEALS PROCEDURE IN TERMS OF CHAPTER 7 OF THE NEMA EIA REGULATIONS, 2010 (THE REGULATIONS) AS PER GN R. 543 OF 2010 TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE APPLICANT AND INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES UPON RECEIPT OF NOTIFICATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (EA)

APPLICANT	INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (IAPs)
1. Receive EA from the relevant Competent Authority (the Department of Environmental Affairs [DEA]).	1. Receive EA from Applicant/Consultant.
2. Within 12 days of date of the EA notify all IAPs of the EA and draw their attention to their right to appeal against the EA in terms of Chapter 7 of the Regulations.	2. N/A.
3. If you want to appeal against the EA, submit a notice of intention to appeal within 20 days of the date of the EA with the Minister of Environmental Affairs (the Minister).	3. If you want to appeal against the EA, submit a notice of intention to appeal within 20 days of the date of the EA. with the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs (the Minister).
4. After having submitted your notice of intention to appeal to the Minister, provide each registered IAP with a copy of the notice of intention to appeal within 10 days of lodging the notice.	4. After having submitted your notice of intention to appeal to the Minister, provide the applicant with a copy of the notice of intention to appeal within 10 days of lodging the notice.
5. The Applicant must also serve on each IAP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection. 	5. Appellant must also serve on the Applicant within 10 days of lodging the notice, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection by the applicant.
6. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the Minister within 30 days after the lapsing of the period of 20 days provided for the lodging of the notice of intention to appeal.	6. The appeal must be submitted to the Minister within 30 days after the lapsing of the period of 20 days provided for the lodging of the notice of intention to appeal.
7. Any IAP who received a notice of intention to appeal may submit a responding statement to that appeal to the Minister within 30 days from the date that the appeal submission was lodged with the Minister.	7. An Applicant who received notice of intention to may submit a responding statement to the appeal to the Minister within 30 days from the date that the appeal submission was lodged with the Minister.

NOTES:

1. An appeal must be:-

a) submitted in writing;

b) accompanied by:

- a statement setting out the grounds of appeal;
- supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal; and
- a statement that the appellant has complied with regulation 62 (2) or (3) together with copies of the notices referred to in regulation 62.

MS



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 36 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010

The proposed construction and operation of the 100 Megawatts (MW) Klipfontein Photovoltaic (PV) Solar Energy Facility and supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province

Lejweleputswa District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	14/12/16/3/3/2/722
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation:	South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	Remaining Extent of the Farm Doornrandjes, No. 546; Remaining Extent of the Farm Leliehoek, No. 748; Remaining Extent of the Farm Klipfontein, No. 305; Remaining Extent of the Farm Kentani, No. 953; Remaining Extent of the Farm Oxford, No. 1030; Remaining Extent of the Farm Braklaagte No. 149; Remaining Extent and Portion 1 of the Farm Doornrandjes, No. 546; Remaining Extent of the Farm Walkerville No. 1031; Remaining Extent of the Farm Boschrand, No. 148 ; and Remaining Extent of the Farm Walvischkuil, No. 749 within Tokologo Local Municipality in the Free state Province

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

MS

Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this environmental authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and the EIA regulations.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 the Department hereby authorises:

SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD

(hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details –

Mr Michael Mangnall
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7753

Telephone number: (021) 657 4058
Fax number: (021) 674 5665
E-mail address: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as “the activity”) indicated in Listing Notices 1; Listing Notice 2 and 3 (GN R. 544, 545 & 546):

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>GN R.544: Activity: 10</u></p> <p><i>“The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity:</i></p> <p><i>(i) Outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts.”</i></p>	<p>The distribution powerline’s voltage does not exceed 33 kV but the transmission powerline connecting the onsite substation to the collector substation will be more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 1:</u></p> <p><i>“The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity</i></p> <p><i>(i) Output is 20 megawatts or more.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed development is for the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 100 megawatts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 3:</u></p> <p><i>“The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or the storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity exceeding 500 cubic metres.”</i></p>	<p>Mainstream is proposing to construct a battery storage facility on site. The battery uses electrolytes which may be deemed hazardous. The storage capacity of the facility will exceed 500 cubic metres.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 8:</u></p> <p><i>“The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV and more.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 15:</u></p> <p><i>“Physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land for residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the total area to be transformed is 20 hectares or more.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the physical alteration of an area of more than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation for transformation to industrial use.</p>

M.S

<p><u>GN R.546: Activity 12:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will require the clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>GN R.546: Activity 14:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 5 hectares or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation a) In the Free State Province, All areas outside urban areas."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 5 hectares of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation. The project require more than 150 ha and have minimal disturbed areas.</p>

In terms of Regulation 53 (3) of 2014 Regulations, the competent authority hereby authorise activities which are similarly listed in terms of 2014 Regulations and are as follows:

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>GN R.983: Activity: 11</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity- (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts."</i></p>	<p>The distribution powerline's voltage does not exceed 33 kV but the transmission powerline connecting the onsite substation to the collector substation will be more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 1:</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more</i></p>	<p>The proposed development is for the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 100 megawatts.</p>

M.J

<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 4:</u></p> <p><i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or the storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity exceeding 500 cubic metres."</i></p>	<p>Mainstream is proposing to construct a battery storage facility on site. The battery uses electrolytes which may be deemed hazardous. The storage capacity of the facility will exceed 500 cubic metres.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 9:</u></p> <p><i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV and more.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 12:</u></p> <p><i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation</i></p> <p><i>a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will require the clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 15:</u></p> <p><i>"The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for-</i></p> <p><i>(i) the undertaking of a linear activity.</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation for the undertaking of a linear activity.</p>
<p><u>GN R.985: Activity 12:</u></p> <p><i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation</i></p> <p><i>(a) in Free State Province:</i></p> <p><i>(a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 5 hectares of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation. The facility require more than 150</p>

<i>NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i>	ha and have minimal disturbed areas.
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as described in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated January 2016 and the additional information received on 18 April 2016 at:

Site coordinates:

	Latitude	Longitude
	28°39'36.58"S	25°45'2.01"E

Substation coordinates:

	Latitude	Longitude
A	28°37'24.01"S	25°44'58.21"E
B	28°37'40.28"S	25°44'57.94"E
C	28°37'40.42"S	25°45'16.38"E
D	28°37'24.23"S	25°45'16.50"E

Powerline corridor:

	Latitude	Longitude
A	28°36'40.72"S	25°44'41.21"E
B	28°38'16.83"S	25°44'55.44"E
C	28°38'22.81"S	25°44'41.22"E
D	28°38'29.07"S	25°44'34.85"E
E	28°39'20.62"S	25°44'14.29"E
F	28°39'30.84"S	25°43'53.20"E
G	28°40'53.99"S	25°42'54.19"E
H	28°43'1.52"S	25°42'2.67"E
I	28°43'8.07"S	25°42'38.55"E
J	28°43'46.36"S	25°42'30.43"E
K	28°43'54.65"S	25°41'36.64"E
L	28°44'12.55"S	25°41'24.28"E

M	28°44'26.18"S	25°41'44.90"E
N	28°44'16.40"S	25°42'49.02"E
O	28°44'10.77"S	25°43'0.20"E
P	28°43'58.47"S	25°43'4.73"E
Q	28°43'27.33"S	25°43'2.53"E
R	28°43'27.15"S	25°42'53.35"E
S	28°43'9.04"S	25°42'49.52"E
T	28°42'13.86"S	25°42'58.05"E
U	28°42'2.07"S	25°43'16.64"E
V	28°41'7.37"S	25°43'28.05"E
W	28°40'55.99"S	25°43'36.14"E
X	28°40'46.54"S	25°43'30.41"E
Y	28°40'18.66"S	25°43'49.00"E
Z	28°40'16.30"S	25°44'4.04"E
AA	28°39'54.79"S	25°44'18.85"E
AB	28°39'50.25"S	25°44'29.73"E
AC	28°39'40.45"S	25°44'20.54"E
AD	28°39'34.76"S	25°44'33.09"E
AE	28°39'37.55"S	25°44'46.51"E
AF	28°38'58.91"S	25°45'1.80"E
AG	28°38'48.14"S	25°44'55.15"E
AH	28°37'28.54"S	25°45'24.80"E
AI	28°36'50.06"S	25°45'18.39"E

- for the proposed construction and operation of the Klipfontein PV Solar Energy Facility and its supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

The project components for the Klipfontein PV Solar Facility include:

Solar field

- Solar Arrays
 - Solar technology: PV; and
 - Mounting system technology: Single Axis Tracking PV, Dual Axis Tracking PV or Fixed Axis Tracking PV.
- Building infrastructure
 - Offices;
 - Operational control centre;
 - Warehouse/workshop;
 - Ablution facilities;
 - Converter station;
 - Battery facility; and
 - On-site substation and substation building.
- Electrical infrastructure
 - 33 kV distribution lines.

Associated infrastructure

- Transmission lines;
- Underground cabling;
- Access roads;
- Internal gravel roads;
- Fencing;
- Operation and Maintenance Area;
- Laydown Area;
- Stormwater channels; and
- Water pipelines.

Technical details for the proposed facility:

Component	Description / dimensions
Height of PV panels	15 m
Area of PV Array	363 ha
Number of inverters required	94
Area occupied by inverter / transformer stations / substations	50 ha
Capacity of on-site substation	33kV/132kV
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	50 ha
Area occupied by buildings	25 ha
Length of internal roads	32 km
Width of internal roads	Less than 8m
Proximity to grid connection	5, 10 km
Height of fencing	3 m
Type of fencing	High Security Barrier

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The proposed construction and operation of the Klipfontein PV Solar Energy Facility and its supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province as described above is hereby approved.
2. The construction of an on-site substation where the power produced will be transmitted via a 132 kV overhead or underground transmission line to the Northern B Collector Substation from where the voltage will be increased and transmitted to the national grid via a 400 kV overhead powerline to the existing Perseus Substation, is approved.
3. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this authorisation, which form part of the environmental authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
4. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's

- behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
5. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
 6. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further authorisation in terms of the regulations.
 7. This activity must commence within a period of five (05) years from the date of issue of this authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
 8. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.
 9. The holder of an environmental authorisation must notify the competent authority of any alienation, transfer and change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

10. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 12 (twelve) calendar days of the date of this environmental authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
 11. The notification referred to must –
 - 11.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 11.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in Chapter 7 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010;
 - 11.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 11.4. give the reasons of the competent authority for the decision.
 12. The holder of the authorisation must publish a notice –
 - 12.1. informing interested and affected parties of the decision;
 - 12.2. informing interested and affected parties where the decision can be accessed; and
-

- 12.3. drawing the attention of interested and affected parties to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against this decision in the newspaper(s) contemplated and used in terms of regulation 54(2)(c) and (d) and which newspaper was used for the placing of advertisements as part of the public participation process.

Management of the activity

13. A copy of the final development layout map must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final development layout map must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. All available 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:
 - 13.1. Position of solar facilities and its associated infrastructure;
 - 13.2. All sensitive features e.g. heritage sites, wetlands, pans and drainage channels that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - 13.3. All existing infrastructure on the site, e.g. roads, buildings, substations, powerlines etc.; and,
 - 13.4. All "no-go" and buffer areas.
14. Furthermore, a shapefile of the development layout/footprint must be submitted to this Department within two months from the date of this decision. 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 or 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
Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia, Pretoria

For Attention: Mr Muhammad Essop
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Strategic Infrastructure Developments
Telephone Number: (012) 399 9406
Email Address: MEssop@environment.gov.za

15. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the EIAr is not approved and must be amended to include measures as dictated by the final site lay-out map and micro-siting, and the provisions of this environmental authorisation. The EMPr must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final EMPr must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. Once approved the EMPr must be implemented and adhered to.
16. The EMPr amendment must include the following:
 - 16.1. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIAr and specialist studies attached as part of the EIAr.
 - 16.2. The requirements and conditions of this environmental authorisation.
 - 16.3. 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.
 - 16.4. 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.
 - 16.5. 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.
- 16.6. A storm water and wash 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 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.
 - 16.7. An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion.
 - 16.8. An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of any hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use or storage. This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems.
 - 16.9. 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.
 - 16.10. A fire management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
 - 16.11. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmentally sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
 - 16.12. The final site layout map.
 - 16.13. The final site layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map. This map must reflect the approved location of the PV as stated in the EIAR and this environmental authorisation.
 17. The final amended EMPr (once approved) must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It must be seen as a dynamic document and must be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.
 18. Should the holder of this environmental authorisation propose any changes to the EMPr, the holder of this environmental authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.
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19. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the EIAr be discovered.

Environmental Control Officer (ECO) and duties

20. The holder of this environmental authorisation must appoint an independent and qualified Environmental Control Officer (ECO) with experience or expertise in undertaking ECO functions. The ECO will have the responsibility to ensure that the conditions referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.
 21. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activity.
 22. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring of this Department.
 23. The ECO must meet with the contractors to discuss the conditions of the EA and the contents of the EMPr prior to any site clearing occurring.
 24. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.
 25. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to the competent authority in respect of this development.
 26. The duties of the ECO must include the following:
 - 26.1. Keeping record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
 - 26.2. Keeping and maintaining a detailed incident (including spillage of bitumen, fuels, chemicals, or any other material) and complaint register on site indicating how these issues were addressed, what rehabilitation measures were taken and what preventative measures were implemented to avoid re-occurrence of incidents/complaints.
 - 26.3. Keeping and maintaining a daily site diary.
 - 26.4. Keeping copies of all reports submitted to the Department.
 - 26.5. Keeping and maintaining a schedule of current site activities including the monitoring of such activities.
 - 26.6. Obtaining and keeping record of all documentation, permits, licences and authorisations such as waste disposal certificates, hazardous waste landfill site licences etc. required by this facility.
 - 26.7. Compiling a monthly monitoring report.
-

Recording and reporting to the Department

27. The holder of this environmental authorisation must keep all records relating to monitoring and auditing on site and make them available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.
28. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring at this Department.

Environmental audit report

29. The holder of this environmental authorisation must submit an environmental audit report to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
30. The environmental audit report must:
 - 30.1. Be compiled by an independent environmental auditor;
 - 30.2. Indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit;
 - 30.3. Evaluate compliance with the requirements of the approved EMPr and this environmental authorisation;
 - 30.4. Include measures to be implemented to attend to any non-compliances or degradation noted;
 - 30.5. Include copies of any approvals granted by other authorities relevant to the development for the reporting period;
 - 30.6. Highlight any outstanding environmental issues that must be addressed, along with recommendations for ensuring these issues are addressed;
 - 30.7. Include a copy of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr;
 - 30.8. Include all documentation such as waste disposal certificates, hazardous waste landfill site licences etc. pertaining to this environmental authorisation; and
 - 30.9. Include evidence of adherence to the conditions of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr where relevant such as training records and attendance records.

Commencement of the activity

31. The authorised activity must not commence within twenty (20) days of the date of signature of the environmental authorisation.

Notification to authorities

32. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence. This notification period may coincide with the Notice of Intent to Appeal period.

Operation of the activity

33. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

34. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of this environmental authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.

Specific conditions

35. The footprint of the development must be limited to the areas required for actual construction works and operational activities.
36. Clearing of vegetation must be restricted to clearing of areas for development of service infrastructure.
37. Mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and the invasion of alien species.

38. Areas outside of the development footprint, including sensitive areas and buffer areas, must be clearly demarcated (using fencing and signage) before construction commences and must be regarded as "no-go" areas. Contractors and construction workers must be clearly informed of the no-go areas.
39. The holder of this environmental authorisation must train safety representatives, managers and workers on workplace safety. The construction process must be compliant with all safety and health measures as prescribed by the relevant act.
40. Before clearing of the site, permits must be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) for the removal of plants listed in the National Forest Act and from the relevant provincial department for the destruction of species protected in terms of the specific provincial legislation. Copies of the permits must be kept by the ECO and made available to this Department on request.
41. All areas of disturbed soil must be reclaimed using only indigenous grass and shrubs. Reclamation activities must be undertaken according to the rehabilitation plan to be included in the final EMPr.
42. Topsoil from all excavations and construction activities must be salvaged and reapplied during reclamation.
43. Should any archaeological sites, artefacts, paleontological fossils or graves be exposed during construction work, work in the immediate vicinity of the find must be stopped, the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be informed and the services of an accredited heritage professional obtained for an assessment of the heritage resources to be made.
44. The collection, hunting, or harvesting of any plants or animals at the site is strictly forbidden.
45. Watercourses outside the approved footprint/layout must be treated as "no-go" areas and demarcated as such. No vehicles, machinery, personnel, construction material, fuel, oil, bitumen or waste must be allowed into these areas without the express permission of and supervision by the ECO, except for rehabilitation work in these areas.
46. Underground cables and internal access roads must be aligned as much as possible along existing infrastructure to limit damage to vegetation and watercourses.
47. Anti-erosion measures such as silt fences must be installed in disturbed areas.
48. Cleared alien vegetation must be temporarily stored in a demarcated area. Once clearing is completed, they must be moved to a licenced waste disposal facility.
49. Signs must be placed along construction roads to identify speed limits, travel restrictions, and other standard traffic control information.

50. Should abnormal loads have to be transported by road to the site, a permit must be obtained from the relevant Provincial and National Transport Authority.
51. All construction vehicles should adhere to a low speed limit to avoid collisions with susceptible species such as snakes and tortoises.
52. Leakage of fuel must be avoided at all times and if spillage occurs, it must be remedied immediately. Spill kits must be made available on-site for the clean-up of spills.
53. No dumping or temporary storage of any materials may take place outside designated and demarcated laydown areas, and these must all be located within areas of low environmental sensitivity.
54. Hazardous substances must be stored in a bunded and designated area to avoid accidental leakage into the environment.
55. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation. Where waste is disposed of, such disposal must only occur at a landfill licensed in terms of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008).
56. The holder of this environmental authorisation must take note that no temporary site camps will be allowed outside the footprint of the development area as the establishment of such structures might trigger a listed activity as defined in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010.
57. Foundations and trenches must be backfilled with originally excavated materials as much as possible. Excess excavation materials must be disposed of only in approved areas or, if suitable, stockpiled for use in reclamation activities.
58. Borrow materials must be obtained only from authorised and permitted sites. Permits must be kept on site by the ECO.
59. The holder of this authorisation must train safety representatives, managers and workers in workplace safety. The construction process must be compliant with all safety and health measures as prescribed by the relevant act.
60. Dust suppression techniques must be implemented on all exposed surfaces during the construction phase. Such measures may include wet suppression, chemical stabilisation, the use of a wind fence, covering surfaces with straw chippings and re-vegetation of open areas.
61. The holder of this environmental authorisation must reduce visual impacts during construction by minimising areas of surface disturbance, controlling erosion, using dust suppression techniques and restoring exposed soil as closely as possible to their original contour and vegetation.

62. Monitoring for erosion must take place to ensure that no erosion problems are occurring at the site as a result of the roads and other infrastructure. All erosion problems observed must be rectified as soon as possible as outlined in the erosion management plan within the EMPr.
63. Kerbs and storm water channels must be designed in such a way that they can allow small animals and reptiles to move freely.
64. The holder of this environmental authorisation must comply with the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983) articles 7. 1 and (3) b of Regulation 9238.
65. Top soil and subsoil must be stockpiled separately and replaced according to the correct profile i.e. topsoil replaced last. Stockpiles must not be situated such that they obstruct natural water pathways and drainage channels.
66. Top soil stockpiles must not exceed 2m in height, stockpiles older than 6 months must be enriched before they can be used to ensure the effectiveness of the topsoil.
67. Any fauna directly threatened by the construction activities must be removed to a safe location by a qualified person.
68. The washing of panels during maintenance must be done with biodegradable soaps to avoid soil contamination and poisoning of small animals.
69. Lighting for both the construction period and through the operation of the facility must be of low-pressure sodium type, preferably yellow. All perimeter and security lighting must be attached to motion detectors, and must be dark-sky friendly.
70. Electric fencing must not have any strands within 30cm of the ground, which must be sufficient to allow smaller mammals, reptiles and tortoises to pass through (tortoises retreat into their shells when electrocuted and eventually succumb from repeated shocks), but still remain effective as a security barrier.
71. All new powerlines must be marked with bird flight diverters along their entire length. To create a net benefit, where possible, the new lines must run parallel to existing marked lines so as to reduce the collision risk posed by the older lines.
72. The poles must be fitted with bird perches on top of the poles to draw birds, particularly vultures away from the potentially risky insulators.
73. All pylons to be constructed must make use of "bird friendly" structures, fitted with a bird perch, as per Eskom standard guidelines.
74. The washing of panels during maintenance must be done with biodegradable soaps to avoid soil contamination and poisoning of small animals.

75. During operation, any electrocution and collision events that occur must be recorded, including the species affected and the date. If repeated collisions occur within the same area, then, further mitigation and avoidance measures may need to be implemented.
76. Liaison with land owners/farm managers must be done prior to construction in order to provide sufficient time for them to plan agricultural activities.
77. Dust abatement techniques must be used before and during surface clearing, excavation, or blasting activities.
78. During operation, any electrocution and collision events that occur should be recorded, including the species affected and the date. If repeated collisions occur within the same area, then, further mitigation and avoidance measures may need to be implemented.
79. Excavations must be inspected regularly in order to rescue trapped animals.
80. The recommendations of the EAP in the EIAR dated January 2016 and the specialist studies attached must be adhered to. In the event of any conflicting mitigation measures and conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the specific condition of this Environmental Authorisation will take preference.

General

81. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.
82. A copy of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr must be kept at the property where the activity will be undertaken. The environmental authorisation and approved EMPr must be produced to any authorised official of the Department who requests to see it and must be made available for inspection by any employee or agent of the holder of the environmental authorisation who undertakes work at the property.
83. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this environmental authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the environmental authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the environmental authorisation with the conditions of environmental authorisation as set out in

this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of environmental authorisation.

Date of environmental authorisation: 6/06/2026



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the amended application form dated 26 January 2016;
- b) The information contained in the EIAr dated January 2016;
- c) The comments received from organs of state, the Department of Water and Sanitation, the Road Asset Management Systems Department of Police, Roads and Transport (Free State Province), the South African Heritage Resource Agency, Telkom SA Limited and interested and affected parties as included in the EIAr dated January 2016;
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the EIAr dated January 2016 and the draft EMPr;
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the EIAr dated January 2016 as appears below:

Title	Prepared by	Date
Visual Impact Assessment	Mr Henry Holland	July 2015
Soil and Agricultural Impact Assessment	Mr Johann Lanz	July 2015
Aquatic Impact Assessment	Dr Brian Colloty	July 2015
Heritage Impact Assessment	Dr Jayson Orton	July 2015
Socio-economic Impact Assessment	Dr Hugo van Zyl	July 2015
Terrestrial Ecological Impact Assessment	Mr Andrew Skowno and Mr Simon Todd	July 2015
Avifaunal Impact Assessment	Luke Strugnell	July 2015

- f) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) Details provided of the qualifications of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

- b) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- c) The need for the proposed project stems from the provision of electricity to the national grid in terms of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme as required by the Department of Energy.
- d) The EIAr dated January 2016 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the EIAr.
- e) The description of the environment that may be affected by the activity and the manner in which the physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment may be affected by the proposed activity.
- f) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the EIAr dated January 2016 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- g) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2010 for public involvement.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the EIAr dated January 2016 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- d) The information contained in the EIAr dated January 2016 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- e) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the EIAr and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction process.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the approved activity will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts

resulting from the proposed activity can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/728/AM1

Enquiries: Mr Jay-Jay Mpelane

Telephone: (012) 399 9404, **E-mail:** Jmpelane@environment.gov.za

Mr Eugene Marais
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
P.O Box 45063
Claremont
CAPE TOWN
7735.

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4052
Email Address: Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Marais.

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 6 JUNE 2016 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 100 MEGAWATTS (MW) LELIEHOEK PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS SUPPORTING ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 6 June 2016, and your application for amendment of the EA received by the Department on 16 April 2021 and the acknowledgement letter dated 20 April 2021, refer.

Based on a review of the reasons for requesting an amendment to the abovementioned EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended, has decided to amend the EA dated 6 June 2016 as amended, as follows:

Amendment 1: extension of the validity period of the EA

- i. The activity must commence within a period of five (05) years from the expiry date of the EA issued on 6 June 2016, which lapses 6 June 2021, now extended by an additional five (05) years which lapses on 6 June 2026. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
- ii. This correspondence is only for the extension of the validity period as stated herein above and all conditions set out in the Environmental Authorisation dated 6 June 2016 remain unchanged and must be adhered to.

Amendment 2: change of contact person

From:

Mr Michael Mangnall
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 45063
Claremont
CAPE TOWN

NS

7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4058

Email Address: mike.mangnall@maintreamrp.com

To:

Mr Eugene Marais

South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 45063

Claremont

CAPE TOWN

7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4052

Email: Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com

Reasons for the abovementioned amendment:

The key motivating factor for the request to amend the Environmental Authorisation (EA) validity period, is to ensure that the Applicant has a project that is compliant with the requirements of the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE), Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement (REIPPP) Programme. Due to various reasons, outside of the Applicant's control, the planned announcements and roll-out of bidding rounds have not occurred as previously planned for. As a result, the REIPPP Programme has been delayed, resulting in the project not yet being selected as a preferred bidder, further requiring the need for the EA validity period to be extended. The contact person of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) has changed and the EA needed to be updated to reflect the new contact person which is Mr. Eugene Marais.

The Department is aware that the environment changes constantly, as a result it might be significantly different from the one that existed at the time of the issuing of this EA, hence the validity of the EA cannot exceed a maximum period of 10 years. Failure to commence with construction activities within the maximum 10 year period, your EA will be deemed to have lapsed and a new application for Environmental Authorisation will have to be lodged.

This proposed amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 6 June 2016 as amended.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013) which stipulates that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuses or compromises your personal information in any way.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribe the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2728/AM1

2

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 6 JUNE 2016 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 100 MEGAWATTS (MW) LELIEHOEK PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS SUPPORTING ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

M.S

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@environment.gov.za

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road
Arcadia
PRETORIA
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@environment.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Date: 12/05/2021

cc:	Abulele Adams	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)	E-mail: aadams1@csir.co.za
	Monde Walaza	Free State Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs	E-mail: jonasb@destea.fs.gov.za



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road · PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/728

Enquiries: Mr Herman Alberts

Telephone: (012) 399 9371 **Email:** HAlberts@environment.gov.za

Mr Michael Mangnall
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7753

Telephone number: (021) 657 4058
Email Address: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Mangnall

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998: GN R. 543/544/545/546 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 100 MEGAWATTS LELIEHOEK PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS SUPPORTING ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSED BY SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The environmental authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 10(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 (the Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 12 (twelve) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's decision in respect of your application as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 7 of the Regulations, which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. This procedure is summarised in the attached document. Kindly include a copy of this document with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties.

Should the applicant or any other party wish to appeal any aspect of the decision a notice of intention to appeal must be lodged by all prospective appellants with the Minister, within 20 days of the date of the EA, by means of one of the following methods:

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria, 0001; or

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria

If the applicant wishes to lodge an appeal, it must also serve a copy of the notice of intention to appeal on all registered interested and affected parties as well as a notice indicating where, and for what period, the appeal submission will be available for inspection, should you intend to submit an appeal.

Appeals must be submitted in writing to:

Mr Z Hassam, Director: Appeals and Legal Review, of this Department at the above mentioned addresses. Mr Hassam can also be contacted at:

Tel: (012) 399 9356

Email: AppealsDirectorate@environment.gov.za

The authorised activities shall not commence within twenty (20) days of the date of signature of the authorisation. Further, please note that in terms of section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, an appeal under section 43 of that Act will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs**

Date: 6/06/2016

cc	Surina Laurie	CSIR	Tel: (021) 888 2490	Email: slaurie@csir.co.za
	Grace Mkhosana	FS DEDTEA	Tel: (051) 400 4812	Email: mkhosana@detea.fs.gov.za
	Kelehile Motlhale	Tokologo Local Municipality	Tel: (082) 043 4477	Email: kelehilem@gmail.com

APPEALS PROCEDURE IN TERMS OF CHAPTER 7 OF THE NEMA EIA REGULATIONS, 2010 (THE REGULATIONS) AS PER GN R. 543 OF 2010 TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE APPLICANT AND INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES UPON RECEIPT OF NOTIFICATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (EA)

APPLICANT	INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (IAPs)
1. Receive EA from the relevant Competent Authority (the Department of Environmental Affairs [DEA]).	1. Receive EA from Applicant/Consultant.
2. Within 12 days of date of the EA notify all IAPs of the EA and draw their attention to their right to appeal against the EA in terms of Chapter 7 of the Regulations.	2. N/A.
3. If you want to appeal against the EA, submit a notice of intention to appeal within 20 days of the date of the EA with the Minister of Environmental Affairs (the Minister).	3. If you want to appeal against the EA, submit a notice of intention to appeal within 20 days of the date of the EA. with the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs (the Minister).
4. After having submitted your notice of intention to appeal to the Minister, provide each registered IAP with a copy of the notice of intention to appeal within 10 days of lodging the notice.	4. After having submitted your notice of intention to appeal to the Minister, provide the applicant with a copy of the notice of intention to appeal within 10 days of lodging the notice.
5. The Applicant must also serve on each IAP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection. 	5. Appellant must also serve on the Applicant within 10 days of lodging the notice, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection by the applicant.
6. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the Minister within 30 days after the lapsing of the period of 20 days provided for the lodging of the notice of intention to appeal.	6. The appeal must be submitted to the Minister within 30 days after the lapsing of the period of 20 days provided for the lodging of the notice of intention to appeal.
7. Any IAP who received a notice of intention to appeal may submit a responding statement to that appeal to the Minister within 30 days from the date that the appeal submission was lodged with the Minister.	7. An Applicant who received notice of intention to may submit a responding statement to the appeal to the Minister within 30 days from the date that the appeal submission was lodged with the Minister.

NOTES:

1. **An appeal must be:-**
 - a) submitted in writing;
 - b) accompanied by:
 - a statement setting out the grounds of appeal;
 - supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal; and
 - a statement that the appellant has complied with regulation 62 (2) or (3) together with copies of the notices referred to in regulation 62.

JMS



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 36 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010

The proposed construction and operation of the 100 Megawatts (MW) Leliehoek Photovoltaic (PV) Solar Energy Facility and supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province

Lejweleputswa District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	14/12/16/3/3/2/728
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation:	South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	Remaining Extent of the Farm Constantia, No. 751; Remaining Extent and Portion 1 of the Farm Doornrandjes, No. 546; Remaining Extent of the Farm Leliehoek, No. 748; Remaining Extent of the Farm Klipfontein, No. 305; Remaining Extent of the Farm Kentani, No. 953; Remaining Extent of the Farm Oxford, No. 1030; Remaining Extent of the Farm Braklaagte No. 149; Remaining Extent of the Farm Walkerville No. 1031; Remaining Extent of the Farm Boschrand, No. 148 and Remaining Extent of the Farm Walvischkuil, No. 749 within Tokologo Local Municipality in the Free state Province

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

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Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this environmental authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and the EIA regulations.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 the Department hereby authorises:

SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD

(hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details –

Mr Michael Mangnall
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7753

Telephone number: (021) 657 4058
Fax number: (021) 674 5665
E-mail address: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in Listing Notices 1; Listing Notice 2 and 3 (GN R. 544, 545 & 546):

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>GN R.544: Activity: 10</u></p> <p><i>"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity:</i></p> <p><i>(i) Outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts."</i></p>	<p>The distribution powerline's voltage does not exceed 33 kV but the transmission powerline connecting the onsite substation to the collector substation will be more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 1:</u></p> <p><i>"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity</i></p> <p><i>(i) Output is 20 megawatts or more."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development is for the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 100 megawatts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 3:</u></p> <p><i>"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or the storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity exceeding 500 cubic metres."</i></p>	<p>Mainstream is proposing to construct a battery storage facility on site. The battery uses electrolytes which may be deemed hazardous. The storage capacity of the facility will exceed 500 cubic metres.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 8:</u></p> <p><i>"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV and more.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 15:</u></p> <p><i>"Physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land for residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the total area to be transformed is 20 hectares or more."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the physical alteration of an area of more than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation for transformation to industrial use.</p>

<p><u>GN R.546: Activity 12:</u></p> <p><i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation</i></p> <p><i>a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will require the clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>GN R.546: Activity 14:</u></p> <p><i>"The clearance of an area of 5 hectares or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation</i></p> <p><i>a) In the Free State Province,</i></p> <p><i>All areas outside urban areas."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 5 hectares of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation. The project require more than 150 ha and have minimal disturbed areas.</p>

In terms of Regulation 53 (3) of 2014 Regulations, the competent authority hereby authorise activities which are similarly listed in terms of 2014 Regulations and are as follows:

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>GN R.983: Activity: 11</u></p> <p><i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity-</i></p> <p><i>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts."</i></p>	<p>The distribution powerline's voltage does not exceed 33 kV but the transmission powerline connecting the onsite substation to the collector substation will be more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 1:</u></p> <p><i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20</i></p>	<p>The proposed development is for the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity</p>

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<p><i>megawatts or more</i></p>	<p>output is 100 megawatts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 4:</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or the storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity exceeding 500 cubic metres."</i></p>	<p>Mainstream is proposing to construct a battery storage facility on site. The battery uses electrolytes which may be deemed hazardous. The storage capacity of the facility will exceed 500 cubic metres.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 9:</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV and more.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 12:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will require the clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 15:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for- (i) the undertaking of a linear activity."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation for the undertaking of a linear activity.</p>
<p><u>GN R.985: Activity 12:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation (a) in Free State Province:</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 5 hectares of vegetation where 75% or more of the</p>

<i>(a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i>	vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation. The facility require more than 150 ha and have minimal disturbed areas.
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as described in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated January 2016 and the additional information received on 18 April 2016 at:

Site coordinates:

	Latitude	Longitude
	28°40'56.25"S	25°42'19.55"E

Substation coordinates:

	Latitude	Longitude
A	28°37'24.01"S	25°44'58.21"E
B	28°37'40.28"S	25°44'57.94"E
C	28°37'40.42"S	25°45'16.38"E
D	28°37'24.23"S	25°45'16.50"E

Powerline corridor:

	Latitude	Longitude
A	28°36'40.72"S	25°44'41.21"E
B	28°38'16.83"S	25°44'55.44"E
C	28°38'22.81"S	25°44'41.22"E
D	28°38'29.07"S	25°44'34.85"E
E	28°39'20.62"S	25°44'14.29"E
F	28°39'30.84"S	25°43'53.20"E
G	28°40'53.99"S	25°42'54.19"E
H	28°43'1.52"S	25°42'2.67"E
I	28°43'8.07"S	25°42'38.55"E
J	28°43'46.36"S	25°42'30.43"E

K	28°43'54.65"S	25°41'36.64"E
L	28°44'12.55"S	25°41'24.28"E
M	28°44'26.18"S	25°41'44.90"E
N	28°44'16.40"S	25°42'49.02"E
O	28°44'10.77"S	25°43'0.20"E
P	28°43'58.47"S	25°43'4.73"E
Q	28°43'27.33"S	25°43'2.53"E
R	28°43'27.15"S	25°42'53.35"E
S	28°43'9.04"S	25°42'49.52"E
T	28°42'13.86"S	25°42'58.05"E
U	28°42'2.07"S	25°43'16.64"E
V	28°41'7.37"S	25°43'28.05"E
W	28°40'55.99"S	25°43'36.14"E
X	28°40'46.54"S	25°43'30.41"E
Y	28°40'18.66"S	25°43'49.00"E
Z	28°40'16.30"S	25°44'4.04"E
AA	28°39'54.79"S	25°44'18.85"E
AB	28°39'50.25"S	25°44'29.73"E
AC	28°39'40.45"S	25°44'20.54"E
AD	28°39'34.76"S	25°44'33.09"E
AE	28°39'37.55"S	25°44'46.51"E
AF	28°38'58.91"S	25°45'1.80"E
AG	28°38'48.14"S	25°44'55.15"E
AH	28°37'28.54"S	25°45'24.80"E
AI	28°36'50.06"S	25°45'18.39"E

- for the proposed construction and operation of the 100 MW Leliehoek PV Solar Energy Facility and its supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

The project components for the Leliehoek PV Solar Facility include:

Solar field

- Solar Arrays
 - Solar technology: PV; and
 - Mounting system technology: Single Axis Tracking PV, Dual Axis Tracking PV or Fixed Axis Tracking PV.
- Building infrastructure
 - Offices;
 - Operational control centre;
 - Warehouse/workshop;
 - Ablution facilities;
 - Converter station;
 - Battery facility; and
 - On-site substation and substation building.
- Electrical infrastructure
 - 33 kV distribution lines.

Associated infrastructure

- Transmission lines;
- Underground cabling;
- Access roads;
- Internal gravel roads;
- Fencing;
- Operation and Maintenance Area;
- Laydown Area;
- Stormwater channels; and
- Water pipelines.

Technical details for the proposed facility:

Component	Description / dimensions
Height of PV panels	15 m
Area of PV Array	540 ha
Number of inverters required	794
Area occupied by inverter / transformer stations / substations	50 ha

Capacity of on-site substation	33kV/132kV
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	50 ha
Area occupied by buildings	25 ha
Length of internal roads	45 km
Width of internal roads	Less than 8m
Proximity to grid connection	9 km
Height of fencing	3 m
Type of fencing	High Security Barrier

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The proposed construction and operation of the Leliehoek PV Solar Energy Facility and its supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province as described above is hereby approved.
2. The construction of an on-site substation where the power produced will be transmitted via a 132 kV overhead or underground transmission line to the Northern B Collector Substation from where the voltage will be increased and transmitted to the national grid via a 400 kV overhead powerline to the existing Perseus Substation, is approved.
3. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this authorisation, which form part of the environmental authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
4. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
5. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
6. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations

and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further authorisation in terms of the regulations.

7. This activity must commence within a period of five (05) years from the date of issue of this authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
8. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.
9. The holder of an environmental authorisation must notify the competent authority of any alienation, transfer and change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

10. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 12 (twelve) calendar days of the date of this environmental authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
11. The notification referred to must –
 - 11.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 11.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in Chapter 7 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010;
 - 11.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 11.4. give the reasons of the competent authority for the decision.
12. The holder of the authorisation must publish a notice –
 - 12.1. informing interested and affected parties of the decision;
 - 12.2. informing interested and affected parties where the decision can be accessed; and
 - 12.3. drawing the attention of interested and affected parties to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against this decision in the newspaper(s) contemplated and used in terms of regulation 54(2)(c) and (d) and which newspaper was used for the placing of advertisements as part of the public participation process.

Management of the activity

13. A copy of the final development layout map must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final development layout map must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. All available 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:
 - 13.1. Position of solar facilities and its associated infrastructure;
 - 13.2. All sensitive features e.g. heritage sites, wetlands, pans and drainage channels that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - 13.3. All existing infrastructure on the site, e.g. roads, buildings, substations, powerlines etc.; and,
 - 13.4. All "no-go" and buffer areas.
14. Furthermore, a shapefile of the development layout/footprint must be submitted to this Department within two months from the date of this decision. 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 or 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
Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia, Pretoria
For Attention: Mr Muhammad Essop

Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Strategic Infrastructure Developments

Telephone Number: (012) 399 9406

Email Address: MEssop@environment.gov.za

15. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the EIAr is not approved and must be amended to include measures as dictated by the final site lay-out map and micro-siting, and the provisions of this environmental authorisation. The EMPr must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final EMPr must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. Once approved the EMPr must be implemented and adhered to.
 16. The EMPr amendment must include the following:
 - 16.1. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIAr and specialist studies attached as part of the EIAr.
 - 16.2. The requirements and conditions of this environmental authorisation.
 - 16.3. 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.
 - 16.4. 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.
 - 16.5. 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.
 - 16.6. A storm water and wash 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 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.
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- 16.7. An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion.
- 16.8. An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of any hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use or storage. This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems.
- 16.9. 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.
- 16.10. A fire management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
- 16.11. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmentally sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
- 16.12. The final site layout map.
- 16.13. The final site layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map. This map must reflect the approved location of the PV as stated in the EIAr and this environmental authorisation.
17. The final amended EMPr (once approved) must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It must be seen as a dynamic document and must be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.
18. Should the holder of this environmental authorisation propose any changes to the EMPr, the holder of this environmental authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.
19. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the EIAr be discovered.

Environmental Control Officer (ECO) and duties

20. The holder of this environmental authorisation must appoint an independent and qualified Environmental Control Officer (ECO) with experience or expertise in undertaking ECO functions. The ECO will have the responsibility to ensure that the conditions referred to in this

environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.

21. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activity.
22. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring of this Department.
23. The ECO must meet with the contractors to discuss the conditions of the EA and the contents of the EMPr prior to any site clearing occurring.
24. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.
25. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to the competent authority in respect of this development.
26. The duties of the ECO must include the following:
 - 26.1. Keeping record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
 - 26.2. Keeping and maintaining a detailed incident (including spillage of bitumen, fuels, chemicals, or any other material) and complaint register on site indicating how these issues were addressed, what rehabilitation measures were taken and what preventative measures were implemented to avoid re-occurrence of incidents/complaints.
 - 26.3. Keeping and maintaining a daily site diary.
 - 26.4. Keeping copies of all reports submitted to the Department.
 - 26.5. Keeping and maintaining a schedule of current site activities including the monitoring of such activities.
 - 26.6. Obtaining and keeping record of all documentation, permits, licences and authorisations such as waste disposal certificates, hazardous waste landfill site licences etc. required by this facility.
 - 26.7. Compiling a monthly monitoring report.

Recording and reporting to the Department

27. The holder of this environmental authorisation must keep all records relating to monitoring and auditing on site and make them available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

28. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring at this Department.

Environmental audit report

29. The holder of this environmental authorisation must submit an environmental audit report to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
30. The environmental audit report must:
- 30.1. Be compiled by an independent environmental auditor;
 - 30.2. Indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit;
 - 30.3. Evaluate compliance with the requirements of the approved EMPr and this environmental authorisation;
 - 30.4. Include measures to be implemented to attend to any non-compliances or degradation noted;
 - 30.5. Include copies of any approvals granted by other authorities relevant to the development for the reporting period;
 - 30.6. Highlight any outstanding environmental issues that must be addressed, along with recommendations for ensuring these issues are addressed;
 - 30.7. Include a copy of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr;
 - 30.8. Include all documentation such as waste disposal certificates, hazardous waste landfill site licences etc. pertaining to this environmental authorisation; and
 - 30.9. Include evidence of adherence to the conditions of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr where relevant such as training records and attendance records.

Commencement of the activity

31. The authorised activity must not commence within twenty (20) days of the date of signature of the environmental authorisation.

Notification to authorities

32. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence. This notification period may coincide with the Notice of Intent to Appeal period.

Operation of the activity

33. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

34. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of this environmental authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.

Specific conditions

35. The footprint of the development must be limited to the areas required for actual construction works and operational activities.
36. Clearing of vegetation must be restricted to clearing of areas for development of service infrastructure.
37. Mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and the invasion of alien species.
38. Areas outside of the development footprint, including sensitive areas and buffer areas, must be clearly demarcated (using fencing and signage) before construction commences and must be regarded as "no-go" areas. Contractors and construction workers must be clearly informed of the no-go areas.
39. The holder of this environmental authorisation must train safety representatives, managers and workers on workplace safety. The construction process must be compliant with all safety and health measures as prescribed by the relevant act.
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40. Before clearing of the site, permits must be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) for the removal of plants listed in the National Forest Act and from the relevant provincial department for the destruction of species protected in terms of the specific provincial legislation. Copies of the permits must be kept by the ECO and made available to this Department on request.
41. All areas of disturbed soil must be reclaimed using only indigenous grass and shrubs. Reclamation activities must be undertaken according to the rehabilitation plan to be included in the final EMPr.
42. Topsoil from all excavations and construction activities must be salvaged and reapplied during reclamation.
43. Should any archaeological sites, artefacts, paleontological fossils or graves be exposed during construction work, work in the immediate vicinity of the find must be stopped, the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be informed and the services of an accredited heritage professional obtained for an assessment of the heritage resources to be made.
44. The collection, hunting, or harvesting of any plants or animals at the site is strictly forbidden.
45. Watercourses outside the approved footprint/layout must be treated as "no-go" areas and demarcated as such. No vehicles, machinery, personnel, construction material, fuel, oil, bitumen or waste must be allowed into these areas without the express permission of and supervision by the ECO, except for rehabilitation work in these areas.
46. Underground cables and internal access roads must be aligned as much as possible along existing infrastructure to limit damage to vegetation and watercourses.
47. Anti-erosion measures such as silt fences must be installed in disturbed areas.
48. Cleared alien vegetation must be temporarily stored in a demarcated area. Once clearing is completed, they must be moved to a licenced waste disposal facility.
49. Signs must be placed along construction roads to identify speed limits, travel restrictions, and other standard traffic control information.
50. Should abnormal loads have to be transported by road to the site, a permit must be obtained from the relevant Provincial and National Transport Authority.
51. All construction vehicles should adhere to a low speed limit to avoid collisions with susceptible species such as snakes and tortoises.
52. Leakage of fuel must be avoided at all times and if spillage occurs, it must be remedied immediately. Spill kits must be made available on-site for the clean-up of spills.

53. No dumping or temporary storage of any materials may take place outside designated and demarcated laydown areas, and these must all be located within areas of low environmental sensitivity.
54. Hazardous substances must be stored in a bunded and designated area to avoid accidental leakage into the environment.
55. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation. Where waste is disposed of, such disposal must only occur at a landfill licensed in terms of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008).
56. The holder of this environmental authorisation must take note that no temporary site camps will be allowed outside the footprint of the development area as the establishment of such structures might trigger a listed activity as defined in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010.
57. Foundations and trenches must be backfilled with originally excavated materials as much as possible. Excess excavation materials must be disposed of only in approved areas or, if suitable, stockpiled for use in reclamation activities.
58. Borrow materials must be obtained only from authorised and permitted sites. Permits must be kept on site by the ECO.
59. The holder of this authorisation must train safety representatives, managers and workers in workplace safety. The construction process must be compliant with all safety and health measures as prescribed by the relevant act.
60. Dust suppression techniques must be implemented on all exposed surfaces during the construction phase. Such measures may include wet suppression, chemical stabilisation, the use of a wind fence, covering surfaces with straw chippings and re-vegetation of open areas.
61. The holder of this environmental authorisation must reduce visual impacts during construction by minimising areas of surface disturbance, controlling erosion, using dust suppression techniques and restoring exposed soil as closely as possible to their original contour and vegetation.
62. Monitoring for erosion must take place to ensure that no erosion problems are occurring at the site as a result of the roads and other infrastructure. All erosion problems observed must be rectified as soon as possible as outlined in the erosion management plan within the EMPr.
63. Kerbs and storm water channels must be designed in such a way that they can allow small animals and reptiles to move freely.
64. The holder of this environmental authorisation must comply with the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983) articles 7. 1 and (3) b of Regulation 9238.

65. Top soil and subsoil must be stockpiled separately and replaced according to the correct profile i.e. topsoil replaced last. Stockpiles must not be situated such that they obstruct natural water pathways and drainage channels.
66. Top soil stockpiles must not exceed 2m in height, stockpiles older than 6 months must be enriched before they can be used to ensure the effectiveness of the topsoil.
67. Any fauna directly threatened by the construction activities must be removed to a safe location by a qualified person.
68. The washing of panels during maintenance must be done with biodegradable soaps to avoid soil contamination and poisoning of small animals.
69. Lighting for both the construction period and through the operation of the facility must be of low-pressure sodium type, preferably yellow. All perimeter and security lighting must be attached to motion detectors, and must be dark-sky friendly.
70. Electric fencing must not have any strands within 30cm of the ground, which must be sufficient to allow smaller mammals, reptiles and tortoises to pass through (tortoises retreat into their shells when electrocuted and eventually succumb from repeated shocks), but still remain effective as a security barrier.
71. All new powerlines must be marked with bird flight diverters along their entire length. To create a net benefit, where possible, the new lines must run parallel to existing marked lines so as to reduce the collision risk posed by the older lines.
72. The poles must be fitted with bird perches on top of the poles to draw birds, particularly vultures away from the potentially risky insulators.
73. All pylons to be constructed must make use of "bird friendly" structures, fitted with a bird perch, as per Eskom standard guidelines.
74. The washing of panels during maintenance must be done with biodegradable soaps to avoid soil contamination and poisoning of small animals.
75. During operation, any electrocution and collision events that occur must be recorded, including the species affected and the date. If repeated collisions occur within the same area, then, further mitigation and avoidance measures may need to be implemented.
76. Liaison with land owners/farm managers must be done prior to construction in order to provide sufficient time for them to plan agricultural activities.
77. Dust abatement techniques must be used before and during surface clearing, excavation, or blasting activities.

78. During operation, any electrocution and collision events that occur should be recorded, including the species affected and the date. If repeated collisions occur within the same area, then, further mitigation and avoidance measures may need to be implemented.
79. Excavations must be inspected regularly in order to rescue trapped animals.
80. The recommendations of the EAP in the EIAR dated January 2016 and the specialist studies attached must be adhered to. In the event of any conflicting mitigation measures and conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the specific condition of this Environmental Authorisation will take preference.

General

81. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.
82. A copy of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr must be kept at the property where the activity will be undertaken. The environmental authorisation and approved EMPr must be produced to any authorised official of the Department who requests to see it and must be made available for inspection by any employee or agent of the holder of the environmental authorisation who undertakes work at the property.
83. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this environmental authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the environmental authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the environmental authorisation with the conditions of environmental authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of environmental authorisation.

Date of environmental authorisation: 6/06/2016



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the amended application form dated 26 January 2016;
- b) The information contained in the EIAr dated January 2016;
- c) The comments received from organs of state, the Department of Water and Sanitation, the Road Asset Management Systems Department of Police, Roads and Transport (Free State Province), the South African Heritage Resource Agency, Telkom SA Limited and interested and affected parties as included in the EIAr dated January 2016;
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the EIAr dated January 2016 and the draft EMPr;
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the EIAr dated January 2016 as appears below:

Title	Prepared by	Date
Visual Impact Assessment	Mr Henry Holland	July 2015
Soil and Agricultural Impact Assessment	Mr Johann Lanz	July 2015
Aquatic Impact Assessment	Dr Brian Colloty	July 2015
Heritage Impact Assessment	Dr Jayson Orton	July 2015
Socio-economic Impact Assessment	Dr Hugo van Zyl	July 2015
Terrestrial Ecological Impact Assessment	Mr Andrew Skowno and Mr Simon Todd	July 2015
Avifaunal Impact Assessment	Luke Strugnell	July 2015

- f) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) Details provided of the qualifications of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

- b) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- c) The need for the proposed project stems from the provision of electricity to the national grid in terms of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme as required by the Department of Energy.
- d) The EIAr dated January 2016 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the EIAr.
- e) The description of the environment that may be affected by the activity and the manner in which the physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment may be affected by the proposed activity.
- f) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the EIAr dated January 2016 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- g) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2010 for public involvement.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the EIAr dated January 2016 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- d) The information contained in the EIAr dated January 2016 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- e) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the EIAr and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction process.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the approved activity will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts

resulting from the proposed activity can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/723/AM1

Enquiries: Ms Makhosazane Yeni

Telephone: (012) 399 9400 **E-mail:** MYeni@environment.gov.za

Mr Eugene Marais
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 45063
Claremont
CAPE TOWN
7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4052
Email Address: Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Marais

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 06 JUNE 2016 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 75MW SONOBLOMO PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS SUPPORTING ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSED BY SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE FREE-STATE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 06 June 2016, your application for amendment of the EA received by the Department on 16 April 2021 and the acknowledgement letter dated 22 April 2021, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended, has decided to amend the EA dated 06 June 2016, as follows:

Amendment 1: To amend the contact details of the holder of the EA

From:

Mr Michael Mangnall
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 45063
Claremont
CAPE TOWN
7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4058
Email: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

M.S

To:

Mr Eugene Marais
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 45063
Claremont
CAPE TOWN
7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4052
Email: Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com

The applicant applied to amend the details of the holder of the EA, as the holder of the EA has changed since the EA was issued.

Amendment 2: To extend the validity period of the EA

The activity must commence within a period of five (05) years from the date of expiry of the EA issued on 06 June 2016 (i.e. the EA lapses on 06 June 2026). If commencement of the activity does not occur within this period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.

The applicant applied to extend the validity period of the EA as the development was not awarded preferred bidder status in the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement (REIPPP). The applicant intends to bid this project in the DMRE REIPPP future rounds.

The Department is aware that the environment changes constantly, as a result it might be significantly different from the one that existed at the time of the issuing of this EA, hence the validity of the EA cannot exceed a maximum period of 10 years. Failure to commence with construction activities within the maximum 10 year period, your EA will be deemed to have lapsed and a new application for Environmental Authorisation will have to be lodged.

This proposed amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 06 June 2016.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013) which stipulates that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuses or compromises your personal information in any way.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribe the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@environment.gov.za;

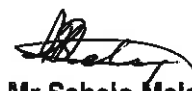
By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria,
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria,
0001;

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@environment.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Date: 26/04/2021

cc:	Abulele Adams	CSIR	Tel: 021 888 2567	E-mail: aadams1@csir.co.za
	Kelehile Motlhale	Tokoloko Local Municipality	Tel: 053 541 0360	E-mail: kelehilem@gmail.com
	Monde Walaza	DESTEA: Free State	Tel: 051 400 9417	E-mail: jonasb@destea.fs.gov.za





environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road · PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/723

Enquiries: Mr Herman Alberts

Telephone: (012) 399 9371 Email: HAlberts@environment.gov.za

Mr Michael Mangnall
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7753

Telephone number: (021) 657 4058
Email Address: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Mangnall

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998: GN R. 543/544/545/546 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE 75 MEGAWATTS SONOBLOMO PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS SUPPORTING ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSED BY SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD NEAR DEALESVILLE IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The environmental authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 10(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 (the Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 12 (twelve) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's decision in respect of your application as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 7 of the Regulations, which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. This procedure is summarised in the attached document. Kindly include a copy of this document with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties.

Should the applicant or any other party wish to appeal any aspect of the decision a notice of intention to appeal must be lodged by all prospective appellants with the Minister, within 20 days of the date of the EA, by means of one of the following methods:

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria, 0001; or

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria

M. S

If the applicant wishes to lodge an appeal, it must also serve a copy of the notice of intention to appeal on all registered interested and affected parties as well as a notice indicating where, and for what period, the appeal submission will be available for inspection, should you intend to submit an appeal.

Appeals must be submitted in writing to:

Mr Z Hassam, Director: Appeals and Legal Review, of this Department at the above mentioned addresses. Mr Hassam can also be contacted at:

Tel: (012) 399 9356

Email: AppealsDirectorate@environment.gov.za

The authorised activities shall not commence within twenty (20) days of the date of signature of the authorisation. Further, please note that in terms of section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, an appeal under section 43 of that Act will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs

Date: 6/06/2016

cc	Surina Laurie	CSIR	Tel: (021) 888 2490	Email: slaurie@csir.co.za
	Grace Mkhosana	FS DEDTEA	Tel: (051) 400 4812	Email: mkhosana@detea.fs.gov.za
	Kelehile Motlhale	Tokologo Local Municipality	Tel: (082) 043 4477	Email: kelehilem@gmail.com

APPEALS PROCEDURE IN TERMS OF CHAPTER 7 OF THE NEMA EIA REGULATIONS, 2010 (THE REGULATIONS) AS PER GN R. 543 OF 2010 TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE APPLICANT AND INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES UPON RECEIPT OF NOTIFICATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (EA)

APPLICANT	INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (IAPs)
1. Receive EA from the relevant Competent Authority (the Department of Environmental Affairs [DEA]).	1. Receive EA from Applicant/Consultant.
2. Within 12 days of date of the EA notify all IAPs of the EA and draw their attention to their right to appeal against the EA in terms of Chapter 7 of the Regulations.	2. N/A.
3. If you want to appeal against the EA, submit a notice of intention to appeal within 20 days of the date of the EA with the Minister of Environmental Affairs (the Minister).	3. If you want to appeal against the EA, submit a notice of intention to appeal within 20 days of the date of the EA. with the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs (the Minister).
4. After having submitted your notice of intention to appeal to the Minister, provide each registered IAP with a copy of the notice of intention to appeal within 10 days of lodging the notice.	4. After having submitted your notice of intention to appeal to the Minister, provide the applicant with a copy of the notice of intention to appeal within 10 days of lodging the notice.
5. The Applicant must also serve on each IAP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection. 	5. Appellant must also serve on the Applicant within 10 days of lodging the notice, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection by the applicant.
6. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the Minister within 30 days after the lapsing of the period of 20 days provided for the lodging of the notice of intention to appeal.	6. The appeal must be submitted to the Minister within 30 days after the lapsing of the period of 20 days provided for the lodging of the notice of intention to appeal.
7. Any IAP who received a notice of intention to appeal may submit a responding statement to that appeal to the Minister within 30 days from the date that the appeal submission was lodged with the Minister.	7. An Applicant who received notice of intention to may submit a responding statement to the appeal to the Minister within 30 days from the date that the appeal submission was lodged with the Minister.

NOTES:

1. **An appeal must be:-**
 - a) submitted in writing;
 - b) accompanied by:
 - a statement setting out the grounds of appeal;
 - supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal; and
 - a statement that the appellant has complied with regulation 62 (2) or (3) together with copies of the notices referred to in regulation 62.



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 36 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010

The proposed construction and operation of the 75 Megawatts (MW) Sonoblomo Photovoltaic (PV) Solar Energy Facility and supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province

Lejweleputswa District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	<i>14/12/16/3/3/2/723</i>
Last amended:	<i>First issue</i>
Holder of authorisation:	<i>South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd</i>
Location of activity:	<i>Remaining Extent of the Farm Overshot, No. 31; Remaining Extent of the Farm Doornrandjes, No. 546; Remaining Extent of the Farm Leliehoek, No. 748; Remaining Extent of the Farm Klipfontein, No. 305; Remaining Extent of the Farm Kentani, No. 953; Remaining Extent of the Farm Oxford, No. 1030; Remaining Extent of the Farm Braklaagte No. 149; Remaining Extent and Portion 1 of the Farm Doornrandjes, No. 546; Remaining Extent of the Farm Walkerville No. 1031; Remaining Extent of the Farm Boschrand, No. 148 and Remaining Extent of the Farm Walvischkuil, No. 749 within Tokologo Local Municipality in the Free state Province</i>

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

M.S

Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this environmental authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and the EIA regulations.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 the Department hereby authorises:

SOUTH AFRICA MAINSTREAM RENEWABLE POWER DEVELOPMENTS (PTY) LTD

(hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details –

Mr Michael Mangnall

P O Box 45063

CLAREMONT

7753

Telephone number: (021) 657 4058

Fax number: (021) 674 5665

E-mail address: mike.mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in Listing Notices 1; Listing Notice 2 and 3 (GN R. 544, 545 & 546):

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>GN R.544: Activity: 10</u></p> <p><i>"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity:</i></p> <p><i>(i) Outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts."</i></p>	<p>The distribution powerline's voltage does not exceed 33 kV but the transmission powerline connecting the onsite substation to the collector substation will be more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 1:</u></p> <p><i>"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity</i></p> <p><i>(i) Output is 20 megawatts or more."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development is for the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 75 megawatts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 3:</u></p> <p><i>"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or the storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity exceeding 500 cubic metres."</i></p>	<p>Mainstream is proposing to construct a battery storage facility on site. The battery uses electrolytes which may be deemed hazardous. The storage capacity of the facility will exceed 500 cubic metres.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 8:</u></p> <p><i>"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV and more.</p>
<p><u>GN R.545: Activity 15:</u></p> <p><i>"Physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land for residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the total area to be transformed is 20 hectares or more."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the physical alteration of an area of more than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation for transformation to industrial use.</p>

<p><u>GN R.546: Activity 12:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation</i> <i>a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will require the clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>GN R.546: Activity 14:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 5 hectares or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation</i> <i>a) In the Free State Province,</i> <i>All areas outside urban areas."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 5 hectares of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation. The project require more than 150 ha and have minimal disturbed areas.</p>

In terms of Regulation 53 (3) of 2014 Regulations, the competent authority hereby authorise activities which are similarly listed in terms of 2014 Regulations and are as follows:

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>GN R.983: Activity: 11</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity-</i> <i>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts."</i></p>	<p>The distribution powerline's voltage does not exceed 33 kV but the transmission powerline connecting the onsite substation to the collector substation will be more than 33 kilovolts but less than 275 kilovolts.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 1:</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more</i></p>	<p>The proposed development is for the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 75 megawatts.</p>

M.S

<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 4:</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or the storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity exceeding 500 cubic metres."</i></p>	<p>Mainstream is proposing to construct a battery storage facility on site. The battery uses electrolytes which may be deemed hazardous. The storage capacity of the facility will exceed 500 cubic metres.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 9:</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kV and more.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 12:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will require the clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetation cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>GN R.984: Activity 15:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for- (i) the undertaking of a linear activity."</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation for the undertaking of a linear activity.</p>
<p><u>GN R.985: Activity 12:</u> <i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation (a) in Free State Province: (a) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the</i></p>	<p>The proposed development will include the clearance of an area of more than 5 hectares of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation. The facility require more than 150</p>

<i>NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment."</i>	ha and have minimal disturbed areas.
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as described in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated January 2016 and the additional information received on 18 April 2016 at:

Site coordinates:

	Latitude	Longitude
	28°36'57.45"S	25°44'23.64"E

Substation coordinates:

	Latitude	Longitude
A	28°37'24.01"S	25°44'58.21"E
B	28°37'40.28"S	25°44'57.94"E
C	28°37'40.42"S	25°45'16.38"E
D	28°37'24.23"S	25°45'16.50"E

Powerline corridor:

	Latitude	Longitude
A	28°36'40.72"S	25°44'41.21"E
B	28°38'16.83"S	25°44'55.44"E
C	28°38'22.81"S	25°44'41.22"E
D	28°38'29.07"S	25°44'34.85"E
E	28°39'20.62"S	25°44'14.29"E
F	28°39'30.84"S	25°43'53.20"E
G	28°40'53.99"S	25°42'54.19"E
H	28°43'1.52"S	25°42'2.67"E
I	28°43'8.07"S	25°42'38.55"E
J	28°43'46.36"S	25°42'30.43"E
K	28°43'54.65"S	25°41'36.64"E
L	28°44'12.55"S	25°41'24.28"E

M	28°44'26.18"S	25°41'44.90"E
N	28°44'16.40"S	25°42'49.02"E
O	28°44'10.77"S	25°43'0.20"E
P	28°43'58.47"S	25°43'4.73"E
Q	28°43'27.33"S	25°43'2.53"E
R	28°43'27.15"S	25°42'53.35"E
S	28°43'9.04"S	25°42'49.52"E
T	28°42'13.86"S	25°42'58.05"E
U	28°42'2.07"S	25°43'16.64"E
V	28°41'7.37"S	25°43'28.05"E
W	28°40'55.99"S	25°43'36.14"E
X	28°40'46.54"S	25°43'30.41"E
Y	28°40'18.66"S	25°43'49.00"E
Z	28°40'16.30"S	25°44'4.04"E
AA	28°39'54.79"S	25°44'18.85"E
AB	28°39'50.25"S	25°44'29.73"E
AC	28°39'40.45"S	25°44'20.54"E
AD	28°39'34.76"S	25°44'33.09"E
AE	28°39'37.55"S	25°44'46.51"E
AF	28°38'58.91"S	25°45'1.80"E
AG	28°38'48.14"S	25°44'55.15"E
AH	28°37'28.54"S	25°45'24.80"E
AI	28°36'50.06"S	25°45'18.39"E

- for the proposed construction and operation of the 75 MW Sonobloomo PV Solar Energy Facility and its supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

The project components for the Sonoblomo PV Solar Facility include:

Solar field

- Solar Arrays
 - Solar technology: PV; and
 - Mounting system technology: Single Axis Tracking PV, Dual Axis Tracking PV or Fixed Axis Tracking PV.
- Building infrastructure
 - Offices;
 - Operational control centre;
 - Warehouse/workshop;
 - Ablution facilities;
 - Converter station;
 - Battery facility; and
 - On-site substation and substation building.
- Electrical infrastructure
 - 33 kV distribution lines.

Associated infrastructure

- Transmission lines;
- Underground cabling;
- Access roads;
- Internal gravel roads;
- Fencing;
- Operation and Maintenance Area;
- Laydown Area;
- Stormwater channels; and
- Water pipelines.

Technical details for the proposed facility:

Component	Description / dimensions
Height of PV panels	15 m
Area of PV Array	155 ha
Number of inverters required	71
Area occupied by inverter / transformer stations / substations	50 ha
Capacity of on-site substation	33kV/132kV
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	50 ha
Area occupied by buildings	25 ha
Length of internal roads	20 km
Width of internal roads	Less than 8m
Proximity to grid connection	1, 50 km
Height of fencing	3 m
Type of fencing	High Security Barrier

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The proposed construction and operation of the Sonoblomo PV Solar Energy Facility and its supporting electrical infrastructure proposed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd near Dealesville in the Free State Province as described above is hereby approved.
2. The construction of an on-site substation where the power produced will be transmitted via a 132 kV overhead or underground transmission line to the Northern B Collector Substation from where the voltage will be increased and transmitted to the national grid via a 400 kV overhead powerline to the existing Perseus Substation, is approved.
3. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this authorisation, which form part of the environmental authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
4. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's

- behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
5. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
 6. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further authorisation in terms of the regulations.
 7. This activity must commence within a period of five (05) years from the date of issue of this authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
 8. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.
 9. The holder of an environmental authorisation must notify the competent authority of any alienation, transfer and change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

10. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 12 (twelve) calendar days of the date of this environmental authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
 11. The notification referred to must –
 - 11.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 11.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in Chapter 7 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010;
 - 11.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation **will** be furnished on request; and
 - 11.4. give the reasons of the competent authority for the decision.
 12. The holder of the authorisation must publish a notice –
 - 12.1. informing interested and affected parties of the decision;
 - 12.2. informing interested and affected parties where the decision can be accessed; and
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- 12.3. drawing the attention of interested and affected parties to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against this decision in the newspaper(s) contemplated and used in terms of regulation 54(2)(c) and (d) and which newspaper was used for the placing of advertisements as part of the public participation process.

Management of the activity

13. A copy of the final development layout map must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final development layout map must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. All available 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:
 - 13.1. Position of solar facilities and its associated infrastructure;
 - 13.2. All sensitive features e.g. heritage sites, wetlands, pans and drainage channels that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - 13.3. All existing infrastructure on the site, e.g. roads, buildings, substations, powerlines etc.; and,
 - 13.4. All "no-go" and buffer areas.
14. Furthermore, a shapefile of the development layout/footprint must be submitted to this Department within two months from the date of this decision. 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 or 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
Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia, Pretoria

For Attention: Mr Muhammad Essop
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Strategic Infrastructure Developments
Telephone Number: (012) 399 9406
Email Address: MEssop@environment.gov.za

15. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the EIAr is not approved and must be amended to include measures as dictated by the final site lay-out map and micro-siting, and the provisions of this environmental authorisation. The EMPr must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final EMPr must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. Once approved the EMPr must be implemented and adhered to.
 16. The EMPr amendment must include the following:
 - 16.1. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIAr and specialist studies attached as part of the EIAr.
 - 16.2. The requirements and conditions of this environmental authorisation.
 - 16.3. 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.
 - 16.4. 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.
 - 16.5. 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.
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- 16.6. A storm water and wash 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 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.
 - 16.7. An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion.
 - 16.8. An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of any hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use or storage. This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems.
 - 16.9. 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.
 - 16.10. A fire management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
 - 16.11. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmentally sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
 - 16.12. The final site layout map.
 - 16.13. The final site layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map. This map must reflect the approved location of the PV as stated in the EIAR and this environmental authorisation.
 17. The final amended EMPr (once approved) must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It must be seen as a dynamic document and must be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.
 18. Should the holder of this environmental authorisation propose any changes to the EMPr, the holder of this environmental authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.
 19. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the EIAR be discovered.
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Environmental Control Officer (ECO) and duties

20. The holder of this environmental authorisation must appoint an independent and qualified Environmental Control Officer (ECO) with experience or expertise in undertaking ECO functions. The ECO will have the responsibility to ensure that the conditions referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.
21. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activity.
22. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring of this Department.
23. The ECO must meet with the contractors to discuss the conditions of the EA and the contents of the EMPr prior to any site clearing occurring.
24. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.
25. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to the competent authority in respect of this development.
26. The duties of the ECO must include the following:
 - 26.1. Keeping record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
 - 26.2. Keeping and maintaining a detailed incident (including spillage of bitumen, fuels, chemicals, or any other material) and complaint register on site indicating how these issues were addressed, what rehabilitation measures were taken and what preventative measures were implemented to avoid re-occurrence of incidents/complaints.
 - 26.3. Keeping and maintaining a daily site diary.
 - 26.4. Keeping copies of all reports submitted to the Department.
 - 26.5. Keeping and maintaining a schedule of current site activities including the monitoring of such activities.
 - 26.6. Obtaining and keeping record of all documentation, permits, licences and authorisations such as waste disposal certificates, hazardous waste landfill site licences etc. required by this facility.
 - 26.7. Compiling a monthly monitoring report.

Recording and reporting to the Department

27. The holder of this environmental authorisation must keep all records relating to monitoring and auditing on site and make them available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.
28. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring at this Department.

Environmental audit report

29. The holder of this environmental authorisation must submit an environmental audit report to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
30. The environmental audit report must:
 - 30.1. Be compiled by an independent environmental auditor;
 - 30.2. Indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit;
 - 30.3. Evaluate compliance with the requirements of the approved EMPr and this environmental authorisation;
 - 30.4. Include measures to be implemented to attend to any non-compliances or degradation noted;
 - 30.5. Include copies of any approvals granted by other authorities relevant to the development for the reporting period;
 - 30.6. Highlight any outstanding environmental issues that must be addressed, along with recommendations for ensuring these issues are addressed;
 - 30.7. Include a copy of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr;
 - 30.8. Include all documentation such as waste disposal certificates, hazardous waste landfill site licences etc. pertaining to this environmental authorisation; and
 - 30.9. Include evidence of adherence to the conditions of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr where relevant such as training records and attendance records.

Commencement of the activity

31. The authorised activity must not commence within twenty (20) days of the date of signature of the environmental authorisation.

Notification to authorities

32. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence. This notification period may coincide with the Notice of Intent to Appeal period.

Operation of the activity

33. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

34. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of this environmental authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.

Specific conditions

35. The footprint of the development must be limited to the areas required for actual construction works and operational activities.
36. Clearing of vegetation must be restricted to clearing of areas for development of service infrastructure.
37. Mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and the invasion of alien species.
38. Areas outside of the development footprint, including sensitive areas and buffer areas, must be clearly demarcated (using fencing and signage) before construction commences and must be

- regarded as "no-go" areas. Contractors and construction workers must be clearly informed of the no-go areas.
39. The holder of this environmental authorisation must train safety representatives, managers and workers on workplace safety. The construction process must be compliant with all safety and health measures as prescribed by the relevant act.
 40. Before clearing of the site, permits must be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) for the removal of plants listed in the National Forest Act and from the relevant provincial department for the destruction of species protected in terms of the specific provincial legislation. Copies of the permits must be kept by the ECO and made available to this Department on request.
 41. All areas of disturbed soil must be reclaimed using only indigenous grass and shrubs. Reclamation activities must be undertaken according to the rehabilitation plan to be included in the final EMPr.
 42. Topsoil from all excavations and construction activities must be salvaged and reapplied during reclamation.
 43. Should any archaeological sites, artefacts, paleontological fossils or graves be exposed during construction work, work in the immediate vicinity of the find must be stopped, the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be informed and the services of an accredited heritage professional obtained for an assessment of the heritage resources to be made.
 44. The collection, hunting, or harvesting of any plants or animals at the site is strictly forbidden.
 45. Watercourses outside the approved footprint/layout must be treated as "no-go" areas and demarcated as such. No vehicles, machinery, personnel, construction material, fuel, oil, bitumen or waste must be allowed into these areas without the express permission of and supervision by the ECO, except for rehabilitation work in these areas.
 46. Underground cables and internal access roads must be aligned as much as possible along existing infrastructure to limit damage to vegetation and watercourses.
 47. Anti-erosion measures such as silt fences must be installed in disturbed areas.
 48. Cleared alien vegetation must be temporarily stored in a demarcated area. Once clearing is completed, they must be moved to a licenced waste disposal facility.
 49. Signs must be placed along construction roads to identify speed limits, travel restrictions, and other standard traffic control information.
 50. Should abnormal loads have to be transported by road to the site, a permit must be obtained from the relevant Provincial and National Transport Authority.
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51. All construction vehicles should adhere to a low speed limit to avoid collisions with susceptible species such as snakes and tortoises.
52. Leakage of fuel must be avoided at all times and if spillage occurs, it must be remedied immediately. Spill kits must be made available on-site for the clean-up of spills.
53. No dumping or temporary storage of any materials may take place outside designated and demarcated laydown areas, and these must all be located within areas of low environmental sensitivity.
54. Hazardous substances must be stored in a bunded and designated area to avoid accidental leakage into the environment.
55. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation. Where waste is disposed of, such disposal must only occur at a landfill licensed in terms of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008).
56. The holder of this environmental authorisation must take note that no temporary site camps will be allowed outside the footprint of the development area as the establishment of such structures might trigger a listed activity as defined in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010.
57. Foundations and trenches must be backfilled with originally excavated materials as much as possible. Excess excavation materials must be disposed of only in approved areas or, if suitable, stockpiled for use in reclamation activities.
58. Borrow materials must be obtained only from authorised and permitted sites. Permits must be kept on site by the ECO.
59. The holder of this authorisation must train safety representatives, managers and workers in workplace safety. The construction process must be compliant with all safety and health measures as prescribed by the relevant act.
60. Dust suppression techniques must be implemented on all exposed surfaces during the construction phase. Such measures may include wet suppression, chemical stabilisation, the use of a wind fence, covering surfaces with straw chippings and re-vegetation of open areas.
61. The holder of this environmental authorisation must reduce visual impacts during construction by minimising areas of surface disturbance, controlling erosion, using dust suppression techniques and restoring exposed soil as closely as possible to their original contour and vegetation.
62. Monitoring for erosion must take place to ensure that no erosion problems are occurring at the site as a result of the roads and other infrastructure. All erosion problems observed must be rectified as soon as possible as outlined in the erosion management plan within the EMPr.

63. Kerbs and storm water channels must be designed in such a way that they can allow small animals and reptiles to move freely.
 64. The holder of this environmental authorisation must comply with the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983) articles 7. 1 and (3) b of Regulation 9238.
 65. Top soil and subsoil must be stockpiled separately and replaced according to the correct profile i.e. topsoil replaced last. Stockpiles must not be situated such that they obstruct natural water pathways and drainage channels.
 66. Top soil stockpiles must not exceed 2m in height, stockpiles older than 6 months must be enriched before they can be used to ensure the effectiveness of the topsoil.
 67. Any fauna directly threatened by the construction activities must be removed to a safe location by a qualified person.
 68. The washing of panels during maintenance must be done with biodegradable soaps to avoid soil contamination and poisoning of small animals.
 69. Lighting for both the construction period and through the operation of the facility must be of low-pressure sodium type, preferably yellow. All perimeter and security lighting must be attached to motion detectors, and must be dark-sky friendly.
 70. Electric fencing must not have any strands within 30cm of the ground, which must be sufficient to allow smaller mammals, reptiles and tortoises to pass through (tortoises retreat into their shells when electrocuted and eventually succumb from repeated shocks), but still remain effective as a security barrier.
 71. All new powerlines must be marked with bird flight diverters along their entire length. To create a net benefit, where possible, the new lines must run parallel to existing marked lines so as to reduce the collision risk posed by the older lines.
 72. The poles must be fitted with bird perches on top of the poles to draw birds, particularly vultures away from the potentially risky insulators.
 73. All pylons to be constructed must make use of "bird friendly" structures, fitted with a bird perch, as per Eskom standard guidelines.
 74. The washing of panels during maintenance must be done with biodegradable soaps to avoid soil contamination and poisoning of small animals.
 75. During operation, any electrocution and collision events that occur must be recorded, including the species affected and the date. If repeated collisions occur within the same area, then, further mitigation and avoidance measures may need to be implemented.
 76. Liaison with land owners/farm managers must be done prior to construction in order to provide sufficient time for them to plan agricultural activities.
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77. Dust abatement techniques must be used before and during surface clearing, excavation, or blasting activities.
78. During operation, any electrocution and collision events that occur should be recorded, including the species affected and the date. If repeated collisions occur within the same area, then, further mitigation and avoidance measures may need to be implemented.
79. Excavations must be inspected regularly in order to rescue trapped animals.
80. The recommendations of the EAP in the EIAR dated January 2016 and the specialist studies attached must be adhered to. In the event of any conflicting mitigation measures and conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the specific condition of this Environmental Authorisation will take preference.

General

81. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.
82. A copy of this environmental authorisation and the approved EMPr must be kept at the property where the activity will be undertaken. The environmental authorisation and approved EMPr must be produced to any authorised official of the Department who requests to see it and must be made available for inspection by any employee or agent of the holder of the environmental authorisation who undertakes work at the property.
83. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this environmental authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the environmental authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the environmental authorisation with the conditions of environmental authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of environmental authorisation.

Date of environmental authorisation: 6/06/2016



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

M.S

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration –

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the amended application form dated 26 January 2016;
- b) The information contained in the EIAr dated January 2016;
- c) The comments received from organs of state, the Department of Water and Sanitation, the Road Asset Management Systems Department of Police, Roads and Transport (Free State Province), the South African Heritage Resource Agency, Telkom SA Limited and interested and affected parties as included in the EIAr dated January 2016;
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the EIAr dated January 2016 and the draft EMPr;
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the EIAr dated January 2016 as appears below:

Title	Prepared by	Date
Visual Impact Assessment	Mr Henry Holland	July 2015
Soil and Agricultural Impact Assessment	Mr Johann Lanz	July 2015
Aquatic Impact Assessment	Dr Brian Colloty	July 2015
Heritage Impact Assessment	Dr Jayson Orton	July 2015
Socio-economic Impact Assessment	Dr Hugo van Zyl	July 2015
Terrestrial Ecological Impact Assessment	Mr Andrew Skowno and Mr Simon Todd	July 2015
Avifaunal Impact Assessment	Luke Strugnell	July 2015

- f) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) Details provided of the qualifications of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

- b) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- c) The need for the proposed project stems from the provision of electricity to the national grid in terms of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme as required by the Department of Energy.
- d) The EIAr dated January 2016 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the EIAr.
- e) The description of the environment that may be affected by the activity and the manner in which the physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment may be affected by the proposed activity.
- f) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the EIAr dated January 2016 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- g) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2010 for public involvement.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the EIAr dated January 2016 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- d) The information contained in the EIAr dated January 2016 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- e) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the EIAr and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction process.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the approved activity will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts

resulting from the proposed activity can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.