

APPENDIX E7
Minutes of Meetings

**PROPOSED NORTHAM SOLAR
PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY
LOCATED NEAR NORTHAM, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

**MEETING NOTES OF FOCUS GROUP MEETING WITH THE THABAZIMBI
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND THE WATERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
HELD ON THURSDAY, 03 AUGUST 2021 at 13:00
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com**

***Please note that these notes are not verbatim, but a summary of the comments submitted at the meeting.
Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address***

PROPOSED NORTHAM SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY, LOCATED NEAR NORTHAM, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Position
Waterberg District Municipality	
Vincent Raphunga	Air Quality Officer
Stanley Koenaitse	Air Quality Officer
Northam Platinum Limited and The Energy Group	
Mark Clarence	New Business Manager – Northam Platinum Limited
Sonwabiso Ndaki	Environmental Co-ordinator – Northam Zondereinde Mine
Tim Hill	Director – The Energy Group
Paula-Ann Novotny	Legal Consultant - Webber Wentzel Attorneys
Savannah Environmental	
Jo-Anne Thomas	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Mmakoena Mmola	
Nicolene Venter	Public Participation & Social Consultant
Tumelo Mathulwe	Public Participation Consultant

APOLOGIES

- Sandra Gore – Northam Platinum Limited

The Attendance Record is attached as **Appendix A** to the meeting notes.

Nicolene Venter welcomed the attendees at the Focus Group Meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

Mmakoena Mmola presented the following:

- project description for the proposed Northam Solar Photovoltaic (PV) facility;
- the Basic Assessment (BA) and public participation processes followed to date;
- the environmental studies undertaken;
- key summary of the results of the various environmental studies undertaken as documented in the BA Report;
- summary of the direct, indirect and cumulative impacts; and
- the way forward after the meeting.

The presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Sonwabiso Ndaki	
<p>Sought clarity on the placement of the site notices.</p>	<p>Nicolene Venter responded that site notices were placed at the entrance to the mine and process notices were placed on the corner of Brits Road and Botha Road.</p> <p>Mmakoena Mmola added that the site notice was placed at the entrance to the mining area and not the smelter.</p> <p>Post-meeting note: The exact points where the site notices were placed are as follows:</p> <p>Site Notice 1 (entrance to the mine offices): 24°49'48.63"S, 27°20'28.43"E.</p> <p>Site Notice 2 (Corner of Brits Road and Botha Road): 24°57'25.81"S, 27°15'48.71"E</p>
Vincent Raphunga	
<p>Asked what methods had been used to consult with communities.</p>	<p>Nicolene Venter responded that the initial consultation has taken part through the ward councilor and a meeting with the Zondereinde Mine stakeholder manager is to be convened to discuss how the broader community and/or their representatives can be informed and consulted.</p> <p>Mmakoena Mmola added that an advertisement was placed in the Rustenburg Herald newspaper on 16th July 2021, site notices were placed on site and notification letters were distributed to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) as identified.</p> <p>Nicolene Venter further added that should virtual meetings be a limitation to consultation with community representatives, the Savannah Environmental project team would discuss how to best consult with the parties, taking the current Covid-19 pandemic and restrictions into consideration.</p>

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Nicolene Venter thanked the participants for making time available to attend the public meeting. The meeting was closed at 13h50.

APPENDIX A: Attendance Register

(According to time stamp)

Full Name	Join Time
Tumelo Mathulwe	8/3/2021, 12:46:29 PM
Nicolene Venter	8/3/2021, 12:46:49 PM
Mmakoena Mmola	8/3/2021, 12:53:25 PM
Mark Clarence	8/3/2021, 12:57:36 PM
Paula-Ann Novotny	8/3/2021, 1:00:01 PM
Jo-Anne Thomas	8/3/2021, 1:00:04 PM
Stanley Koenaitse	8/3/2021, 1:01:54 PM
Vincent Raphunga	8/3/2021, 1:03:35 PM
Sonwabiso Ndaki	8/3/2021, 1:04:29 PM
Tim Hill	8/3/2021, 1:12:40 PM

**10MW Northam Solar Photovoltaic (PV)
Energy Facility and associated infrastructure,
near Northam, Limpopo Province**

**Focus Group Meetings
August 2021**

AGENDA

- Welcome and Introduction
- Meeting Conduct
- Project Overview
- Environmental Studies & Findings
- Discussion
- Way Forward

CONDUCT OF THE MEETING

- Recording of meeting
- Please stay on mute during the presentation 
- Register attendance on Chat  function (name, surname & affiliation)
- Please raise your hand  to indicate comment or to raise a question
- Questions submitted in Chat function will be responded to after the presentation
- Equal opportunity for input and queries

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

- Provide stakeholders and I&APs with an overview of the proposed project
- Summary of the **Basic Assessment (BA) Process & Public Participation Process** being undertaken
- Present summary of the key environmental findings
- Provide stakeholders the opportunity to seek clarity regarding the project and environmental studies
- Obtain and record comments for inclusion in the **Final BA Report** to be submitted to the LDEDET

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Mmakoena Mmola

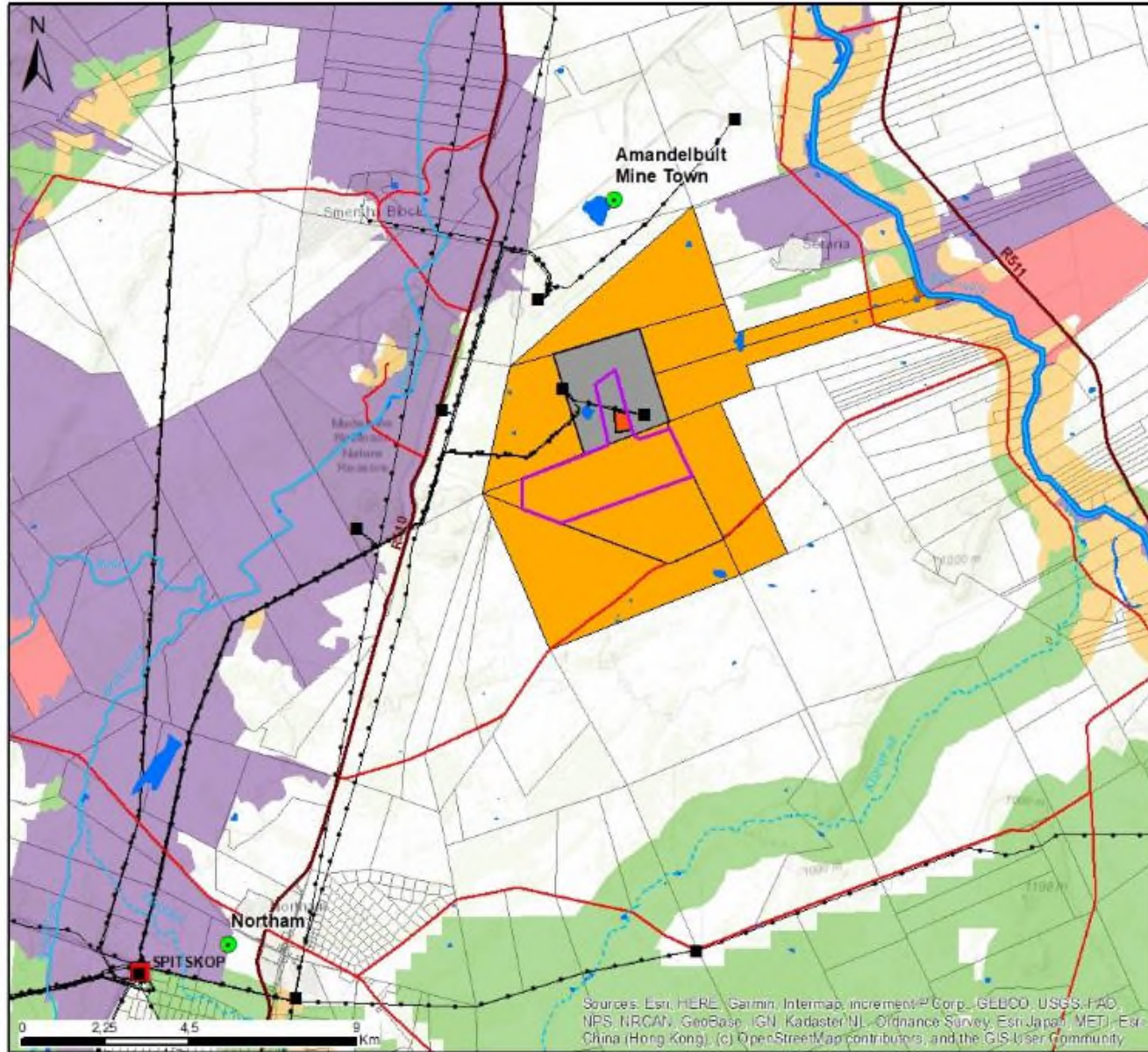
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Northam Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility

Applicant	Northam Platinum Limited
Location	Portion 2 of the Farm Zondereinde 384, located ~35km south of Thabazimbi and 18km northwest of Northam in the Thabazimbi Local Municipality, Waterberg District, Limpopo Province
Contracted Capacity	10MW
Infrastructure details	<p>Between 80 000 – 110 000 panels (fixed tile, single or double axis tracking PV technology)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Height: ~3.5m from ground level (installed)- Constructed over an area of up to 20ha <p>On-site facility substation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Approximately 1 ha in aerial extent.- The substation will facilitate the connection between the solar PV facility and mine electrical distribution system- Located within the project area, close to the site access point <p>Grid connection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 33kV power line (to be operated at 6.6kV)- Length up to ~500m from tie-in point,- Height up to 5.5m . <p>Temporary laydown area, access road, internal gravel roads, inverters and transformers, cabling between project components, combined gatehouse, site offices and storage facility</p>

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- The purpose of the facility is to generate electricity for exclusive use by the Zondereinde Mine, following which any excess power produced will be distributed to the national grid, if applicable.
- The construction of the PV facility aims to reduce the Zondereinde Mine's dependency on direct supply from Eskom's national grid for operation activities, while simultaneously decreasing the mine's carbon footprint.



Northam Platinum PV Plant Limpopo Province

Locality Map

Legend

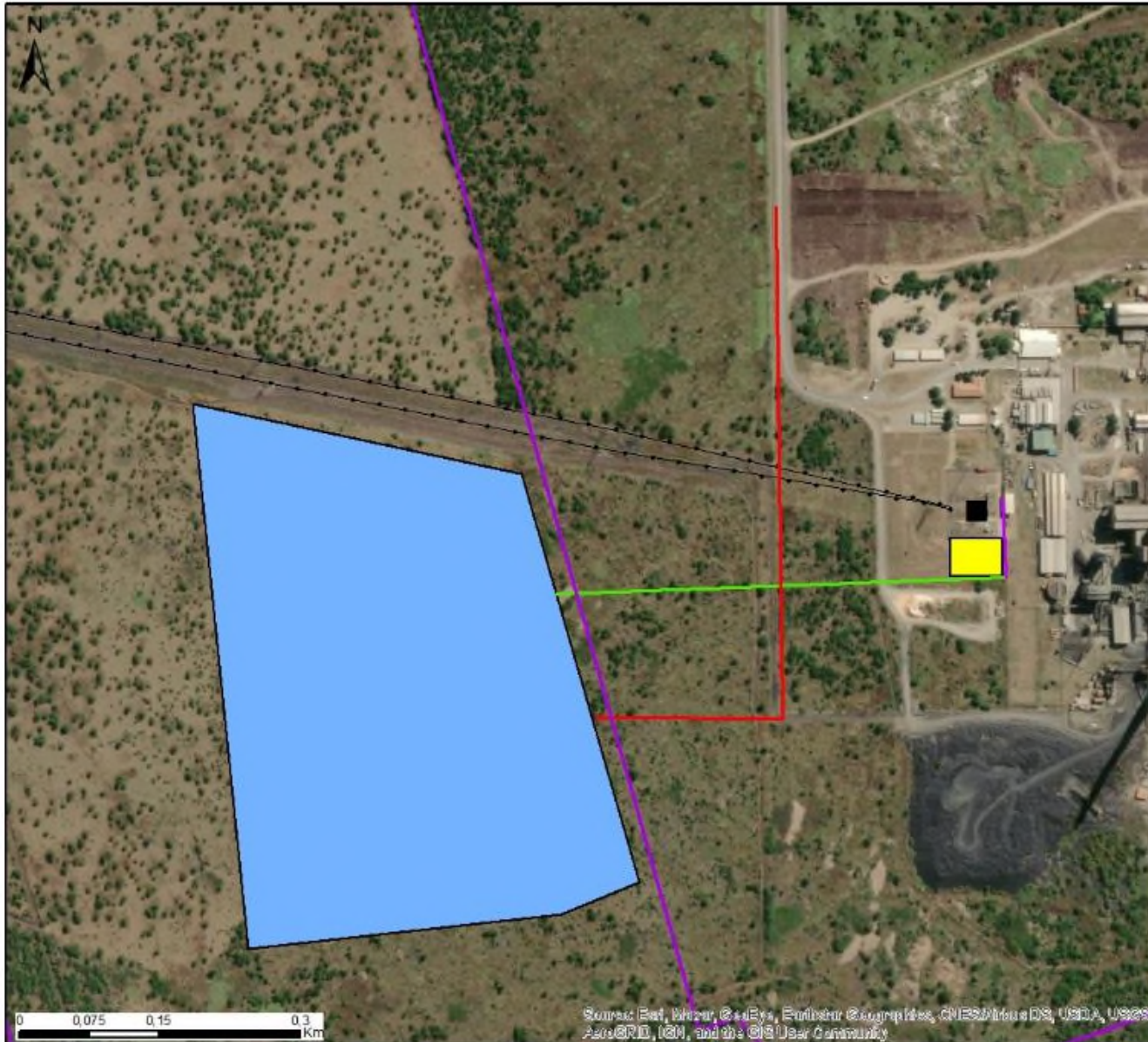
- Town
 - Existing Substation
 - Loader Substation
 - Existing Power Line
 - Main Road
 - Regional Road
 - Non-Perennial River
 - Perennial River
 - NFEPA Wetlands
 - Study Area
 - Project Area
 - Farm Portions
 - Affected Properties
 - Adjacent Properties
- Limpopo CBA**
- CBA1
 - CBA2
 - ESA1
 - ESA2

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environment

Scale: 1:100 000
Projection: UTM WGS 1984
Data: Northam Platinum PV Locality



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User community



Northam Platinum PV Plant Limpopo Province

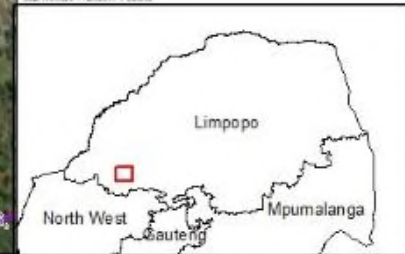
Layout Map

Legend

- Eskom Substation
- Existing Power Line
- Access Road
- Cable
- Overhead Line
- Project Area
- Planned Substation Expansion
- Study Area

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Scale: 1:4 871
Projection: UTM WGS 84
Map: Northam Platinum PV Layout



Source: Esri, DeLorme, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

BA PROCESS & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

PHASE 1 Notification of BA Process

1. Application form – LDEDET
2. Site notices
3. Written notification and BID – I&APs and Stakeholders
4. Public feedback/comment

PHASE 2 Basic Assessment

1. Consultation - Stakeholders & I&APs
2. Public Review – BA Report and EMPr
3. Final Basic Assessment to LDEDET

PHASE 3 Decision Making

1. Authority Review - Final BA Report & EMPr
2. Inform I&APs of decision
3. Appeals Process

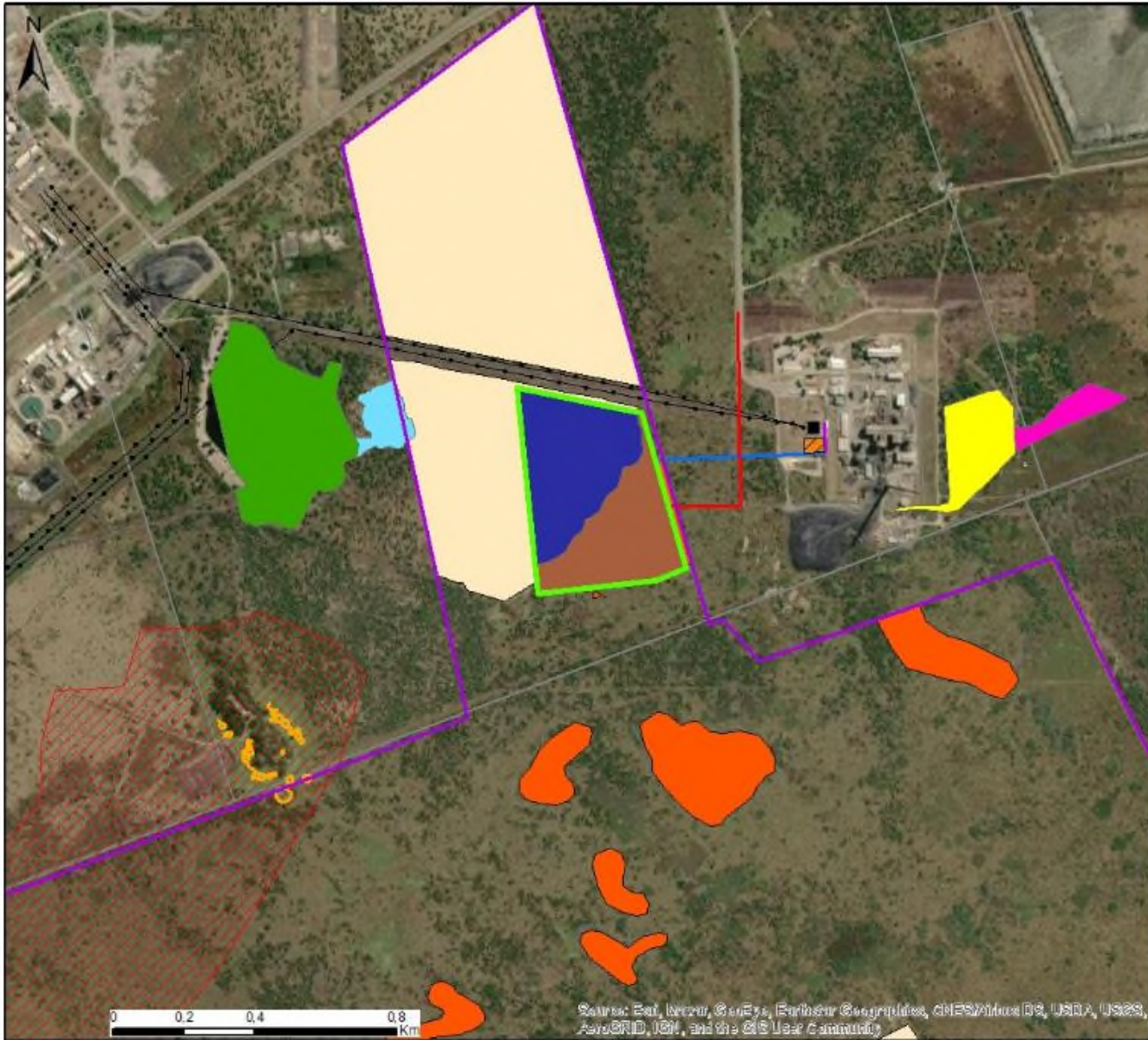
SPECIALIST STUDIES

Specialist	Field of study
Marnus Erasmus of The Biodiversity Company	Terrestrial Ecology (including fauna and flora) Aquatic Ecology (wetlands)
Tyron Clark of The Biodiversity Company	Avifauna
Mariné Pienaar of TerraAfrica Consult cc	Soil, Land Use, Land Capability and Agricultural Potential
Jenna Lavin and Nicholas Wiltshire of Cedar Tower Services	Heritage (including archaeology and palaeontology)

A Social Impact Assessment was not undertaken for the project due to the location and extent of the project and limited employment opportunities (~100 temporary employment opportunities during the construction phase, 10-12 full-time employment opportunities during the operational phase, and ~30 temporary employment opportunities during the decommissioning phase).

OVERVIEW OF SENSITIVITIES

Environmental Aspect	Sensitivities and associated buffers
Ecological and Wetland	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All wetland features are deemed to be of high ecological sensitivity and a 22m 'no-go' buffer around them is recommended.
Avifauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The wetland areas are deemed as important for avifauna and assigned a Very High importance and sensitivity.Wetland species account for the bulk of the regionally occurring avifauna Species of Conservation Concern, which are most susceptible to collision with solar panels.
Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The koppies located in the broader area outside the development area were assigned a High heritage sensitivity. Developers are therefore required to avoid these areas.
Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No sensitive regions or buffers applicable



Northam Platinum PV Plant Limpopo Province

Layout and Sensitivity Map

Legend

- Eskom Substation
- Existing Power Line
- Access Road
- Cable
- Overhead Line
- ▭ Project Area
- ▨ Planned Substation Expansion
- ▭ Study Area
- ▭ Farm Portions

Environmental Sensitivities

- Stonewalling Outlines
- ▨ Archaeologically Sensitive Area
- ▭ Degraded Bushveld (Medium Sensitivity)
- ▭ Rocky Outcrops (Medium Sensitivity)
- ▭ Low Soil Sensitivity
- ▭ Medium Soil sensitivity

Delineations

- ▭ Impoundment
- ▭ Seep
- ▭ Smelter Dam
- ▭ Smelter Drainage

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Scale: 1:10 000
Projection: UTM 36Q UTM, 1984
Map: Northam Platinum PV Layout and Sensitivity



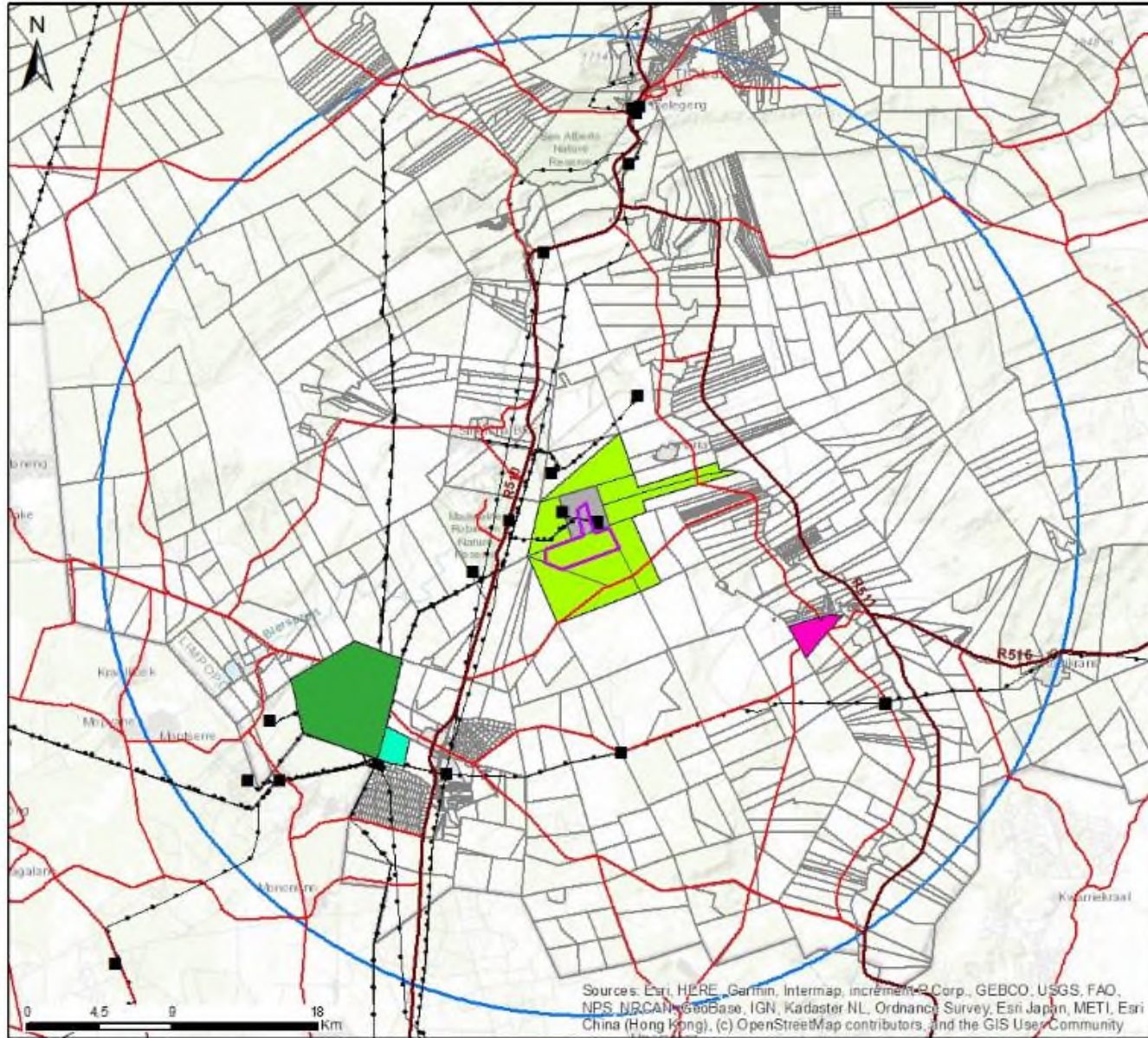
Sources: Esri, DeLorme, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

DIRECT AND INDIRECT IMPACTS

Specialist Field	Impact Significance (incl. mitigation)	
	Construction Phase	Operation Phase
Ecology	Low	Low
Aquatic Ecology (Wetlands)	Low	Low
Avifauna	Medium and Low	Medium and Low
Land Use, Soil & Agriculture	Low	Low
Heritage	Medium and Low	No impacts anticipated for the operation phase

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

- **Cumulative impacts:** Impacts that result from the incremental impact of the proposed activity on a common resource when added to the impacts of other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future activities (e.g., discharges of nutrients and heated water to a river that combine to cause algal bloom and subsequent loss of dissolved oxygen that is greater than the additive impacts of each pollutant).
- Cumulative impacts can occur from the collective impacts of individual minor actions over a period and can include both direct and indirect impacts.



**Northam Platinum PV Plant
Limpopo Province**
Cumulative Map

- Legend**
- Existing Substation
 - Existing Power Line
 - Main Road
 - Regional Road
 - Study Area
 - Affected Properties
 - Adjacent Properties
 - Farm Portions
- Other Solar PV Developments**
- Platinum Solar Park
 - Allied Farms Solar Park
 - Spitskop Solar Park
 - Buffer 30km

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Scale: 1:120 000
Projection: UTM, WGS 1984
Datum: WGS 1984, UTM Zone 35S



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Specialist Field	Impact Significance	
	Overall impact of the proposed development considered in isolation Phase	Cumulative impact of the project and other projects in the area
Ecology	Medium	Medium
Aquatic Ecology (Wetlands)	Low	Low
Avifauna	Medium	Low
Land Use, Soil & Agriculture	Medium and Low	Medium and Low
Heritage	Low	Medium

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The proposed layout avoids all areas of high sensitivity.
- Benefits of the Solar PV Facility are expected to occur at a national, regional and local level.
- Costs to the environment at a site-specific level have been largely limited through the layout optimization and application of mitigation measures
- The benefits of the project are expected to partially offset the localised environmental costs.
- Based on the conclusions of the specialist studies, it is concluded that the development of the Solar PV Facility will not result in unacceptable environmental impacts (subject to the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures).

WAY FORWARD



WAY FORWARD

- Basic Assessment Report review and comment period: **Monday, 19 July 2021** until **Thursday, 19 August 2021** (can be downloaded from the Savannah Environmental website)
- Our Public Participation team is available to answer any questions on the development
- Final BA Report to be submitted to the LDEDET for decision-making

WHO TO CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Nicolene Venter / Tumelo Mathulwe

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Tel: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396

Fax: 086 684 0547

www.savannahSA.com



**PROPOSED 10MW NORTHAM SOLAR
PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY
NEAR NORTHAM, LIMPOPO PROVINCE
(LEDET Ref. No.: LIM/EIA/0001367/2021)**

**MEETING NOTES OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP
HELD ON THURSDAY, 13 AUGUST 2021 at 09:00
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

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PROPOSED 10MW NORTHAM SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY LOCATED NEAR NORTHAM WITHIN THABAZIMBI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WATERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Position
Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)	
Mmatlala Rabothata	DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation
Seoka Lekota	
Tsholofelo Sekonko	
Department of Mineral Resource and Energy (DMRE)	
Freddy Mbedzi	Electrification Programme
Given Ntshani	
Northam Platinum Limited and The Energy Group	
Mark Clarence	New Business Manager – Northam Platinum Limited
Sonwabiso Ndaki	Environmental Co-Ordinator – Northam Zondereinde Mine
Tim Hill	Director – The Energy Group
Sandra Gore	Legal Consultant
Savannah Environmental	
Jo-Anne Thomas	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Mmakoena Mmola	
Nicolene Venter	Public Participation & Social Consultant
Tumelo Mathulwe	Public Participation Consultant

APOLOGIES

No apologies were tendered.

The Attendance Record is attached as **Appendix A** to the meeting notes.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Nicolene Venter welcomed the attendees at the Focus Group Meeting (FGM) and thanked them for their attendance.

She informed the attendees that the presentation will be distributed shortly after the FGM was concluded.

PRESENTATION

Mmakoena Mmola presented the following:

- project description for the proposed Northam Solar Photovoltaic (PV) facility;
- the Basic Assessment (BA) and public participation processes followed to date;
- the environmental studies undertaken;
- key summary of the results of the various environmental studies undertaken as documented in the BA Report;
- summary of the direct, indirect and cumulative impacts; and

- the way forward after the meeting.

The presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Seoka Lekota – Submitted on the Meeting Chat Function	
Who is the competent authority is for the project?	Nicolene Venter answered that it is the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment, and Tourism (LDEDET).
Were any LDEDET officials in attendance at the FGM?	Nicolene Venter replied that LDEDET, as well as other Organs of State (OoS) had been invited to the meeting; however, the invitations were not accepted. She added that this was the second meeting organized to present the environmental findings to the OoS Officials.
Why was the Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) invited since the competent authority for the project is the provincial environmental department?	DFFE: Directorate Biodiversity Conservation was invited to provide the Directorate with the opportunity to comment on the biodiversity assessment undertaken for the project and the mitigation measures proposed by the specialist.
Seoka Lekota	
Mr Lekota informed the project team of the reason for enquiring about LDEDET's and DFFE's attendance. He continued that the report being presented was finalized and the DFFE was not given the opportunity to comment on the draft report.	<p>Nicolene Venter clarified that the report is still in the draft phase and will only be finalized after the 19th of August 2021, once the review and comment period had ended.</p> <p>For clarification and confirmation, she asked Ms Rabothata if their Directorate was able to download the report from the Savannah Environmental website.</p> <p>Ms Rabothata responded that their Directorate has access to the Report and informed Mr Lekota that the Department was in the process of reviewing the draft report.</p>
Asked if the DFFE was commenting as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP).	Nicolene Venter responded that the DFFE: Directorate Biodiversity Conservation was made aware of the project as an I&AP and that Savannah Environmental took the liberty of submitting the report to the Directorate to afford them an opportunity to comment on the content of the Report from a national point of view.
Mr Lekota raised the concern that there could be conflicting comments on the Biodiversity Assessment from the LDEDET and that of the DFFE.	Jo-Anne Thomas stated that the comments received from the DFFE will be submitted to the LDEDET as part of the final report. However, a discussion can be arranged with the LDEDET to ensure that there are no conflicting comments.

	<p>She confirmed that the project is not located within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA).</p>
<p>Mr Lekota asked if the LDEDET had commented on the draft report.</p>	<p>Jo-Anne Thomas stated that preliminary comments were submitted by the LDEDET and that the main concern raised was related to soils.</p> <p>The comments received from the LDEDET will be e-mailed to Mr Lekota and his team.</p> <p>Post-meeting note: Comments received from the LDEDET were e-mailed to the DFFE after the FGM on 13 August 2021.</p>
<p>Mr Lekota informed the project team that it was his understanding that the environmental findings would be presented and discussed at the FGM.</p>	<p>Mmakoena Mmola responded that a summary of the environmental findings formed part of the presentation and provided the following information for clarification purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the terrestrial ecology study identified five habitats within the study area, and the project area is specifically located within a habitat that is classified as degraded; and • six (6) wetlands were delineated of which three (3) were natural wetlands and only one (1) of these was found to be within the 500m regulated area of the project site. <p>The attendees were informed that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) contains further detailed information regarding the findings and mitigation measures as recommended in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).</p>
<p>It would have been beneficial to present a sensitivity map that illustrates the sensitivities on site.</p>	<p>Mmakoena Mmola responded that the sensitivity map was presented during the presentation and gave a brief overview of the various sensitivities around the site which included the heritage specialist's findings.</p> <p>Post Meeting Note: The sensitivity map was shared with the meeting attendees on 13 August 2021.</p>
<p>Mmatlala Rabothata</p>	
<p>Stated that she had similar concerns to Mr Lekota and asked that the comments from the LDEDET be shared with the DFFE.</p>	<p>Tumelo Mathulwe responded that the preliminary comments will be forwarded to the Officials.</p>

	<p>Post Meeting Note: The preliminary comments were sent to Ms Rabothata on 13 August 2021.</p>
<p>Freddy Mbedzi</p>	
<p>The Electrification Program at the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) deals with the provision of electricity to households in communities.</p> <p>As was presented, any excess power produced by this proposed development would be distributed to the national electricity grid network. This excess, if applicable would aid our programme to supply electricity to community households.</p> <p>Mr Mbedzi requested that the presentation be shared with him.</p>	<p>Nicolene Venter responded that the presentation will be shared with all in attendance after the meeting.</p> <p>Post Meeting Note: The presentation was shared with the meeting attendees on 13 August 2021.</p>

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Nicolene Venter thanked the participants for making time available to attend the FGM and for their valuable inputs submitted. The meeting was closed at 10h00.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BA	Basic Assessment	I&AP	Interested and Affected Party
CBA	Critical Biodiversity Area	FGM	Focus Group Meeting
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment	LDEDET	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment, and Tourism
DMRE	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy	OoS	Organs of State
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme	PV	Photovoltaic

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(According to time stamp)

Full Name	Timestamp
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Nicolene Venter	8/13/2021, 8:59:09 AM
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MMatlala Rabothata	8/13/2021, 8:59:09 AM
Jo-Anne Thomas	8/13/2021, 8:59:49 AM
Mmakoena Mmola	8/13/2021, 8:59:53 AM
Freddy Mbedzi	8/13/2021, 9:03:46 AM
Seoka Lekota	8/13/2021, 9:05:22 AM
Tsholofelo Sekonko (Guest)	8/13/2021, 9:05:28 AM
Mark Clarence	8/13/2021, 9:07:50 AM
Given Ntshani (Guest)	8/13/2021, 9:14:31 AM

**10MW Northam Solar Photovoltaic (PV)
Energy Facility and associated infrastructure,
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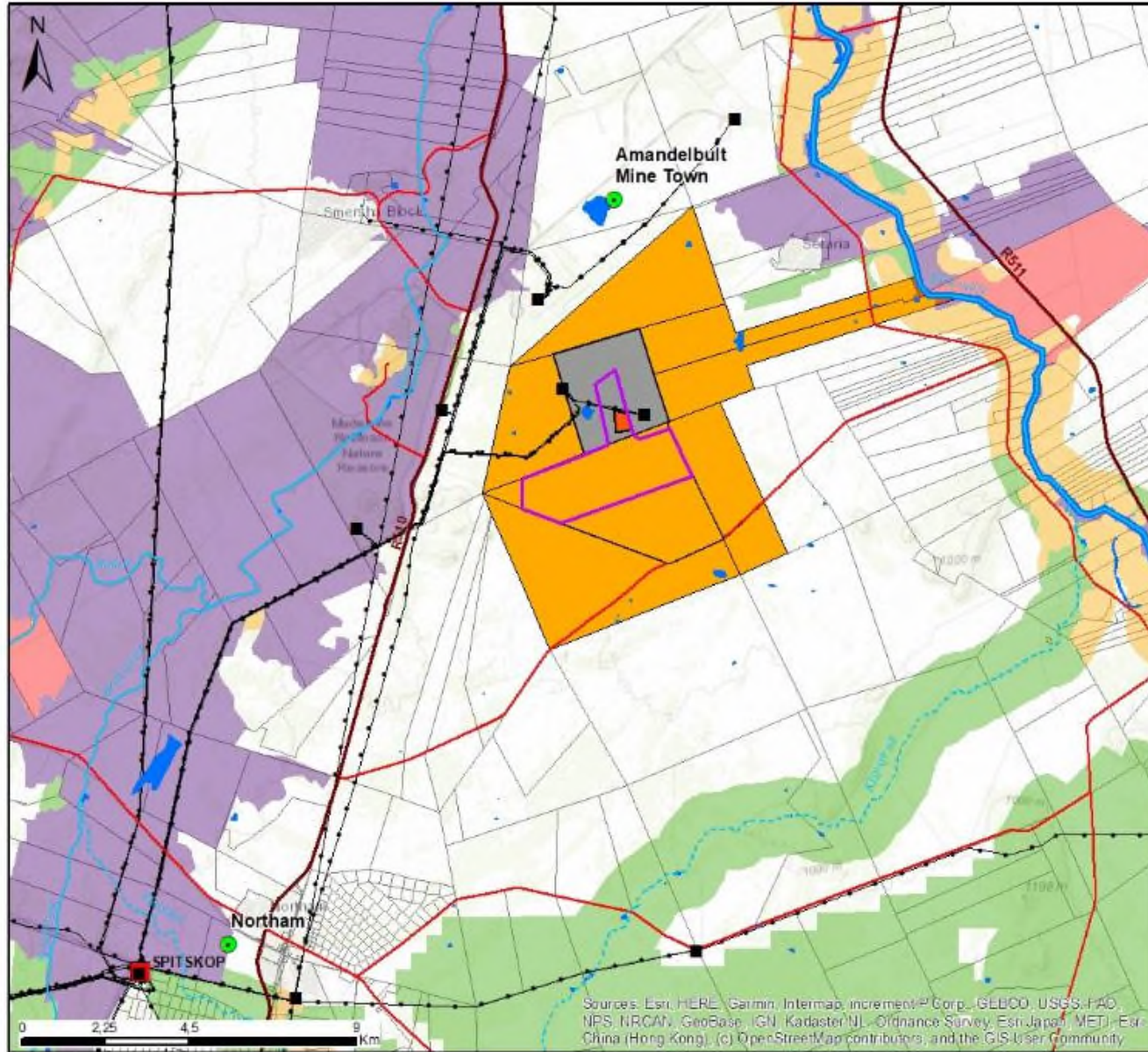
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Northam Platinum PV Plant Limpopo Province

Locality Map

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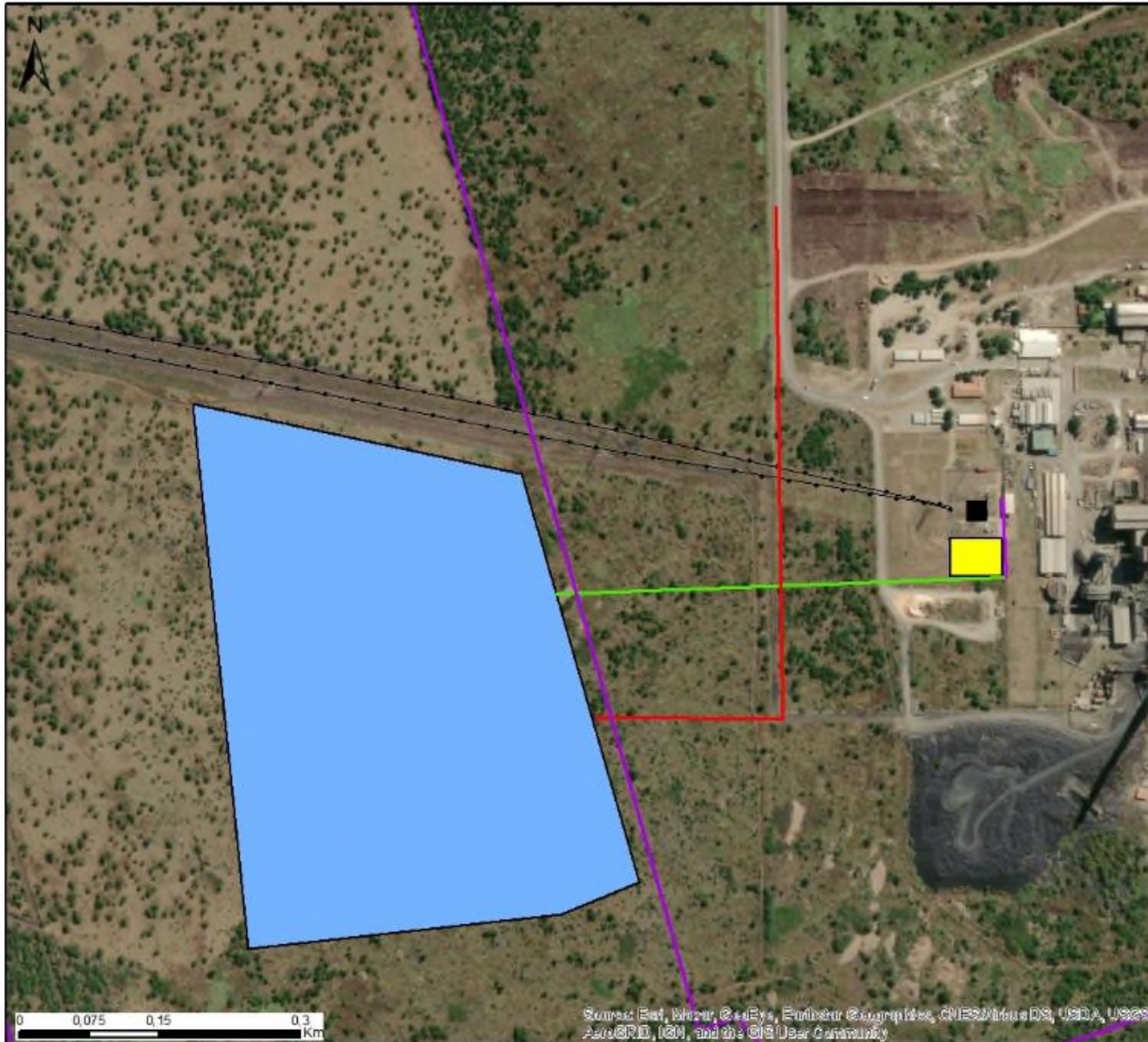
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- Limpopo CBA**
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savannah
environment

Scale: 1:100 000
Projection: UTM WGS 1984
Data: Northam Platinum PV Locality

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User community





Northam Platinum PV Plant Limpopo Province

Layout Map

Legend

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savannah
environments

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Map: Northam Platinum PV Layout



Source: Esri, DeLorme, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

BA PROCESS & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

PHASE 1 Notification of BA Process

1. Application form – LDEDET
2. Site notices
3. Written notification and BID – I&APs and Stakeholders
4. Public feedback/comment

PHASE 2 Basic Assessment

1. Consultation - Stakeholders & I&APs
2. Public Review – BA Report and EMPr
3. Final Basic Assessment to LDEDET

PHASE 3 Decision Making

1. Authority Review - Final BA Report & EMPr
2. Inform I&APs of decision
3. Appeals Process

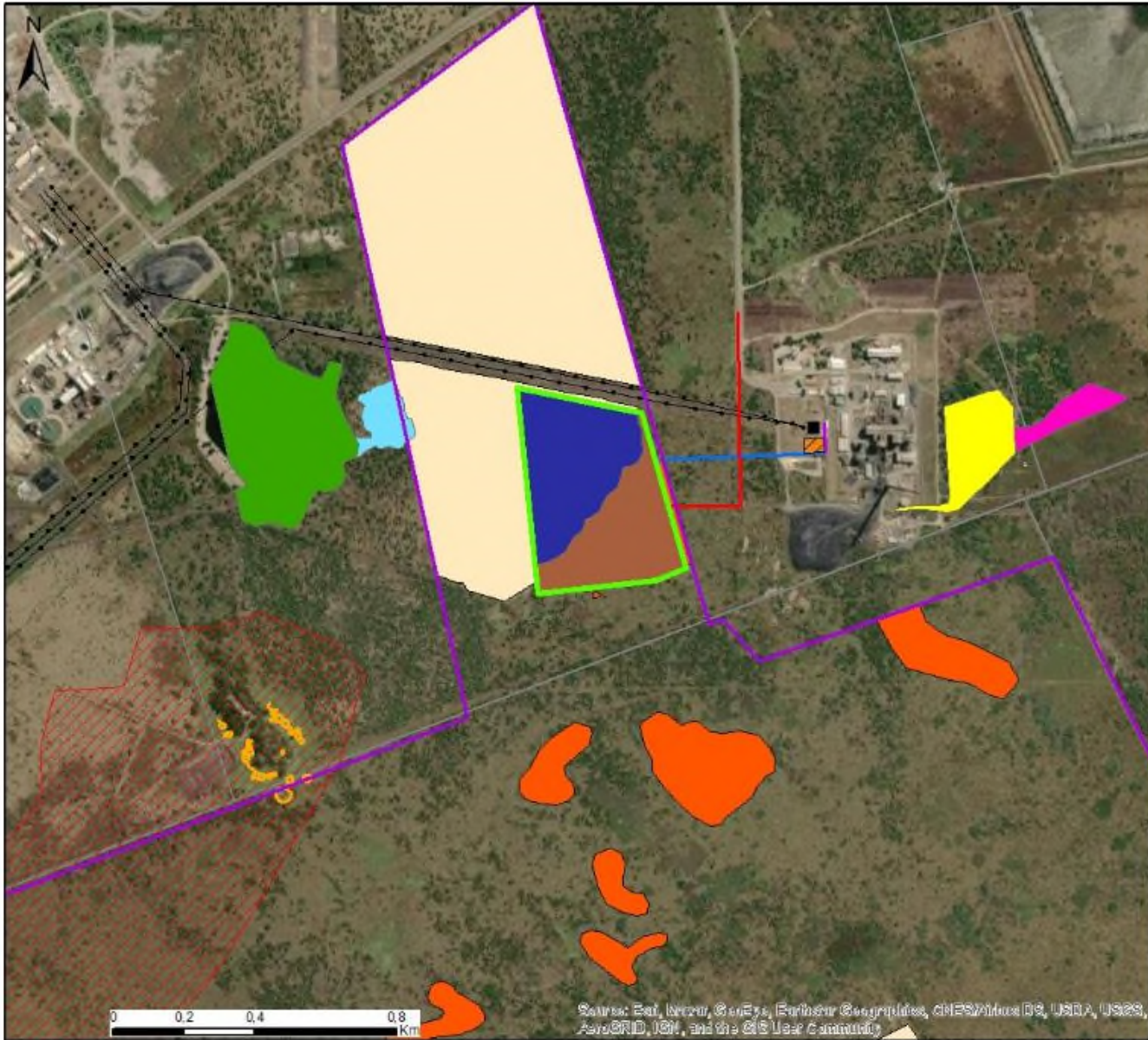
SPECIALIST STUDIES

Specialist	Field of study
Marnus Erasmus of The Biodiversity Company	Terrestrial Ecology (including fauna and flora) Aquatic Ecology (wetlands)
Tyron Clark of The Biodiversity Company	Avifauna
Mariné Pienaar of TerraAfrica Consult cc	Soil, Land Use, Land Capability and Agricultural Potential
Jenna Lavin and Nicholas Wiltshire of Cedar Tower Services	Heritage (including archaeology and palaeontology)

A Social Impact Assessment was not undertaken for the project due to the location and extent of the project and limited employment opportunities (~100 temporary employment opportunities during the construction phase, 10-12 full-time employment opportunities during the operational phase, and ~30 temporary employment opportunities during the decommissioning phase).

OVERVIEW OF SENSITIVITIES

Environmental Aspect	Sensitivities and associated buffers
Ecological and Wetland	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All wetland features are deemed to be of high ecological sensitivity and a 22m 'no-go' buffer around them is recommended.
Avifauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The wetland areas are deemed as important for avifauna and assigned a Very High importance and sensitivity.Wetland species account for the bulk of the regionally occurring avifauna Species of Conservation Concern, which are most susceptible to collision with solar panels.
Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The koppies located in the broader area outside the development area were assigned a High heritage sensitivity. Developers are therefore required to avoid these areas.
Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No sensitive regions or buffers applicable



Northam Platinum PV Plant Limpopo Province

Layout and Sensitivity Map

Legend

- Eskom Substation
- Existing Power Line
- Access Road
- Cable
- Overhead Line
- ▭ Project Area
- ▨ Planned Substation Expansion
- ▭ Study Area
- ▭ Farm Portions

Environmental Sensitivities

- Stonewalling Outlines
- ▨ Archaeologically Sensitive Area
- ▭ Degraded Bushveld (Medium Sensitivity)
- ▭ Rocky Outcrops (Medium Sensitivity)
- ▭ Low Soil Sensitivity
- ▭ Medium Soil sensitivity

Delineations

- ▭ Impoundment
- ▭ Seep
- ▭ Smelter Dam
- ▭ Smelter Drainage

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environmental

Scale: 1:10 000
Projection: UTM 36Q UTM, 1004
Map: Northam Platinum PV Layout and Sensitivity



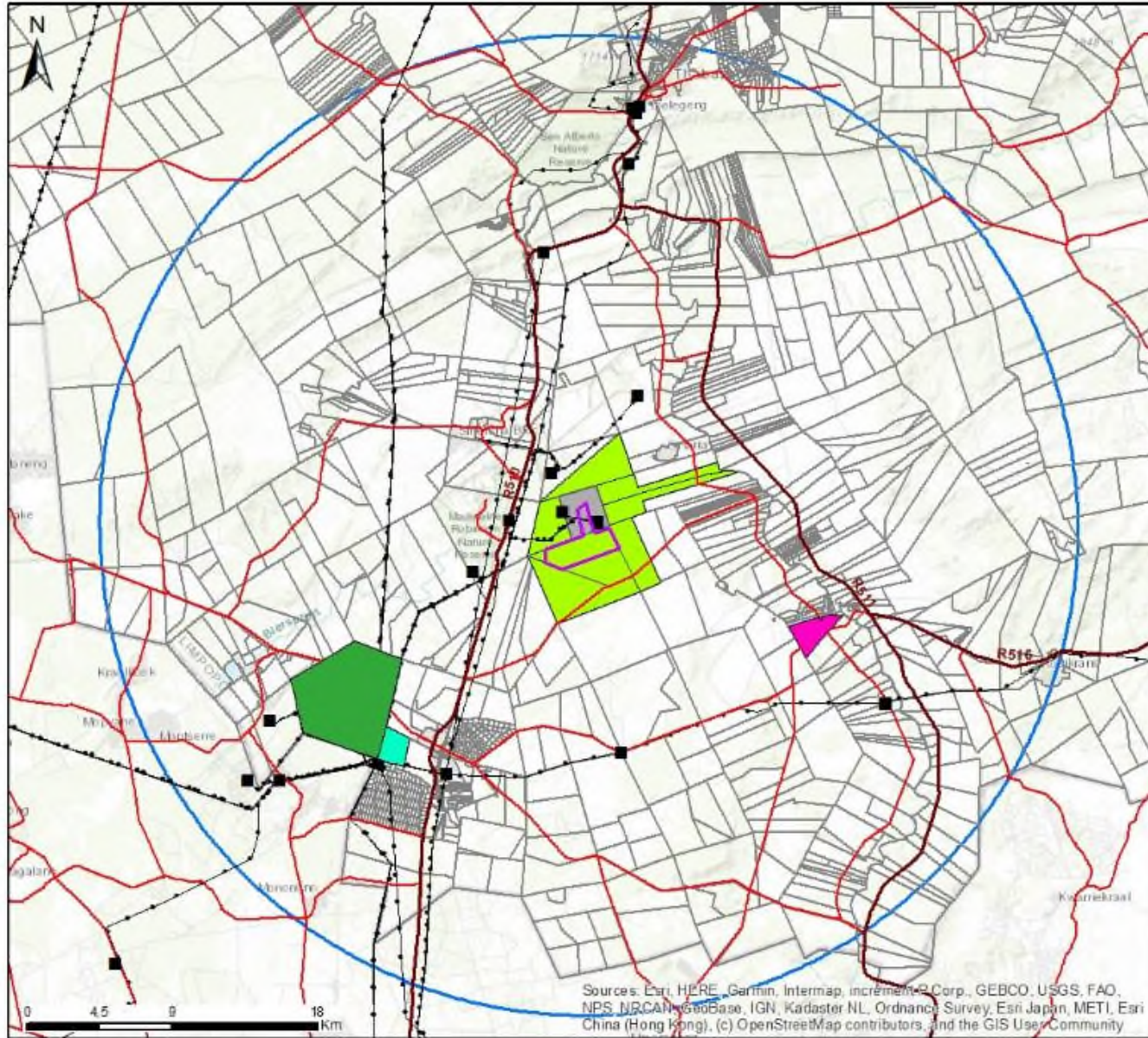
Sources: Esri, DeLorme, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

DIRECT AND INDIRECT IMPACTS

Specialist Field	Impact Significance (incl. mitigation)	
	Construction Phase	Operation Phase
Ecology	Low	Low
Aquatic Ecology (Wetlands)	Low	Low
Avifauna	Medium and Low	Medium and Low
Land Use, Soil & Agriculture	Low	Low
Heritage	Medium and Low	No impacts anticipated for the operation phase

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

- **Cumulative impacts:** Impacts that result from the incremental impact of the proposed activity on a common resource when added to the impacts of other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future activities (e.g., discharges of nutrients and heated water to a river that combine to cause algal bloom and subsequent loss of dissolved oxygen that is greater than the additive impacts of each pollutant).
- Cumulative impacts can occur from the collective impacts of individual minor actions over a period and can include both direct and indirect impacts.



**Northam Platinum PV Plant
Limpopo Province**
Cumulative Map

- Legend**
- Existing Substation
 - Existing Power Line
 - Main Road
 - Regional Road
 - Study Area
 - Affected Properties
 - Adjacent Properties
 - Farm Portions
- Other Solar PV Developments**
- Platinum Solar Park
 - Allied Farms Solar Park
 - Spitskop Solar Park
 - Buffer 30km

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environments

Scale: 1:120 000
Projection: UTM, WGS 1984
Datum: WGS 1984, UTM Zone 35S



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Specialist Field	Impact Significance	
	Overall impact of the proposed development considered in isolation Phase	Cumulative impact of the project and other projects in the area
Ecology	Medium	Medium
Aquatic Ecology (Wetlands)	Low	Low
Avifauna	Medium	Low
Land Use, Soil & Agriculture	Medium and Low	Medium and Low
Heritage	Low	Medium

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The proposed layout avoids all areas of high sensitivity.
- Benefits of the Solar PV Facility are expected to occur at a national, regional and local level.
- Costs to the environment at a site-specific level have been largely limited through the layout optimization and application of mitigation measures
- The benefits of the project are expected to partially offset the localised environmental costs.
- Based on the conclusions of the specialist studies, it is concluded that the development of the Solar PV Facility will not result in unacceptable environmental impacts (subject to the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures).

WAY FORWARD



WAY FORWARD

- Basic Assessment Report review and comment period: **Monday, 19 July 2021** until **Thursday, 19 August 2021** (can be downloaded from the Savannah Environmental website)
- Our Public Participation team is available to answer any questions on the development
- Final BA Report to be submitted to the LDEDET for decision-making

WHO TO CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Nicolene Venter / Tumelo Mathulwe

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Tel: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396

Fax: 086 684 0547

www.savannahSA.com



**PROPOSED 10MW NORTHAM SOLAR
PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY
NEAR NORTHAM, LIMPOPO PROVINCE
(LEDET Ref. No.: LIM/EIA/0001367/2021)**

**MEETING NOTES OF FOCUS GROUP MEETING WITH THE ADJACENT
LANDOWNERS**

**HELD ON THURSDAY, 13 AUGUST 2021 at 13:30
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com**

***Please note that these notes are not verbatim, but a summary of the comments submitted at the meeting.
Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address***

PROPOSED NORTHAM SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY LOCATED NEAR NORTHAM WITHIN THABAZIMBI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WATERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Position
Anglo American – Amandelbutl Mining Complex	
Ursula Marvey	Senior Environmental Co-ordinator
Willem van Loggerenberg	Senior Engineering Manager
Vinodh Sewpersad	Senior Minerals Resources Manager
Thomas Conolly	Senior Asset Manager
Isak Rudolph	Senior Engineer: EC&I - AMB Technical Services
Abram Mabotja	Senior Safety Health and Environment Manager
Kim Dennill	Projects Manager Corporate
Northam Platinum Limited and The Energy Group	
Mark Clarence	New Business Manager – Northam Platinum Limited
Sonwabiso Ndaki	Environmental Co-ordinator – Northam Zondereinde Mine
Tim Hill	Director – The Energy Group
Sandra Gore	Legal Consultant
Savannah Environmental	
Jo-Anne Thomas	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Mmakoena Mmola	
Nicolene Venter	Public Participation & Social Consultant
Tumelo Mathulwe	Public Participation Consultant

APOLOGIES

No apologies were tendered.

The Attendance Record is attached as **Appendix A** to the meeting notes.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Nicolene Venter welcomed the attendees at the Focus Group Meeting (FGM) and thanked them for their attendance.

She informed the attendees that the presentation will be distributed shortly after the FGM was concluded.

PRESENTATION

Mmakoena Mmola presented the following:

- project description for the proposed Northam Solar Photovoltaic (PV) facility;
- the Basic Assessment (BA) and public participation processes followed to date;
- the environmental studies undertaken;
- key summary of the results of the various environmental studies undertaken as documented in the BA Report;

- summary of the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts; and
- the way forward after the meeting.

The presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Abram Mabotja	
<p>It would have been useful if the impact significance before mitigation was presented, and to see how the impact went from being rated high to low.</p>	<p>Mmakoena Mmola responded that the impact significance ratings before mitigation are outlined in the Basic Assessment Report (BAR).</p> <p>Post-meeting note: The impact assessment is included under Section D and Section 2.3 to 2.7 of the BAR.</p>
<p>It was asked what matrix format was used to reach the classification of the impacts.</p>	<p>Jo-Anne Thomas responded that Savannah Environmental has a methodology which is also used by their specialists and that the significance rating is determined through consideration of the Regulations i.e. the extent of the impact, duration, probability and the magnitude. Various ratings are assigned to the various aspects e.g. if the impact is local in extent, it will be rated as 1; if duration is permanent, it would be allocated a rating of 5, and all these ratings are used to determine the significance of the impact.</p> <p>The purpose of using this methodology is to try and remove the subjectivity from the assessment process and to give an indication to the Department and Interested and Affected Parties of the various aspects of the impacts being considered.</p> <p>The detailed methodology is included in the BAR.</p>
Ursula Marvey	
<p>Requested that the map on page 14 of the EMPr be revised to illustrate the area of responsibility of the mine.</p>	<p>Mmakoena Mmola responded that the map will be revised and included in the final BA Report.</p> <p>Post-meeting note: <u>The revised map is attached to these meeting notes</u></p>

<p>It was asked who the environmental representatives from Northam Mine are.</p>	<p>Sandra Gore responded that Sonwabiso Ndaki is the Environmental Manager with whom Anglo American can liaise with regarding this proposed project.</p> <p>Post Meeting Note: Sonwabiso Ndaki's email address was shared on the virtual platform and emailed on 13 August 2021.</p>
<p>Vinodh Sewpersad</p>	
<p>Asked if any findings were identified through the specialist studies that needed to be brought to their attention as neighbours to the project that may impact on them.</p>	<p>Mmakoena Mmola responded that no findings were identified which would impact adjacent properties as the specialist studies only focused on the study area, and all findings are specific to the study area.</p>
<p>Thomas Conolly</p>	
<p>Informed the attendees at the FGM that the wetland area adjacent to the study area is connected to the wetland area that influences the tailings storage facility at the Amandelbult Complex.</p> <p>It needs to be ensured that there are no negative impacts that that may become a concern for our environmental impact in future.</p>	<p>Nicolene Venter acknowledged Mr Conolly's concern raised.</p>
<p>There is concern regarding the possible glare from the solar panels that may affect the road users traveling on the road adjacent to the development site.</p>	<p>Mmakoena Mmola responded that a visual impact assessment was not deemed necessary as the project site is located between the smelter and the mining area, and no visual sensitive receptors were identified in proximity to the site.</p> <p>It is not envisaged that the glare from the solar panels will have an impact on motorists using the mine road close to the development site as this is located approximately 1km away from the site.</p>

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Nicolene Venter thanked the participants for making time available to attend the FGM and for their valuable comments submitted. The meeting was closed at 14h20.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BA	Basic Assessment	EMPr	Environmental Management Program
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BAR	Basic Assessment Report	FGM	Focus Group Meeting
CBA	Critical Biodiversity Area	PV	Photovoltaic

APPENDIX A: Attendance Register**Full Name**

Tumelo Mathulwe
Nicolene Venter
Ursula Marvey
Jo-Anne Thomas
Mmakoena Mmola
Willem van Loggerenberg
Mark Clarence
Sonwabiso Ndaki
Vinodh Sewpersad
Sandra (Guest)
Tim Hill
Thomas Conolly
Isak Rudolph
Abram Mabotja
Kim Dennill

**10MW Northam Solar Photovoltaic (PV)
Energy Facility and associated infrastructure,
near Northam, Limpopo Province**

**Focus Group Meetings
August 2021**

AGENDA

- Welcome and Introduction
- Meeting Conduct
- Project Overview
- Environmental Studies & Findings
- Discussion
- Way Forward

CONDUCT OF THE MEETING

- Recording of meeting
- Please stay on mute during the presentation 
- Register attendance on Chat  function (name, surname & affiliation)
- Please raise your hand  to indicate comment or to raise a question
- Questions submitted in Chat function will be responded to after the presentation
- Equal opportunity for input and queries

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

- Provide stakeholders and I&APs with an overview of the proposed project
- Summary of the **Basic Assessment (BA) Process & Public Participation Process** being undertaken
- Present summary of the key environmental findings
- Provide stakeholders the opportunity to seek clarity regarding the project and environmental studies
- Obtain and record comments for inclusion in the **Final BA Report** to be submitted to the LDEDET

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Mmakoena Mmola

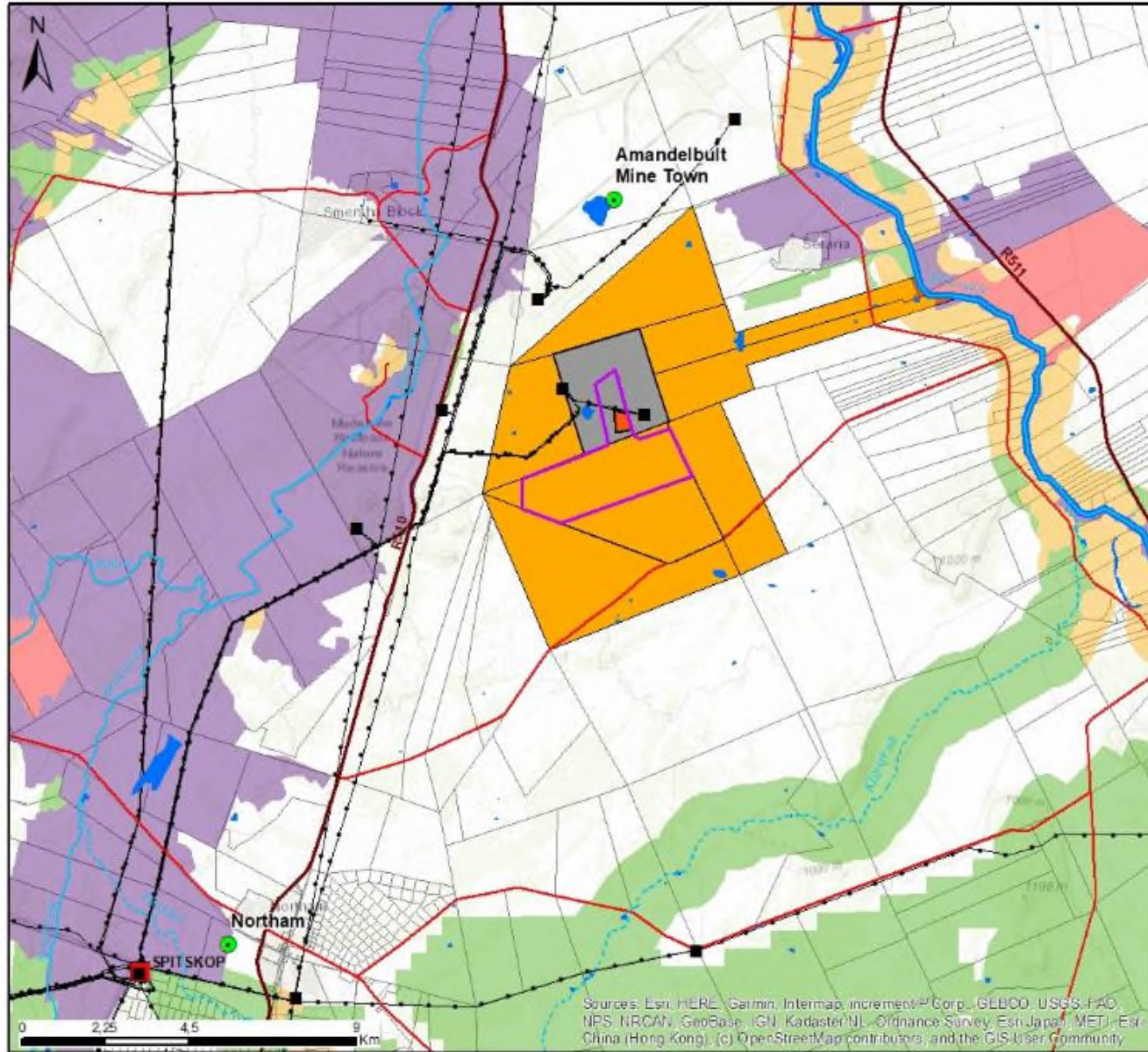
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Northam Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility

Applicant	Northam Platinum Limited
Location	Portion 2 of the Farm Zondereinde 384, located ~35km south of Thabazimbi and 18km northwest of Northam in the Thabazimbi Local Municipality, Waterberg District, Limpopo Province
Contracted Capacity	10MW
Infrastructure details	<p>Between 80 000 – 110 000 panels (fixed tile, single or double axis tracking PV technology)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Height: ~3.5m from ground level (installed)- Constructed over an area of up to 20ha <p>On-site facility substation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Approximately 1 ha in aerial extent.- The substation will facilitate the connection between the solar PV facility and mine electrical distribution system- Located within the project area, close to the site access point <p>Grid connection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 33kV power line (to be operated at 6.6kV)- Length up to ~500m from tie-in point,- Height up to 5.5m . <p>Temporary laydown area, access road, internal gravel roads, inverters and transformers, cabling between project components, combined gatehouse, site offices and storage facility</p>

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- The purpose of the facility is to generate electricity for exclusive use by the Zondereinde Mine, following which any excess power produced will be distributed to the national grid, if applicable.
- The construction of the PV facility aims to reduce the Zondereinde Mine's dependency on direct supply from Eskom's national grid for operation activities, while simultaneously decreasing the mine's carbon footprint.



Northam Platinum PV Plant Limpopo Province

Locality Map

Legend

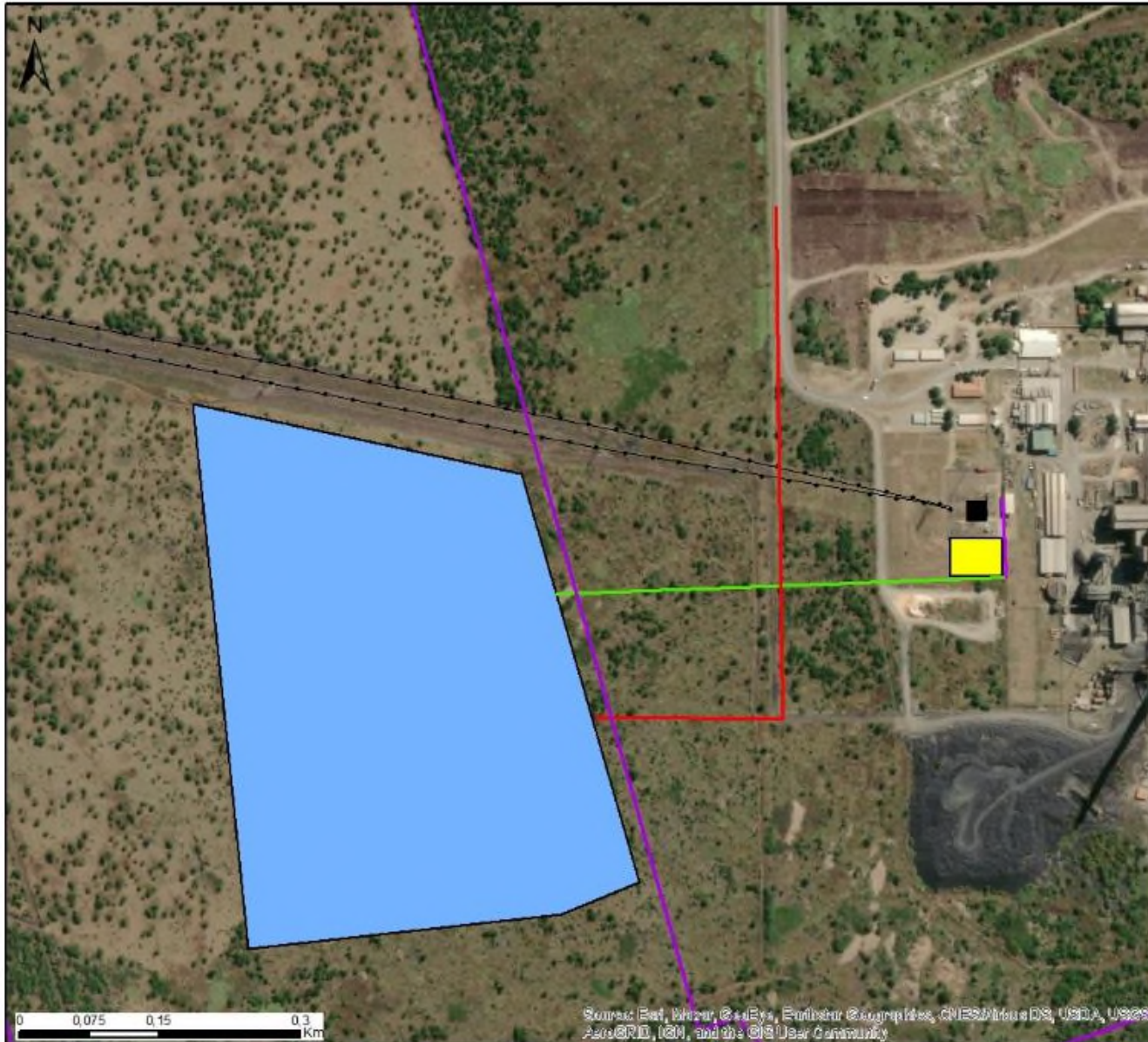
- Town
 - Existing Substation
 - Loader Substation
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 - Main Road
 - Regional Road
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 - Perennial River
 - NFEPA Wetlands
 - Study Area
 - Project Area
 - Affected Properties
 - Farm Portions
 - Adjacent Properties
- Limpopo CBA**
- CBA1
 - CBA2
 - ESA1
 - ESA2

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environment

Scale: 1:100 000
Projection: UTM WGS 1984
Data Source: Various GIS Layers



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User community



Northam Platinum PV Plant Limpopo Province

Layout Map

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- Planned Substation Expansion
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Scale: 1:4 871
Projection: UTM WGS 84
Map: Northam Platinum PV Layout



Sources: Esri, DeLorme, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

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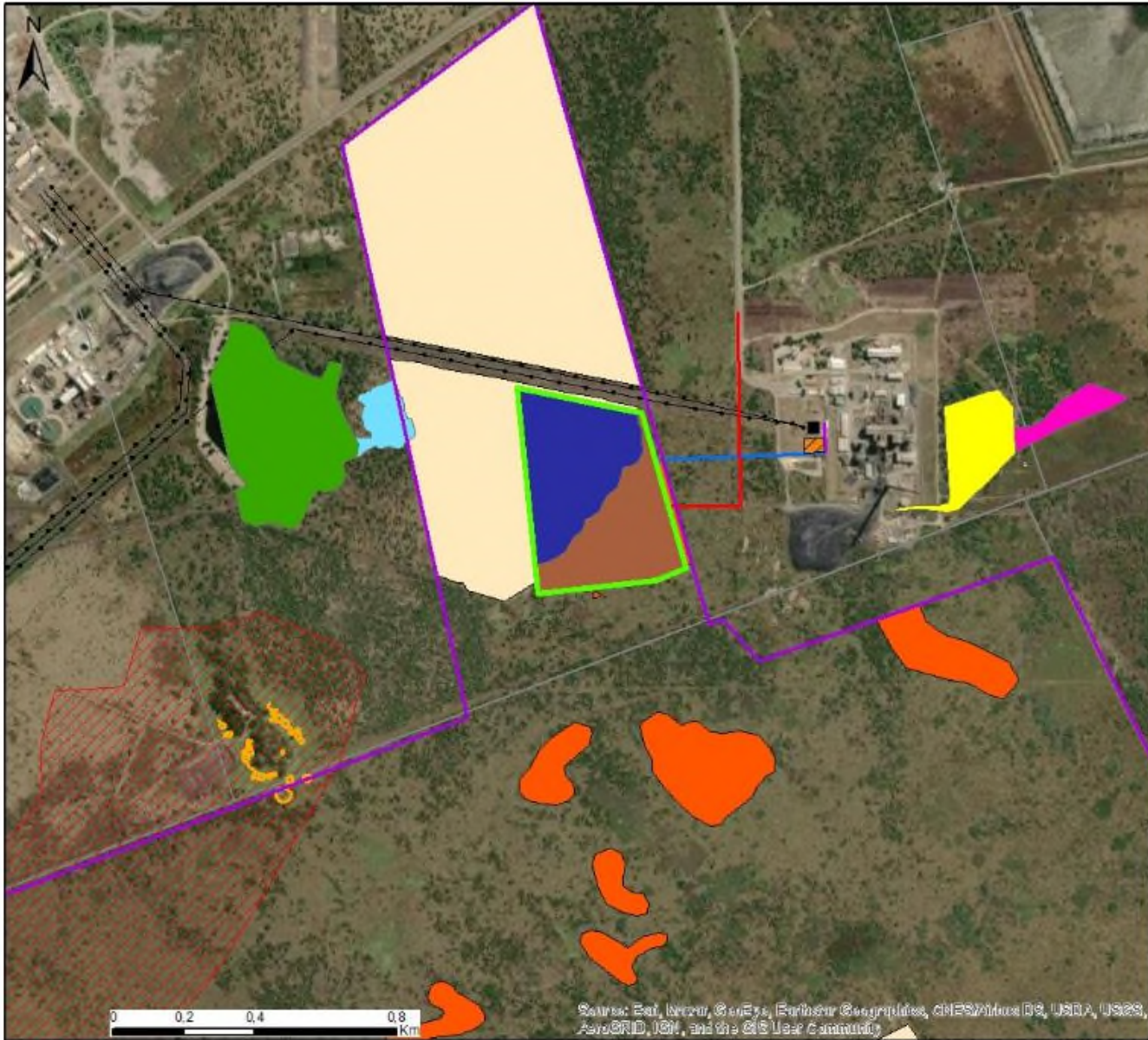
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Northam Platinum PV Plant Limpopo Province

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environmental

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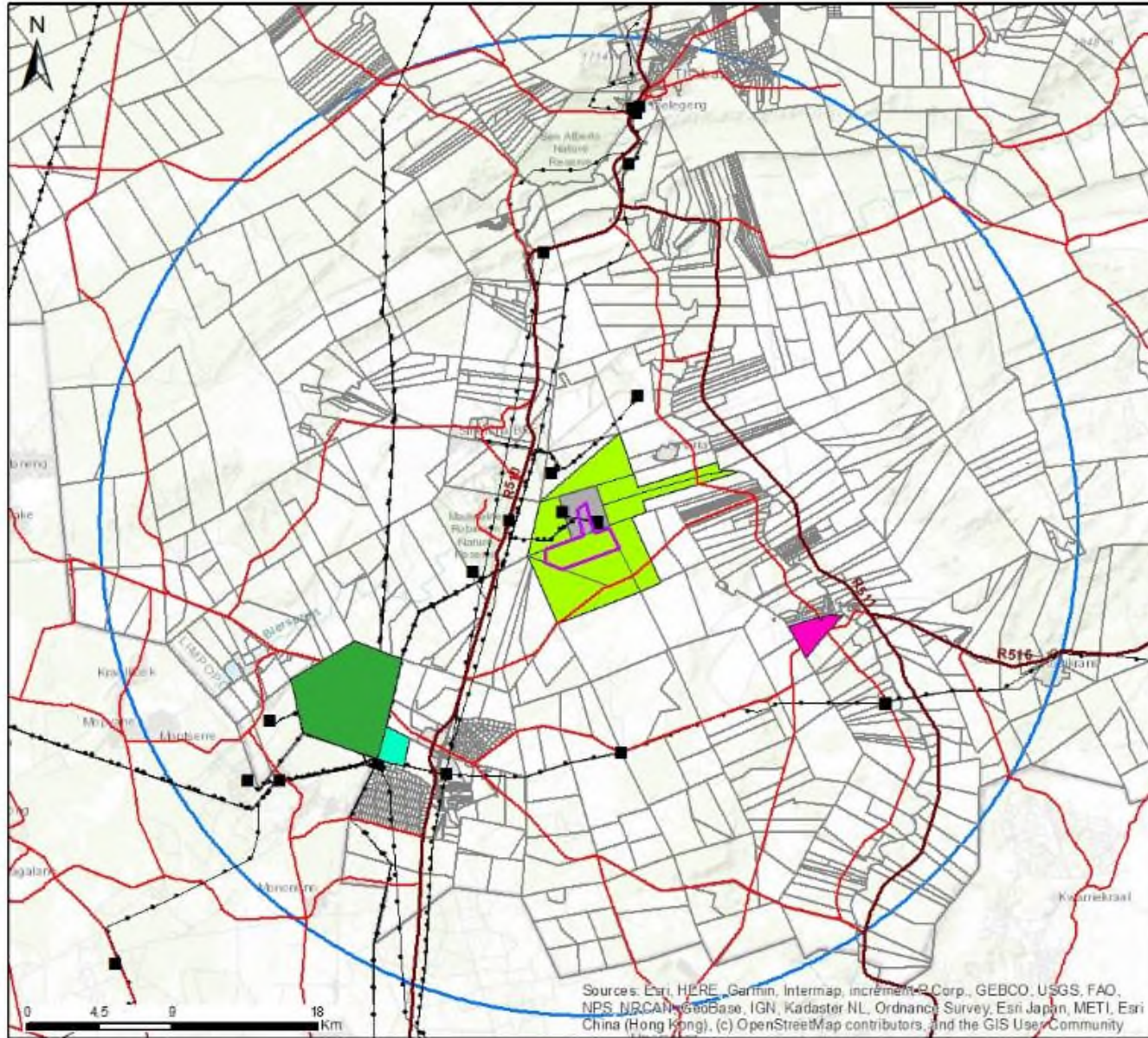
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environments

Scale: 1:100,000
Projection: UTM, WGS 1984
Data Source: Geospatial Data



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- Costs to the environment at a site-specific level have been largely limited through the layout optimization and application of mitigation measures
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- Based on the conclusions of the specialist studies, it is concluded that the development of the Solar PV Facility will not result in unacceptable environmental impacts (subject to the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures).

WAY FORWARD



WAY FORWARD

- Basic Assessment Report review and comment period: **Monday, 19 July 2021** until **Thursday, 19 August 2021** (can be downloaded from the Savannah Environmental website)
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**PROPOSED 10MW NORTHAM SOLAR
PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY
NEAR NORTHAM, LIMPOPO PROVINCE
(LEDET Ref. No.: LIM/EIA/0001367/2021)**

**MEETING NOTES OF FOCUS GROUP MEETING WITH WARD COUNCILORS
HELD ON THURSDAY, 19 AUGUST 2021 at 12:30
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
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***Please note that these notes are not verbatim, but a summary of the comments submitted at the meeting.
Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address***

PROPOSED 10MW NORTHAM SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY LOCATED NEAR NORTHAM WITHIN THABAZIMBI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WATERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Position
Thabazimbi Local Municipality	
Xolile Nozozo	Councilor – Ward 11
Irene Nengwekhulu	Councilor – Ward 6
Northam Platinum Limited and The Energy Group	
Mark Clarence	New Business Manager – Northam Platinum Limited
Sonwabiso Ndaki	Environmental Co-ordinator – Northam Zondereinde Mine
Tim Hill	Director – The Energy Group
Sandra Gore	Legal Consultant - Northam Platinum Limited
Bhavini Bhagwan	Project Manager
Savannah Environmental	
Jo-Anne Thomas	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Mmakoena Mmola	
Nicolene Venter	Public Participation & Social Consultant
Tumelo Mathulwe	Public Participation Consultant

APOLOGIES

No apologies were tendered.

The Attendance Record is attached as **Appendix A** to the meeting notes.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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PRESENTATION

Mmakoena Mmola presented the following:

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- the Basic Assessment (BA) and public participation processes followed to date;
- the environmental studies undertaken;
- key summary of the results of the various environmental studies undertaken as documented in the BA Report;
- summary of the direct, indirect and cumulative impacts; and
- the way forward after the meeting.

The presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Xolile Nozozo	
<p>Asked what the community will benefit from this project.</p>	<p>Mmakoena Mmola responded that there would be temporary employment opportunities during the construction phase as well as permanent opportunities during the operational phase. She added that the community would benefit from the proposed project as should the applicant not utilize the full 10MW capacity, the excess electricity would be fed into the national electricity grid network. In addition, since the 10MW from Eskom that would normally be utilized by the mine would no longer be required, there would be an indirect benefit to the community as this capacity would then go into the national grid instead.</p> <p>Tim Hill added that employment would be sourced locally during all phases of the project.</p>
<p>Asked who the beneficiaries of the project will be.</p>	<p>Mark Clarence responded that the direct beneficiary of the power produced would be the mine and the indirect benefit to the communities would be that should there be any excess electricity, it would be fed into Eskom's national grid network, resulting in additional power available for the public. He further added that during the construction and operation phases, low technical specification materials would be sourced locally.</p>
<p>Asked if it is possible to have a site walkthrough.</p>	<p>Mark Clarence responded that Northam Zondereinde Mine's liaison officer would liaise with the councilor to co-ordinate the visit.</p> <p>Nicolene Venter sought permission to share the Councilors' details with Mark Clarence.</p> <p>The councilor granted his permission.</p> <p><u>Post-meeting note:</u> The councilor's details were sent to Mark Clarence on 19 August 2021.</p>
<p>Requested that he be consulted during the recruitment process for the construction</p>	<p>Mark Clarence responded that the mine would not be recruiting employees as the appointed</p>

<p>phase. He informed the project team that community members approach him for information when projects are being proposed or developed in his Ward, and for that reason, he requested that he be part of Zondereinde Mine's Community Forum and a part of the recruitment process.</p>	<p>construction company would be responsible for sourcing and securing workers.</p> <p>He added that there is a community forum involved in all the recruitment on the Zondereinde mine.</p> <p>Nicolene Venter recommended that during the site walkthrough, Zondereinde Mine's liaison officer discuss the members of the community forum and the possible inclusion of the Councilors as members of the forum.</p> <p>Mark Clarence agreed to the approach.</p>
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WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Nicolene Venter thanked the participants for making time available to attend the FGM and for their valuable comments submitted. The meeting was closed at 14h20.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BA	Basic Assessment	PV	Photovoltaic
FGM	Focus Group Meeting		

APPENDIX A: Attendance Register

(According to time stamp)

Full Name	Join Time
Tumelo Mathulwe	8/19/2021, 12:20:04 PM
Nicolene Venter	8/19/2021, 12:20:04 PM
Bhavini Bhagwan	8/19/2021, 12:20:04 PM
Jo-Anne Thomas	8/19/2021, 12:27:09 PM
Mmakoena Mmola	8/19/2021, 12:30:39 PM
Irene	8/19/2021, 12:31:13 PM
Mark Clarence	8/19/2021, 12:31:28 PM
Sonwabiso Ndaki	8/19/2021, 12:32:59 PM
Cllr Nozozo (Guest)	8/19/2021, 12:35:09 PM
Sandra (Guest)	8/19/2021, 12:37:16 PM
Tim Hill	8/19/2021, 12:46:04 PM

**10MW Northam Solar Photovoltaic (PV)
Energy Facility and associated infrastructure,
near Northam, Limpopo Province**

**Focus Group Meetings
August 2021**

AGENDA

- Welcome and Introduction
- Meeting Conduct
- Project Overview
- Environmental Studies & Findings
- Discussion
- Way Forward

CONDUCT OF THE MEETING

- Recording of meeting
- Please stay on mute during the presentation 
- Register attendance on Chat  function (name, surname & affiliation)
- Please raise your hand  to indicate comment or to raise a question
- Questions submitted in Chat function will be responded to after the presentation
- Equal opportunity for input and queries

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

- Provide stakeholders and I&APs with an overview of the proposed project
- Summary of the **Basic Assessment (BA) Process & Public Participation Process** being undertaken
- Present summary of the key environmental findings
- Provide stakeholders the opportunity to seek clarity regarding the project and environmental studies
- Obtain and record comments for inclusion in the **Final BA Report** to be submitted to the LDEDET

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Mmakoena Mmola

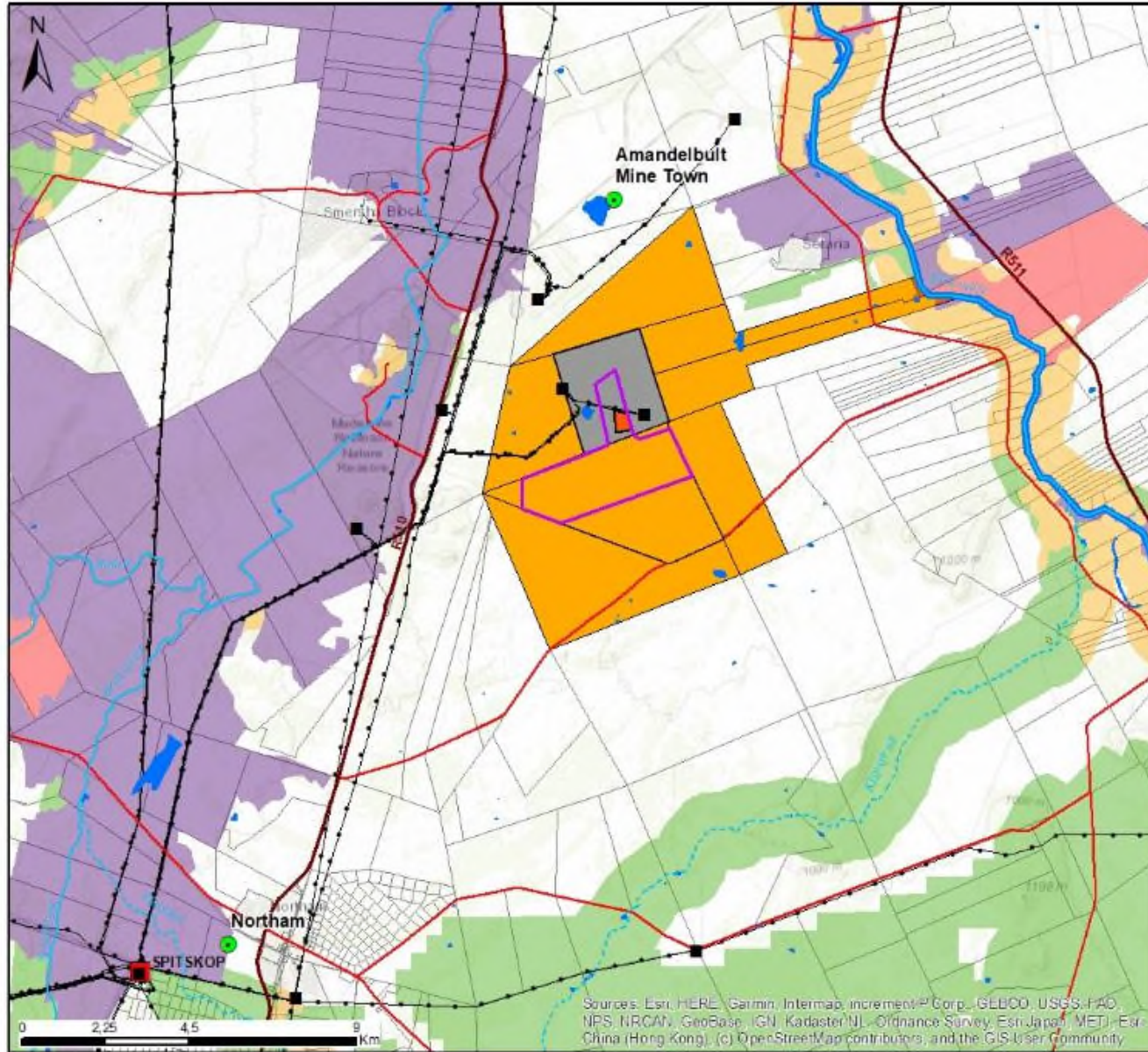
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Northam Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility

Applicant	Northam Platinum Limited
Location	Portion 2 of the Farm Zondereinde 384, located ~35km south of Thabazimbi and 18km northwest of Northam in the Thabazimbi Local Municipality, Waterberg District, Limpopo Province
Contracted Capacity	10MW
Infrastructure details	<p>Between 80 000 – 110 000 panels (fixed tile, single or double axis tracking PV technology)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Height: ~3.5m from ground level (installed)- Constructed over an area of up to 20ha <p>On-site facility substation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Approximately 1 ha in aerial extent.- The substation will facilitate the connection between the solar PV facility and mine electrical distribution system- Located within the project area, close to the site access point <p>Grid connection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 33kV power line (to be operated at 6.6kV)- Length up to ~500m from tie-in point,- Height up to 5.5m . <p>Temporary laydown area, access road, internal gravel roads, inverters and transformers, cabling between project components, combined gatehouse, site offices and storage facility</p>

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- The purpose of the facility is to generate electricity for exclusive use by the Zondereinde Mine, following which any excess power produced will be distributed to the national grid, if applicable.
- The construction of the PV facility aims to reduce the Zondereinde Mine's dependency on direct supply from Eskom's national grid for operation activities, while simultaneously decreasing the mine's carbon footprint.



Northam Platinum PV Plant Limpopo Province

Locality Map

Legend

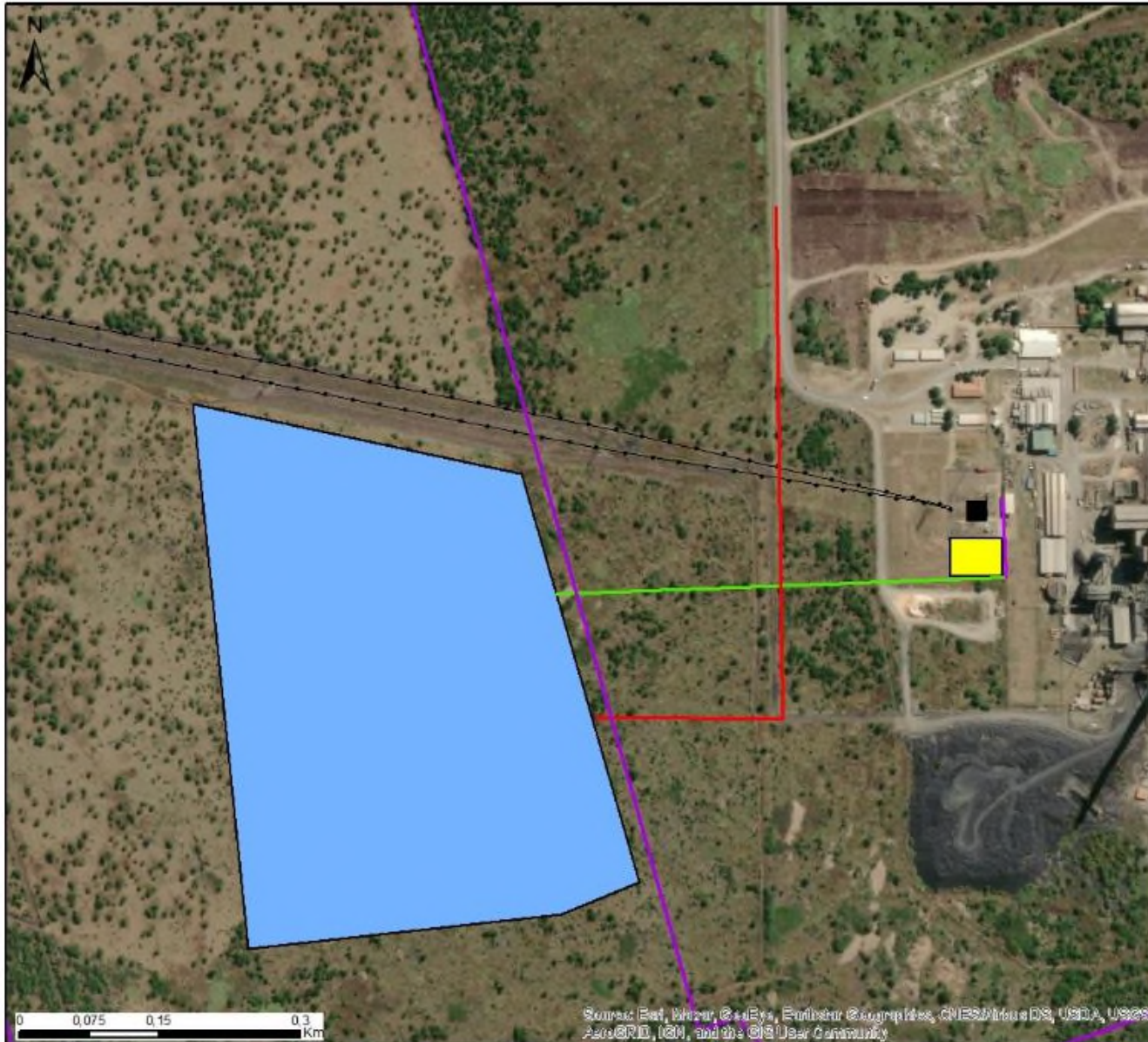
- Town
 - Existing Substation
 - Loader Substation
 - Existing Power Line
 - Main Road
 - Regional Road
 - Non-Perennial River
 - Perennial River
 - NFEPA Wetlands
 - Study Area
 - Project Area
 - Farm Portions
 - Affected Properties
 - Adjacent Properties
- Limpopo CBA**
- CBA1
 - CBA2
 - ESA1
 - ESA2

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environment

Scale: 1:100 000
Projection: UTM WGS 1984
Data: Northam Platinum PV Locality



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User community



Northam Platinum PV Plant Limpopo Province

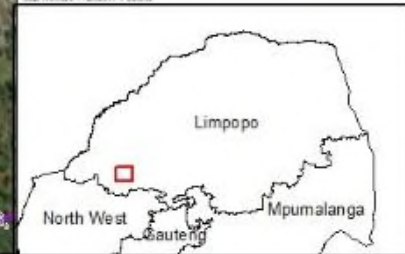
Layout Map

Legend

- Eskom Substation
- Existing Power Line
- Access Road
- Cable
- Overhead Line
- Project Area
- Planned Substation Expansion
- Study Area

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Scale: 1:4 871
Projection: UTM WGS 84
Map: Northam Platinum PV Layout



Sources: Esri, DeLorme, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

BA PROCESS & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

PHASE 1 Notification of BA Process

1. Application form – LDEDET
2. Site notices
3. Written notification and BID – I&APs and Stakeholders
4. Public feedback/comment

PHASE 2 Basic Assessment

1. Consultation - Stakeholders & I&APs
2. Public Review – BA Report and EMPr
3. Final Basic Assessment to LDEDET

PHASE 3 Decision Making

1. Authority Review - Final BA Report & EMPr
2. Inform I&APs of decision
3. Appeals Process

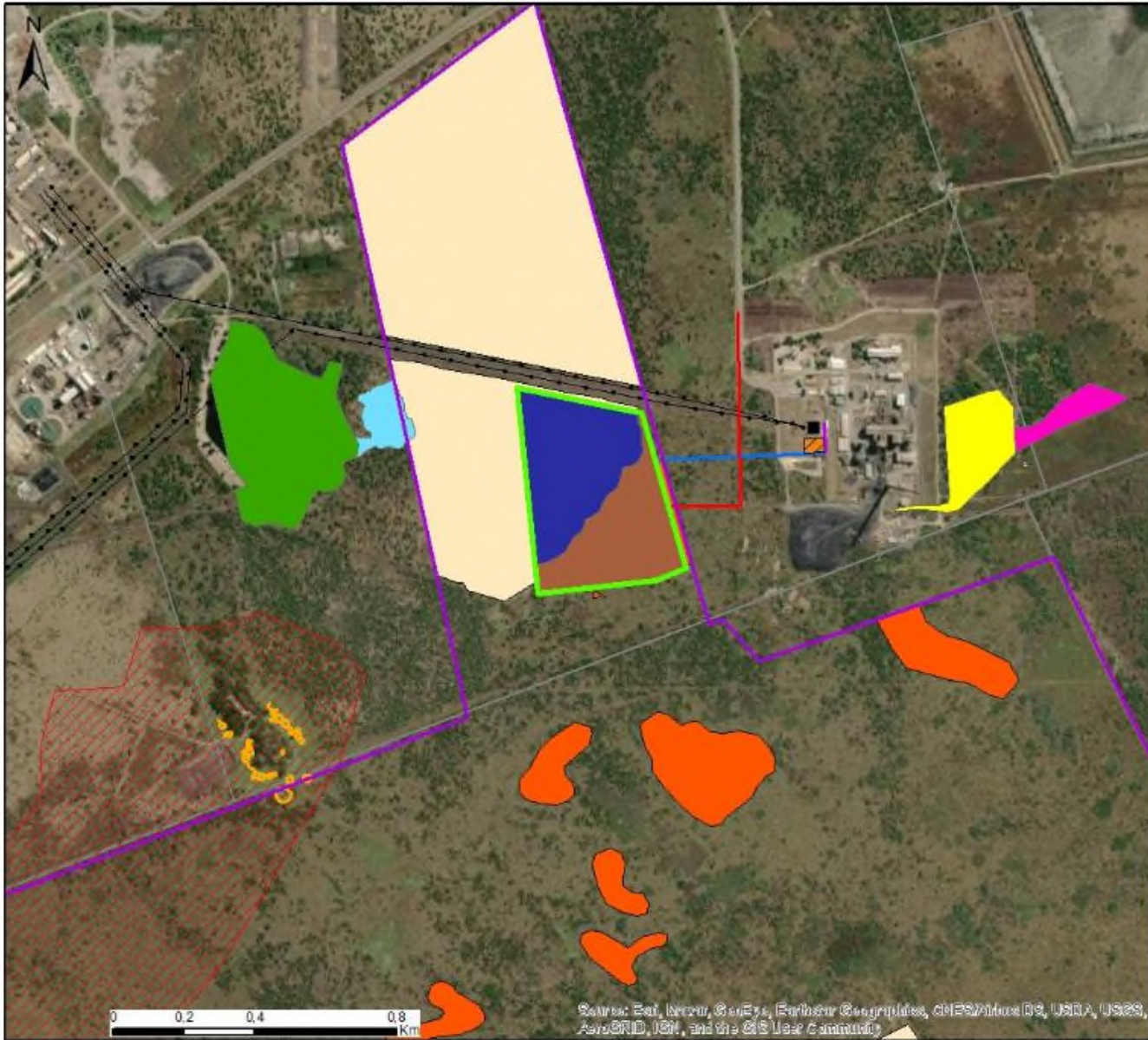
SPECIALIST STUDIES

Specialist	Field of study
Marnus Erasmus of The Biodiversity Company	Terrestrial Ecology (including fauna and flora) Aquatic Ecology (wetlands)
Tyron Clark of The Biodiversity Company	Avifauna
Mariné Pienaar of TerraAfrica Consult cc	Soil, Land Use, Land Capability and Agricultural Potential
Jenna Lavin and Nicholas Wiltshire of Cedar Tower Services	Heritage (including archaeology and palaeontology)

A Social Impact Assessment was not undertaken for the project due to the location and extent of the project and limited employment opportunities (~100 temporary employment opportunities during the construction phase, 10-12 full-time employment opportunities during the operational phase, and ~30 temporary employment opportunities during the decommissioning phase).

OVERVIEW OF SENSITIVITIES

Environmental Aspect	Sensitivities and associated buffers
Ecological and Wetland	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All wetland features are deemed to be of high ecological sensitivity and a 22m 'no-go' buffer around them is recommended.
Avifauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The wetland areas are deemed as important for avifauna and assigned a Very High importance and sensitivity.Wetland species account for the bulk of the regionally occurring avifauna Species of Conservation Concern, which are most susceptible to collision with solar panels.
Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The koppies located in the broader area outside the development area were assigned a High heritage sensitivity. Developers are therefore required to avoid these areas.
Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No sensitive regions or buffers applicable



Northam Platinum PV Plant Limpopo Province

Layout and Sensitivity Map

Legend

- Eskom Substation
- Existing Power Line
- Access Road
- Cable
- Overhead Line
- ▭ Project Area
- ▨ Planned Substation Expansion
- ▭ Study Area
- ▭ Farm Portions

Environmental Sensitivities

- Stonewalling Outlines
- ▨ Archaeologically Sensitive Area
- ▭ Degraded Bushveld (Medium Sensitivity)
- ▭ Rocky Outcrops (Medium Sensitivity)
- ▭ Low Soil Sensitivity
- ▭ Medium Soil sensitivity

Delineations

- ▭ Impoundment
- ▭ Seep
- ▭ Smelter Dam
- ▭ Smelter Drainage

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Scale: 1:10 000
Projection: UTM 36Q UTM, 1004
Map: Northam Platinum PV Layout and Sensitivity



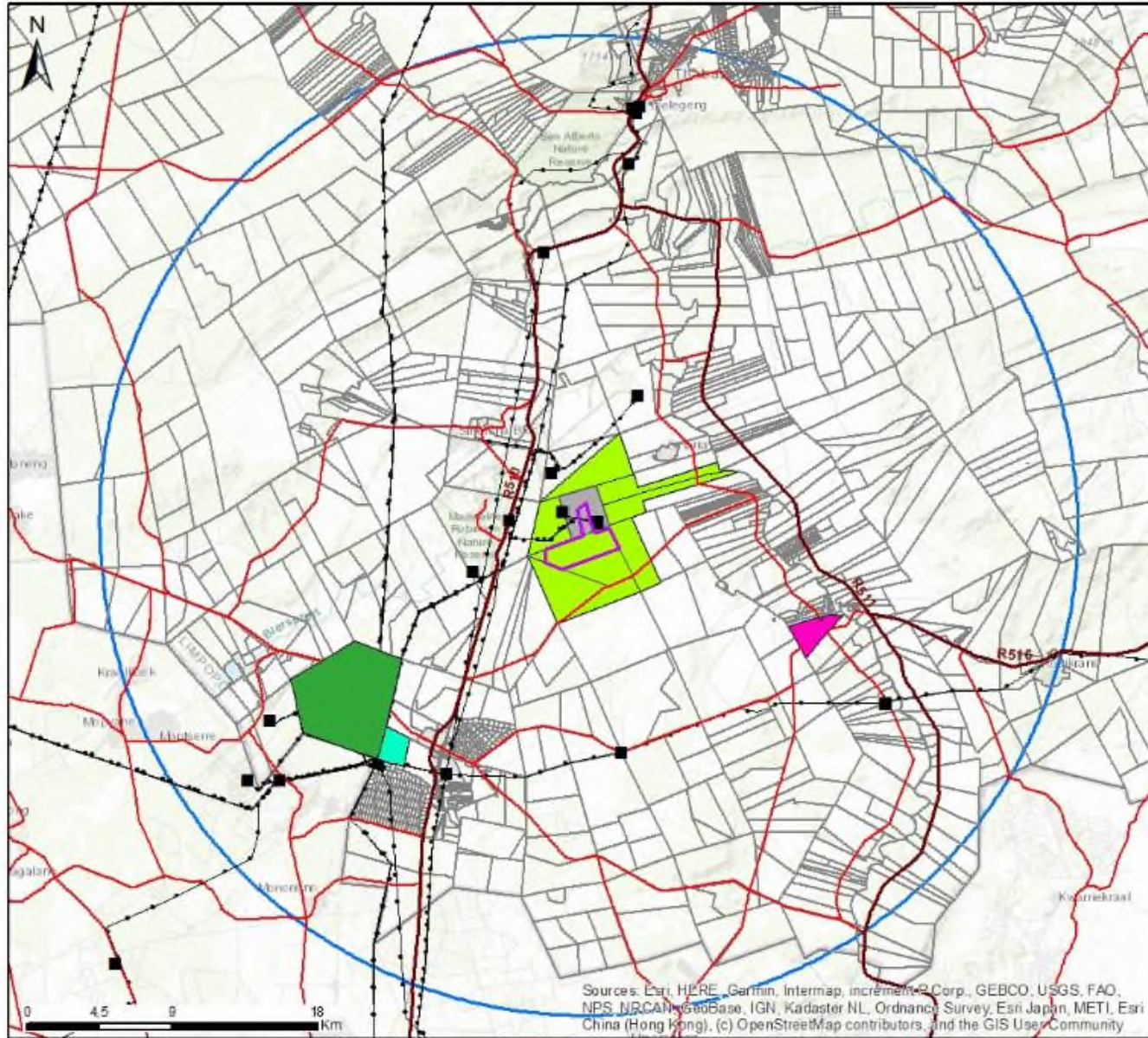
Sources: Esri, DeLorme, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

DIRECT AND INDIRECT IMPACTS

Specialist Field	Impact Significance (incl. mitigation)	
	Construction Phase	Operation Phase
Ecology	Low	Low
Aquatic Ecology (Wetlands)	Low	Low
Avifauna	Medium and Low	Medium and Low
Land Use, Soil & Agriculture	Low	Low
Heritage	Medium and Low	No impacts anticipated for the operation phase

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

- **Cumulative impacts:** Impacts that result from the incremental impact of the proposed activity on a common resource when added to the impacts of other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future activities (e.g., discharges of nutrients and heated water to a river that combine to cause algal bloom and subsequent loss of dissolved oxygen that is greater than the additive impacts of each pollutant).
- Cumulative impacts can occur from the collective impacts of individual minor actions over a period and can include both direct and indirect impacts.



**Northam Platinum PV Plant
Limpopo Province**
Cumulative Map

- Legend**
- Existing Substation
 - Existing Power Line
 - Main Road
 - Regional Road
 - Study Area
 - Affected Properties
 - Adjacent Properties
 - Farm Portions
- Other Solar PV Developments**
- Platinum Solar Park
 - Allied Farms Solar Park
 - Spitskop Solar Park
 - Buffer 30km

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Scale: 1:100,000
Projection: UTM, WGS 1984
Datum: WGS 1984, UTM Zone 35S



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Specialist Field	Impact Significance	
	Overall impact of the proposed development considered in isolation Phase	Cumulative impact of the project and other projects in the area
Ecology	Medium	Medium
Aquatic Ecology (Wetlands)	Low	Low
Avifauna	Medium	Low
Land Use, Soil & Agriculture	Medium and Low	Medium and Low
Heritage	Low	Medium

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The proposed layout avoids all areas of high sensitivity.
- Benefits of the Solar PV Facility are expected to occur at a national, regional and local level.
- Costs to the environment at a site-specific level have been largely limited through the layout optimization and application of mitigation measures
- The benefits of the project are expected to partially offset the localised environmental costs.
- Based on the conclusions of the specialist studies, it is concluded that the development of the Solar PV Facility will not result in unacceptable environmental impacts (subject to the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures).

WAY FORWARD



WAY FORWARD

- Basic Assessment Report review and comment period: **Monday, 19 July 2021** until **Thursday, 19 August 2021** (can be downloaded from the Savannah Environmental website)
- Our Public Participation team is available to answer any questions on the development
- Final BA Report to be submitted to the LDEDET for decision-making

WHO TO CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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