

# 1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS TO DATE

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The purpose of this Chapter is to provide an outline of the Public Participation Process, a summary of the process undertaken to date, and the way forward with respect to public participation as part of the EIA Phase of this project. This Chapter also provides a summary of the key issues that have been raised to date.

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

Consultation with I&APs forms an integral component of an EIA process (see **Figure 1.2**) and enables *inter alia* directly affected landowners, neighbouring landowners, stakeholders, communities and interested parties to identify the issues and concerns relating to the proposed activity, which they feel should be addressed in the process. The approach to this public participation process, summarised in the Plan of Study for EIA (Chapter 5 of the FSR), has taken cognisance of the DEAT Guideline on Stakeholder Engagement (2002).

Public participation, as required in terms of the EIA Regulations can, in general, be separated into the following phases:

### *Comment on Draft and Final Reports*

During the Scoping and EIA Phases, registered I&APs are provided with an opportunity to comment on draft and final versions of the reports. This is enabled by the lodging of the reports at suitable locations for review and invitations to public meetings/open houses to discuss the content of the relevant report.

### *Decision and Appeal period*

This is the final phase of the public participation process. Once the competent authority has made their decision and issued an Environmental Authorisation, the applicant and I&APs are notified of the decision and have the opportunity to appeal to the national Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs, within the stipulated timeframes.

Progress with respect to these various stages for the current project is discussed in more detail below. It should be noted that the public participation process developed for this investigation meets the minimum requirements of NEMA.

## **1.2 SUMMARY OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS TO DATE**

### **1.2.1 Initiation of the public participation process**

The approach adopted for the current investigation was to identify as many I&APs as possible initially, through a suite of activities, as follows:

- Placing advertisements in local newspapers (the Gemsbok);
- Placing a notice board at the site;
- Providing written notice and an Executive Summary to potential I&APs, including surrounding landowners, organs of state, ward councillors and relevant authorities;
- Informing I&APs registered for existing EIAs, being run by Aurecon, in the area about the project and providing them with an opportunity to register for this project as well; and
- Requesting potential I&APs to recommend other potential I&APs to include on the database (chain referral process).

Thereafter, the remainder of the communications was be focused on registered I&APs and on local advertising. Consequently, the initial advertising campaign was broad and thorough and invited the members of the public to register as I&APs.

### **1.2.2 Public participation related to the Scoping Phase**

Public participation during the Scoping Report Phase included:

- Placement of advertisements in a local newspaper, the Gemsbok, notifying the broader public of the initiation of the EIA and inviting them to register as I&APs from 2 November 2011;
- Erection of a site notice at the entrance to Farm Klipgats Pan on 8 November 2011;
- Lodging the DSR at Prieska (Elizabeth Vermeulen) Public Library, Ietznietz Guest House in Copperton and on the Aurecon website from 8 November 2011. All registered I&APs were notified of the availability of the DSR by means of a letter sent by fax, post and/or e-mail on 7 November 2011. The notification letters also included a copy of the Executive Summary of the DSR in English and Afrikaans;
- I&APs had 40 days, until 5 January 2012, to submit their written comments on the DSR;
- On 6 December 2011 a second notification letter was distributed to I&APs regarding the extension of the comment period from 5 January 2012 to 9 January 2012 due to a delay that occurred during the mailing of the first notification letters;
- I&APs had 40 days, until 9 January 2012, to submit their written comments on the DSR. Cognisance was taken of all comments when compiling the final report, and the comments, together with the project team and proponent's responses thereto, were included in final report;

- I&APs were provided with 21 calendar days to comment on the FSR between 18 January 2012 and 7 February 2012; and
- Registered I&APs were informed of the FSR public comment period via a letter dated 16 January 2012 which was emailed or posted. An Executive summary together with an update page in English and/or Afrikaans was also emailed or posted to registered I&APs which highlighted the key changes made to the DSR as a result of the 40 day public comment period.

Currently there are 56 I&APs are registered on the project database (see **Section 4** for a list of current I&APs).

### **1.3 ISSUES AND CONCERNS RAISED DURING THE SCOPING PHASE**

Key issues raised by the public during the Scoping Phase are recorded in Comments and Response Report (CRR 1) which are included in Annexure E of the FSR. The major issues raised by I&APs related to astronomy (i.e. SKA) and the availability of resources to comment on the proposed project.

Two comments were received on the Final Scoping Report (included in **Section 2**) regarding the need for a Heritage Impact Assessment and requirements in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998). These have been responded to in CRR 2 (see **Section 3**).

### **1.4 COMMENT ON DRAFT EIAR**

The last stage of the Public Participation Process involves the public review of and comment on the Draft EIAR<sup>1</sup>. Letters of notification and Summaries of the Draft EIAR were sent to all registered I&APs (refer to **Section 4** for the current database), informing them of the availability of the report for their review and comment.

I&APs have 40 days, from 10 April 2012 until 22 May 2012, to submit their written comments on the DEIR. Cognisance will be taken of all comments in compiling the final report, and the comments, together with the project team and proponent's responses thereto, will be included in the final report. Where appropriate, the report will be updated.

Comments should be directed to:

**Aurecon**

Franci Gresse or Louise Corbett  
P O Box 494, Cape Town, 8000

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<sup>1</sup> A 21 day comment period on the Final EIAR will also be provided, however any comments received will not be included in a CRR and will instead be collated and forwarded directly to DEA.

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Fax: 086 723 1750  
Email: [franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com](mailto:franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com)

## 1.5 COMMENT ON THE FINAL EIAR

As is required by the NEMA EIA Regulations, I&APs must be given the opportunity to comment on all draft and final reports. Consequently, once the EIAR has been finalised, it will be made available for a 21 day comment period. The report will be made available in the same locations in which the Draft EIAR was made available, and I&APs will be notified of the availability of the Final EIAR in writing.

## 1.6 REVIEW AND DECISION PERIOD

The Final EIAR, together with all I&AP comments on the Draft EIAR, will be submitted to DEA for their review and decision-making. DEA must, within 60 days, do one of the following:

- Accept the report;
- Notify the applicant that the report has been referred for specialist review;
- Request amendments to the report; or
- Reject the report if it does not materially comply with regulations.

If the report is accepted, DEA must within 45 days:

- Grant authorisation in respect of all or part of the activity applied for; or
- Refuse authorisation in respect of all or part of the activity.

Once DEA issues their decision on the proposed project, all registered I&APs on the project database will be notified of the outcome of the decision within 12 calendar days of the Environmental Authorisation having been issued. Should anyone (a member of public, registered I&AP or the Applicant) wish to appeal DEA's decision, a Notice of Intention to Appeal in terms of Chapter 7 of the EIA Regulations (GN No. 543) in terms of NEMA must be lodged with the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs within 20 calendar days of the decision being issued and the substantive Appeal must be lodged within 30 days of the Notice.

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16 January 2012

Email: franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com

Dear Sir/ Madam

**PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON STRUISBULT FARM NEAR  
COPPERTON, NORTHERN CAPE  
&  
PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON FARM KLIPGATS PAN NEAR  
COPPERTON, NORTHERN CAPE  
&  
PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON FARM HOEKPLAAS NEAR  
COPPERTON, NORTHERN CAPE**

**SUBMISSION OF FINAL SCOPING REPORT**

**DEA Ref. No. 12/12/20/2502 & NEAS Ref. No. DEAT/EIA/0000606/2011 (Struisbult)**  
**DEA Ref. No. 12/12/20/2501 & NEAS Ref. No. DEAT/EIA/0000611/2011 (Klipgats Pan)**  
**DEA Ref. No. 12/12/20/2503 & NEAS Ref. No. DEAT/EIA/0000605/2011 (Hoekplaas)**

Our correspondence of 6 December 2011 regarding the extension of the comment period on the Draft Scoping Reports (DSRs) for the above mentioned proposed photovoltaic solar energy plants on farms Struisbult (Farm No. 104, Portion 1), Klipgats Pan (Farm No. 117, Portion 4) and Hoekplaas (Remainder of Farm No. 146) near Copperton in the Northern Cape have reference.

Following the comment period for the DSRs the Final Scoping Reports (FSRs), which include comments and concerns raised by Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) during the comment period, were compiled. For ease of reference, we have enclosed the Update Pages which list the amendments made to the DSRs.

The FSRs have been made available for review at the Prieska (Elizabeth Vermeulen) Public Library, letznietz in Copperton and on Aurecon's website ([www.aurecongroup.com](http://www.aurecongroup.com) - indicate "Current Location" as "South Africa" and follow the Public Participation link). If you would like to comment on the FSR, please submit your comments to Aurecon: Fax: 086 723 1750, E-mail: franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com or P.O. Box 494, Cape Town, 8000. Attention: Franci Gresse or Louise Corbett, on or before **7 February 2012**. Any comments received will be forwarded to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and included in future Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) documentation.

DEA will consider the FSR and issue a letter either accepting the FSR and associated Plan of Study for EIA and advising us to proceed with the tasks described in the Plan of Study for EIA, requesting amendments or reject the FSR and Plan of Study for EIA. The next step will be the compilation of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). All registered I&APs will be timeously informed of their opportunity to provide further input.

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SA le Roux, AW Möhr, PC Lombard, DM Triegaardt South Africa

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We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who commented on the DSR. All written comments received have been responded to in the Comments Response Report (included as Annexure D of the FSR), a copy of which has been sent to all those who submitted comment.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely  
Aurecon



**FRANCI GRESSE**

Practitioner: Environmental & Advisory Services



**LOUISE CORBETT** (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)

Practitioner: Environmental & Advisory Services

16 Januarie 2012

E-pos: franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com

Geagte Heer / Dame

**BEOOGDE FOTOVOLTAÏESE ENERGIE-AANLEG OP DIE PLAAS STRUISBULT  
NABY COPPERTON, NOORD-KAAP  
&  
BEOOGDE FOTOVOLTAÏESE ENERGIE-AANLEG OP DIE PLAAS KLIPGATS PAN  
NABY COPPERTON, NOORD-KAAP  
&  
BEOOGDE FOTOVOLTAÏESE ENERGIE-AANLEG OP HOEKPLAAS NABY  
COPPERTON, NOORD-KAAP**

**INDIENING VAN FINALE OMVANGBEPALINGSVERSLAG**

**DOS Verwysingsnr. 12/12/20/2502 & NEAS Verwysingsnr. DEAT/EIA/0000606/2011**(Struisbult)  
**DOS Verwysingsnr. 12/12/20/2501 & NEAS Verwysingsnr. DEAT/EIA/0000611/2011** (Klipgats Pan)  
**DOS Verwysingsnr. 12/12/20/2503 & NEAS Verwysingsnr. DEAT/EIA/0000605/2011**(Hoekplaas)

Met verwysing na ons skrywe van 6 Desember 2011 rakende die verlenging van die tydperk vir kommentaar op die Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslae (KOBVe) vir die beoogde fotovoltaïese sonenergie-aanleg op die plase Struisbult (Gedeelte 1 van Plaas 104), Klipgats Pan (Gedeelte 4 van Plaas nr. 117) en Hoekplaas (Restant van Plaas nr. 146) naby Copperton in die Noord-Kaap.

Die FOBV is na afloop van die tydperk vir kommentaar op die Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslages (KOBV) opgestel, en die kommentaar en kwessies wat tydens die kommentaartydperk deur Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Partye (B&GPe) geïdentifiseer is, is hierin vervat. Vir u gerief is die Opdateringsblae hierby ingesluit wat aandui watter veranderinge daar aan die KOBVe aangebring is.

Die FOBVe is vir oorsig beskikbaar by die Openbare Biblioteek in Prieska (Elizabeth Vermeulen), by letznietz in Copperton en op Aurecon se webblad ([www.aurecongroup.com](http://www.aurecongroup.com) – kies "South Africa" as "Current Location" en volg die "Public Participation"-skakel). Indien u op die FOBVe kommentaar wil lewer, word u versoek om dit voor of op **7 Februarie 2012** skriftelik in te dien by Aurecon: Faks: 086 723 1750, E-pos: franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com of Posbus 494, Kaapstad 8000. Vir aandag: Franci Gresse of Louise Corbett. Alle kommentaar sal aan die Department van Omgewingsake (DOS) deurgee word, asook by toekomstige Omgewingsinvloedbepaling (OIB)-dokumentasie ingesluit word.

Die DOS sal die FOBV nagaan en 'n brief uitreik waarin hulle die FOBV en gepaardgaande Studieplan vir die OIB aanvaar en ons versoek om voort te gaan met die take soos uiteengesit in die Studieplan vir die OIB; of versoek dat veranderinge aangebring word; of die FOBV en Studieplan vir die OIB verwerp. Die volgende stap is die samestelling van die Konsep Omgewingsinvloedbepalingsverslag (OIBV). Alle geregistreerde B&GPe sal betyds in kennis gestel

word van die geleentheid om verdere insette te lewer.

Ons wil graag van hierdie geleentheid gebruik maak om diegene wat op die KOBV kommentaar gelewer het, en die openbare vergadering op 10 Maart 2011 bygewoon het, vir hulle insette te bedank. Alle skriftelike kommentaar is in die Kommentaar- en Antwoordbad aangespreek. Dit is ingesluit as Bylae D tot die FOBV, en 'n afskrif is aan elkeen gestuur wat kommentaar ingedien het.

Moet asseblief nie huiwer om met onderstaande in verbinding te tree indien u enige vrae het nie.

Die uwe  
Aurecon



**FRANCI GRESSE**

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6 December 2011

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Dear Sir/ Madam

**PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON STRUISBULT FARM NEAR  
COPPERTON, NORTHERN CAPE  
&  
PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON FARM KLIPGATS PAN NEAR  
COPPERTON, NORTHERN CAPE  
&  
PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON FARM HOEKPLAAS NEAR  
COPPERTON, NORTHERN CAPE**

**EXTENSION OF COMMENT PERIOD**

**DEA Ref. No. 12/12/20/2502 & NEAS Ref. No. DEAT/EIA/0000606/2011 (Struisbult)**  
**DEA Ref. No. 12/12/20/2501 & NEAS Ref. No. DEAT/EIA/0000611/2011 (Klipgats Pan)**  
**DEA Ref. No. 12/12/20/2503 & NEAS Ref. No. DEAT/EIA/0000605/2011 (Hoekplaas)**

Our correspondence of 7 November 2011 regarding the availability of the Draft Scoping Reports (DSRs) for the above mentioned proposed photovoltaic solar energy plants on farms Struisbult (Farm No. 104, Portion 1), Klipgats Pan (Farm No. 117, Portion 4) and Hoekplaas (Remainder of Farm No. 146) near Copperton in the Northern Cape have reference.

Please note that the comment period on the DSRs has been extended until **9 January 2012** due to a delay that occurred during the mailing of the letters. The DSRs are available at the Prieska (Elizabeth Vermeulen) Public Library, Ietznietz Guest House in Copperton and on the Aurecon website ([www.aurecongroup.com](http://www.aurecongroup.com) - indicate "Current Location" as "South Africa" and follow the Public Participation link).

If you would like to submit any comments or concerns on the DSRs or register as an Interested and Affected Party for these processes please contact **Franci Gresse** of Aurecon on Tel: (021) 526 9400, Fax: (021) 526 9500, franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com or PO Box 494, Cape Town, 8000.

Yours sincerely  
Aurecon

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Practitioner: Environmental & Advisory Services

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6 Desember 2011

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Geagte Heer / Dame

**BEOOGDE FOTOVOLTAÏESE ENERGIE-AANLEG OP DIE PLAAS STRUISBULT  
NABY COPPERTON, NOORD-KAAP  
&  
BEOOGDE FOTOVOLTAÏESE ENERGIE-AANLEG OP DIE PLAAS KLIPGATS PAN  
NABY COPPERTON, NOORD-KAAP  
&  
BEOOGDE FOTOVOLTAÏESE ENERGIE-AANLEG OP HOEKPLAAS NABY  
COPPERTON, NOORD-KAAP**

**VERLENGING VAN KOMMENTAAR PERIODE**

**DOS Verwysingsnr. 12/12/20/2502 & NEAS Verwysingsnr. DEAT/EIA/0000606/2011 (Struisbult)**  
**DOS Verwysingsnr. 12/12/20/2501 & NEAS Verwysingsnr. DEAT/EIA/0000611/2011 (Klipgats Pan)**  
**DOS Verwysingsnr. 12/12/20/2503 & NEAS Verwysingsnr. DEAT/EIA/0000605/2011 (Hoekplaas)**

Met verwysing na ons skrywe van 7 November 2011 rakende die beskikbaarstelling van die Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslae (KOBVe) vir die beoogde fotovoltaïese sonenergie-aanleg op die plase Struisbult (Gedeelte 1 van Plaas 104), Klipgats Pan (Gedeelte 4 van Plaas nr. 117) en Hoekplaas (Restant van Plaas nr. 146) naby Copperton in die Noord-Kaap.

Graag wil ons u aandag daarop vestig dat die kommentaarperiode op die KOBVe verleng is tot **9 Januarie 2012** nadat daar 'n vertraging tydens die versending van die pos plaasgevind het. Die verslae is beskikbaar by die Prieska (Elizabeth Vermeulen) Openbare Biblioteek, die Ietznietz Gastehuis in Copperton en op Aurecon se webblad ([www.aurecongroup.com](http://www.aurecongroup.com) – verander "Current Location" na "South Africa" en volg die "Public Participation"-skakel).

Indien u enige kommentaar op die KOBVe wil lewer, beswaar wil aanteken, of as 'n B&GP vir hierdie prosesse wil registreer, word u versoek om met **Franci Gresse** van Aurecon by Tel: (021) 526 9400, Faks: (021) 526 9500, E-pos: franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com, of Posbus 494, Kaapstad 8000 in verbinding te tree.

Die uwe  
Aurecon

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**LOUISE CORBETT** (Pr. Sci. Nat.)

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5 April 2012

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Geagte Heer / Dame

**BEOOGDE FOTOVOLTAÏESE ENERGIE-AANLEG OP DIE PLAAS KLIPGATS PAN NABY  
COPPERTON, NOORD-KAAP**

**BESKIKBAARHEID VAN KONSEP OMGEWINGSINVLOEDBEPALINGS VERSLAG VIR OORSIG  
EN KOMMENTAAR LEWERING**

DOS Verwysingsnr. 12/12/20/2501 & NEAS Verwysingsnr. DEAT/EIA/0000611/2011

Ons skrywe van 16 Januarie 2012 rakende die beskikbaarheid van die Finale Omvangbepalingsverslae (FOBVe) vir die beoogde fotovoltaïese sonenergie-aanleg op die plaas Klipgats Pan (Gedeelte 4 van Plaas nr. 117) naby Copperton in die Noord-Kaap, het betrekking.

Die Department van Omgewingsake (DOS) het op 30 Maart 2012 die FOBVe goedgekeur en aangedui dat die projek mag voortgaan met die Omgewingsinvloedbepalingsverslae (OIBV). Konsep OIBVe is dus saamgestel en is tans beskikbaar vir oorsig en kommentaar. Vir u gerief is die Uitvoerende Opsommings van die Konsep OIBVe hierby ingesluit.

Die Konsep OIBVe is vir oorsig beskikbaar by die Openbare Biblioteek in Prieska (Elizabeth Vermeulen), by letzniet in Copperton en op Aurecon se webblad ([www.aurecongroup.com](http://www.aurecongroup.com) – kies "South Africa" as "Current Location" en volg die "Public Participation"-skakel). Indien u op die KOIBVe kommentaar wil lewer, word u versoek om dit voor of op **22 Mei 2012** skriftelik in te dien by Aurecon: Faks: 086 723 1750, E-pos: franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com of Posbus 494, Kaapstad 8000. Vir aandag: Franci Gresse of Louise Corbett. Alle kommentaar sal in 'n Kommentaar- en Antwoordbad aangespreek word en ingesluit word as 'n Bylae in die Finale OIBV-dokumentasie.

Sodra die kommentaarperiode op die KOIBVe verstryk het, sal die verslae gefinaliseer word en ingedien word by die DOS vir oorweging.

Moet asseblief nie huiwer om met onderstaande in verbinding te tree indien u enige vrae het nie.

Die uwe  
Aurecon



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5 April 2012

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Dear Sir/ Madam

**PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON FARM KLIPGATS PAN NEAR  
COPPERTON, NORTHERN CAPE**

**AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORTS  
FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

**DEA Ref. No. 12/12/20/2501 & NEAS Ref. No. DEAT/EIA/0000611/2011 (Klipgats Pan)**

Our correspondence of 16 January 2012 regarding the submission of the Final Scoping Report (FSR) for decision-making for the above mentioned proposed photovoltaic solar energy plant on farm Klipgats Pan (Farm No. 117, Portion 4) near Copperton in the Northern Cape has reference.

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) approved the FSR on 30 March 2012 and indicated that the project could proceed to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Phase. The Draft EIA Report (EIAR) was compiled and is available for review and comment. For ease of reference, we have enclosed the Executive Summary of the Draft EIAR.

The Draft EIAR has been made available at the Prieska (Elizabeth Vermeulen) Public Library, letznietz in Copperton and on Aurecon's website ([www.aurecongroup.com](http://www.aurecongroup.com) - change "Current Location" to "South Africa" and follow the Public Participation link). If you would like to comment on the Draft EIAR, please submit your comments to Aurecon: Fax: 086 723 1750, E-mail: franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com or P.O. Box 494, Cape Town, 8000. Attention: Franci Gresse or Louise Corbett, on or before **22 May 2012**. Any comments received will be included in a Comments and Response Report to be included in the Final EIAR.

Following the comment period on the Draft EIAR the EIAR will be finalised and submitted to DEA for decision-making.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely  
Aurecon



**FRANCI GRESSE**

Practitioner: Environmental & Advisory Services



**LOUISE CORBETT** (*Pr. Sci. Nat.*)

Associate: Environmental & Advisory Services

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**11 January 2012**

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**By email:** franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com and louise.corbett@aurecongroup.com

**Attention:** FranciGresse / Louise Corbett

DEA Ref. No: 12/12/20/2502      NEAS Ref. No:DEAT/EIA/0000606/2011

Dear Sirs

## **COMMENT ON PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANTS ON FARMS STRUISBULT, HOEKPLAAS AND KLIPGATS PAN, ALL NEAR COPPERTON, NORTHERN CAPE**

We refer to your email dated 7 November 2011, attached to which were a letter and an executive summary regarding the proposed photovoltaic solar energy plants on the farms Struisbult, Hoekplaas and Klipgats Pan ("**PV Plants**") which Mulilo Renewable Energy (Pty) Ltd ("**Mulilo**") proposes to construct. We refer in particular to your invitation to comment on the Draft Scoping Report as an interested or affected party.

We confirm we have a direct interest in Mulilo's proposed project for the PV Plants.

On 9 July 2010 we were granted a prospecting right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, No 24 of 2002. The prospecting area is for the Remainder of Portions 25 and 26 (portion of Portion 25) of the farm Vogelstruisbult and the farm Slimes Dams, No 154, situated in the Magisterial / Administrative District of Prieska and measuring: 723 hectares in extent.

We have committed a considerable amount of resources to our prospecting activities.

We note that, on the face of it, there appears to be no direct conflict between our prospecting right and Mulilo's proposed project for the PV Plants.

We, however, believe it is necessary to place on record our prospecting right lest the development and /or operation of the PV Plants causes such prospecting right to be limited in any manner.

We request to be listed as an interested and affected party for the purposes of the EIA.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'B' followed by a smaller 'v' and 'D'.

Bêrend van Deventer

Director

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON STRUISBULT FARM  
NEAR COPPERTON, NORTHERN CAPE  
NOVEMBER 2011**



DEA REF. NO. 12/12/20/2502  
NEAS REF. NO. DEAT/EIA/0000606/2011



**SUMMARY DOCUMENT: DRAFT SCOPING REPORT  
Response Form for comment by Interested and Affected Parties**

Please return this page to Aurecon via fax, post or e-mail by **5 January 2012**.

**Attention:** Franci Gresse / Louise Corbett  
**Postal address:** P O Box 494, Cape Town, 8000  
**Tel:** 021 526 9400  
**Fax:** 021 526 9400  
**Email:** franci.gresse@aurecongroup.com / louise.corbett@aurecongroup.com

<b>TITLE</b>	hr	<b>FIRST NAME</b>	Berend		
<b>INITIALS</b>	B	<b>SURNAME</b>	van Deventer		
<b>ORGANISATION</b>	Repli Trading N27 (Pty)	<b>EMAIL</b>	berend@repli.za.net		
<b>POSTAL ADDRESS</b>	94 Central Rd Hertzen, Kimberley	<b>POSTAL CODE</b>	8301		
<b>TEL NO.</b>	053 818 7470	<b>FAX NO.</b>	053 842 0459		
<b>CELL NO.</b>	083 257 6060	<b>LANGUAGE</b>	English	Afrikaans	Other
Do you have any direct interest in the approval or refusal of the proposed project for business or other reasons?				Yes	NO

**Please list any colleagues/friends or organizations that you feel should also be registered as an Interested and Affected Party for this EIA:**

(with contact details if available)

Name/ Organisation	Postal Address	Tel No.	Fax No.

**Please comment on any issues or concerns you may have:**

(please use a separate sheet if you wish)

See attached letter.

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Thank you for your comments



**SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY**  
**111 HARRINGTON STREET, CAPE TOWN, 8000**  
**PO BOX 4637, CAPE TOWN, 8000**  
**TEL: (021) 462 4502 FAX: (021) 462 4509**

DATE: 17 January 2012  
ENQUIRIES: Dr Mariagrazia Galimberti  
Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit  
E-mail: mgalimberti@sahra.org.za  
Web site: www.sahra.org.za

OUR REF: 9/2/075/0001  
DEA REF: 12/12/20/2503

Ms Louise Corbett  
Aurecon  
P O Box 494  
Cape Town  
8000

Dear Ms Corbett,

**REQUEST FOR A HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON FARM HOEKPLAAS NEAR COPPERTON, NORTHERN CAPE (DEA ref: 12/12/20/2503)**

Thank you for your indication that development is to take place in this area.

In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, heritage resources, including archaeological or palaeontological sites over 100 years old, graves older than 60 years, structures older than 60 years are protected. They may not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. This means that before such sites are disturbed by development it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a **Heritage Impact Assessment** is done. This must include the archaeological component (Phase 1) and any other applicable heritage components. Appropriate (Phase 2) mitigation, which involves recording, sampling and dating sites that are to be destroyed, must be done as required.

The Phase 1 Archaeological and Palaeontological Impact Assessment Reports will identify the archaeological sites and palaeontological resources and will assess their significance. It should also make recommendations (as indicated in section



38) about the process to be followed. For example, there may need to be a mitigation phase (Phase 2) where the specialist will collect or excavate material and date the site. At the end of the process the heritage authority may give permission for destruction of the sites.

If the property is very small or disturbed and there is no significant site the specialist may choose to send a letter to the heritage authority to indicate that there is no necessity for any further assessment.

Any other heritage resources that may be impacted such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewscapes must also be assessed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Colette Scheermeyer'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'M' being particularly large and stylized.

PP Mrs Colette Scheermeyer  
SAHRA: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit  
For: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



**water affairs**  
 Department:  
 Water Affairs  
 REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

*S*

TO	<i>C v Holdt.</i>
INITIAL	
NS CT	2012 -02- 10

Northern Cape Region  
 Lower Orange Water Management Area  
 Private Bag X5912, Upington, 8800  
 Tel: (054) 338-5800, Fax: (054) 334-0205  
 E-mail: wma14@dwa.gov.za  
 Website: www.dwa.gov.za

No.:	File:	FILE No.	107516		
Date:	10/02/2012				
to	Seen	Act	Cl	ACTION	
BU/ Oil	initial				
					Ref

**Tel: 054 338 5800**

**Fax: 054 334 0205/LC**

**E-mail: hlengania@dwa.gov.za**

**Enquiries: A.A Hlengani**

**For Attention: Louise Corbett**

**THE PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON THE FARM HOEKPLAAS (REMAINDER OF FARM NO. 146) NEAR COPPERTON, NORTHERN CAPE.**

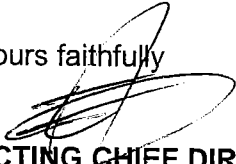
The above-mentioned report prepared for construction of photovoltaic (solar) energy prepared by by Franci Gresse and Louise Corbett of Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd dated November 2011 has relevance.

The Department of Water Affairs (DWA) has evaluated the above-mentioned report and wish to comment as follows:

1. The Applicant shall conduct a preliminary legal assessment to identify all the water use activities associated with the proposed development project that will require authorization by the DWA and hereby referred to section 22(1) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998).
2. This Department has no objection on the development, but a breakdown in terms of the water uses must clearly defined in terms of water use per activity, volume that can be used per day and per annum and the source of water, because the Department needs to confirm if it can fall under a General Authorization or need authorization.
3. It is noted that storage will be handled through the guideline of the EMP, which specify the storage details of hazardous compounds and the emergency procedures to follow in the event of spillage.
4. We note that issues of sedimentation and mitigation measures should be managed through the EMP procedure, inspection and monitoring should be carried out.
5. It is indicated that issue of dust suppression would be managed through EMP, which would include procedures for dealing with dust pollution.
6. Kindly note that no development should take place within 1:100 year flood line.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Department Regional Office should there be any queries.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

**ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR : NORTHERN CAPE**

**DATE :** 20 - 01 - 2012

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON FARM KLIPGATS PAN NEAR COPPERTON,  
NORTHERN CAPE: COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT 2 (FINAL SCOPING REPORT)**

This Comments and Response Report 2 reflects the comments submitted in writing on the Final Scoping Report of the proposed project. Only three submissions were received and have been summarised and responded to below.

**List of submissions:**

No.	Name	Organisation	Date Received	Method
1	B van Deventer	Repli Trading No 27 (Pty) Ltd	11/01/12	Email
2	C Scheermeyer	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	17/01/12	Mail
3	AA Hlengani	Department of Water Affairs (DWA)	10/02/12	Mail

**Comments and responses:**

No.	Name, Organisation & Date received	Issue	Response
1.	B van Deventer	<p>We confirm we have direct interest in Mulilo's proposed project for the PV plants. On 9 July 2010 we were granted a prospecting right in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, No. 24 of 2002. The prospecting area is for the Remainder of Portions 25 and 26 (portion of Portion 25) of the farm Vogelstruisbult and the farm Slims Dams, No 154, situated in the Magisterial / Administrative District of Prieska and measuring: 723 ha in extent.</p> <p>We have committed a considerable amount of resources to our prospecting activities. We note that, on the face of it, there appears to be no direct conflict between our prospecting right and Mulilo's proposed project for the PV plants. We, however, believe it is necessary to place on record our prospecting right lest the development and/ or operation of the PV plants causes such prospecting right to be limited in any manner.</p>	<p>Noted. You have been added to the project database and will be kept informed of the Environmental Impact Assessment process. Please also keep Mulilo Renewable Energy informed of your activities to avoid any issues between the proposed projects.</p>
2.	C Scheermeyer, SAHRA, 17/01/12	<p>In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999, heritage resources, including archaeological or palaeontological sites over 100 years old, graves older than 60 years, structures older than 60 years are protected. They may not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. This means that before such sites are disturbed by development it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a <b>Heritage Impact Assessment</b> is done. This must include the archaeological component (Phase 1) and any other applicable heritage components. Appropriate (Phase 2) mitigation, which involves recording, sampling and dating sites that are to be destroyed, must be done as required.</p> <p>The Phase 1 Archaeological and Palaeontological Impact assessment</p>	<p>A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and a Palaeontology Impact Assessment were undertaken by ACO Associates and Natura Viva, respectively. The HIA complies with section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, No. 25 of 1999. Mitigation measures have been suggested by the HIA and included in the Lifecycle Environmental Management Programme.</p> <p>Please refer to Section 4.4.3 in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) which describes the potential impacts on heritage resources (including archaeology and palaeontology).</p>

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON FARM KLIPGATS PAN NEAR COPPERTON,  
NORTHERN CAPE: COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT 2 (FINAL SCOPING REPORT)**

No.	Name, Organisation & Date received	Issue	Response
		<p>Reports will identify the archaeological sites and palaeontological resources and will assess their significance. It should also make recommendations (as indicated in section 38) about the process to be followed. For example, there may need to be a mitigation phase (Phase 2) where the specialist will collect or excavate material and date the site. At the end of the process the heritage authority may give permission for destruction of the site.</p> <p>If the property is very small or disturbed and there is no significant site the specialist may choose to send a letter to the heritage authority to indicate that there is no necessity for any further assessment.</p> <p>Any other heritage resources that may be impacted such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.</p>	
3.1	AA Hlengani, DWA, 10/02/12	The applicant shall conduct a preliminary legal assessment to identify all the water use activities associated with the proposed development project that will require authorisation by the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) and hereby referred to section 22(1) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998).	Noted. A legal assessment will be conducted to ensure that the necessary applications, if required, are submitted to the DWA for authorisation.
3.2		This Department has no objection on the development, but a breakdown in terms of the water uses must be clearly defined in terms of water use per activity, volume that can be used per day and per annum and the source of water, because the Department needs to confirm if it can fall under a General Authorisation or needs authorisation.	Please refer to comment 2.1 above and response thereto.
3.3		It is noted that storage will be handled through the guideline of the EMP, which specify the storage details of hazardous compounds and the emergency procedures to follow in the event of spillage.	The Lifecycle EMP includes mitigation measures for the construction, operational and decommissioning phases to ensure that negative impacts are avoided as far as possible.
3.4		We note that issues of sedimentation and mitigation measures should be managed through the EMP procedure, inspection and monitoring should be carried out.	Please refer to comment 2.3 above and response thereto.
3.5		It is indicated that the issue of dust suppression would be managed through the EMP, which would include procedures for dealing with pollution.	Please refer to comment 2.3 above and response thereto.
3.6		Kindly note that no development should take place within the 1: 100 year flood line.	Noted.



## environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Fedsure Building · 315 Pretorius Street · PRETORIA  
Tel (+ 27 12) 310 3911 · Fax (+ 2712) 322 2682

Reference: 12/12/20/2501

Enquiries: Takalani Maswime

Tel: 012 310 3780 Fax: 012 320 7539 E-mail: [imaswime@environment.gov.za](mailto:imaswime@environment.gov.za)

Franci Gresse  
Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd  
PO Box 494  
CAPE TOWN  
8000

Fax: 021 526 9500

**PER FACSIMILE / MAIL**

Dear Sir/Madam

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT:  
PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON FARM KLIPGATS PAN NEAR COPPERTON,  
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

The Department confirms having received the draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report dated April 2012 for the above-mentioned project on 10 April 2012.

Please note that the Department will start reviewing once the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report is received.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely

Mr Ishaam Abader  
Deputy Director-General: Environmental Quality and Protection  
Department of Environmental Affairs  
Letter signed by: Ms Mmatlala Rabothata  
Designation: PEO: Environmental Impact Evaluation  
Date: 24/04/2012

## Franci Gresse

---

**From:** John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za>  
**Sent:** 07 March 2012 01:54 PM  
**To:** Franci Gresse  
**Subject:** Solar PV EIA's

Sorry for the late comment, however it may be of help into the EIA phase of the projects. The following projects have reference:

12/12/20/2501 – proposed PV plant on Klipgats Pan near Copperton;  
12/12/20/2502 – proposed PV plant on Struisbult farm near Copperton; and  
12/12/20/2503 – proposed PV plant on Farm Hoekplaas near Copperton.

You have submitted the final scoping reports to Eskom for information and comment. The following comments in general:

1. 12/12/20/2502 – Cover page have wrong DEA reference number.
2. 12/12/20/2502 – Figure 4.2 is same as figure 4.2 in the report for 12/12/20/2501.
3. Eskom is currently busy with an EIA for 2x132kV power lines from Cuprum to Kronos and see that two of the proposed PV plants are in close vicinity to Kronos substation.
4. Eskom would require that the applicant take into consideration that Eskom may also in future require additional 400kV infrastructure to be connected to Kronos substation and would therefore request that the applicant ensures that the Eskom assets stays accessible.
5. Eskom Tx's rights and services must be acknowledged and respected at all times.
6. Eskom Tx shall at all times retain unobstructed access to and egress from its servitudes.
7. Eskom Tx's rights and duties in the servitude shall be accepted as having prior right at all times and shall not be obstructed or interfered with.

Regards  
John

**I'm part of the 49Million initiative.**

<http://www.49Million.co.za>

NB: This Email and its contents are subject to the Eskom Holdings Limited EMAIL LEGAL NOTICE which can be viewed at [http://www.eskom.co.za/e-mail\\_legalnotice](http://www.eskom.co.za/e-mail_legalnotice)



agriculture,  
forestry & fisheries

Department  
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X120, Pretoria (Tshwane), 0001  
Delpen Building, C/o Annie Botha & Union Street, Riviera, 0084

From: Directorate Land Use and Soil Management  
Tel: 012-319-7634 Fax: 012-329-5938 E-mail: Thokob@nda.agric.za  
Enquiries: Helpdesk Ref: 2011\_11\_0110

Aurecon South Africa (PTY) LTD  
P. O. Box 494  
CAPE TOWN  
8000

TO CHIEF OFFICE
INITIAL
NS CT 2011 03 15
FILE No.
2011 03 15

Dear Sir/Madam

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON  
PORTION 4 OF THE FARM KLIPGATS PAN NO. 117, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

Your letter dated November 2011 refers.

With reference to the above-mentioned matter I wish to inform you that this Department does not have any objection to the establishment of a solar plant on portions of the above mentioned properties with 300 hectares footprint sizes as indicated from an agricultural point of view. However the following needs to be adhered to:

- Any further extension of this proposed project should be reviewed in terms of Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act, 70 (Act 70 of 1970).
- No subdivision for the purposes of demarcating the individual footprint area should be allowed.
- No construction should be placed on the existing agricultural activities.
- Natural vegetation should be restored after the construction of the plant to prevent degradation.
- Provision should be made for the controls of runoff water were applicable.
- Water needed for the maintenance of the site should not be sourced from existing water rights allocated to the site or nearby farm portions as it will negatively impact on agricultural production.
- The applicant should take responsibility of the maintenance and status of the natural resource base of the site.



This Consent does not exempt any person from any provision of any other law, with special reference to the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act 43 of 1983) and does not purport to interfere with the rights of any person who may have an interest in the agricultural land.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be a stylized name or set of initials, enclosed within a faint circular outline.

DELEGATE OF THE MINISTER: LAND USE AND SOIL MANAGEMENT

## Franci Gresse

**From:** Warren Morse <warren@mulilo.com>  
**Sent:** 19 March 2012 09:33 AM  
**To:** 'Harry Roberts'; Franci Gresse  
**Subject:** Establishment of Solar Panel sites  
**Attachments:** Mulilo Solar Projects CAA.kmz

Good Day Mr Roberts

Thank you for your email regarding our CAA Approval applications.

We have sent seven solar plant CAA applications to the email address 'obstacles@caa.co.za' on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2012, namely:

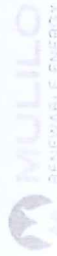
1. Prieska PV2 (Struisbuit)
2. Prieska PV3 (Hoekplaas)
3. Prieska PV4 (Klipgats)
4. De Aar PV2 (Paarde Valley)
5. De Aar PV3 (Badenhorst Dam)
6. De Aar PV4 (du Plessis Dam)
7. Augrabies PV (Roopiad)

These names have been used in all other studies so unfortunately cannot change. Would you like me to resend each application? They are based on the original CAA pdf forms, excel co-ordinate information and contain drawings and diagrams. They are ~3mb per application.

I've attached a kmz file of all the above solar project footprints and their proposed transmission routes.

Maximum height of solar field = 15.4m  
Maximum Height of 132kv power lines = 25m

Regards  
Warren Morse



Warren Morse B.Eng. (Electrical Engineering) Renewable Energy

Tel: +27 21 4345211 Fax: +27 21 4351660 Mobile: +27 82 760 4700 Email: warren@mulilo.com  
1700 Renewable Energy Park, 5th Fl, De V. Casteleyn International Airport, 7055 Cape Town, SA

**From:** Harry Roberts [mailto:RobertsH@caa.co.za]  
**Sent:** 15 March 2012 02:26 PM  
**To:** warren@mulilo.com; Franci Gresse  
**Subject:** Establishment of Solar Panel sites

Good Afternoon Warren.

Following discussion with Franci Gresse, relating to the intended establishment of Solar Energy Plants on the farms Hoekplaas, Struisbuit and Klipgats and being informed that the Environmental Impact Studies are in progress at least for Hoekplaas and Struisbuit, while the scope of work is still being considered by the Dept. of Environmental Affairs as far as Klipgats is concerned, this correspondence has been directed to your office regarding the Civil Aviation Authorities input towards facilitating its approval process.

Kindly provide a .kml (Google Earth) file reflecting the footprint of the proposed development site. Both the development site and footprint of the PV Farm (referenced to the WGS 84 datum) should be reflected on the same .kml file, for each of the three sites mentioned.

Also indicate the highest structure of the project.

Note that there may be other wind farms and PV farms in the area. Unique names are preferable. Please always use the proposed PV farm name in the Subject box when corresponding via email with this office.

Please note that the lead time for approval may take up to 90 days.

Regards



Harry Roberts  
Aviation Obstacle Analyst  
Air Navigation Services  
Cell: 079 505 8417 | Email: [RobertsH@caa.co.za](mailto:RobertsH@caa.co.za) | Fax: 011 545 1282 | [www.caa.co.za](http://www.caa.co.za)

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**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON FARM KLIPGATS PAN NEAR COPPERTON,  
NORTHERN CAPE: COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT 3 (FINAL EIA REPORT)**

This Comments and Response Report 3 reflects the comments submitted in writing on the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAR) of the proposed project. The DEIAR was made available for a 40 day comment period from 10 April 2012 to 22 May 2012. Only three submissions were received and have been summarised and responded to below.

**List of submissions:**

No.	Name	Organisation	Date Received	Method
1	J. Geeringh	Eskom	07/03/2012	Email
2	T. Buthelezi	Department of Agriculture Forestry & Fisheries (DAFF)	15/03/2012	Post
3	H. Roberts	South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)	15/03/12	E-mail

**Comments and responses:**

NO.	NAME, ORGANISATION & DATE RECEIVED	ISSUE	RESPONSE
1.	J. Geeringh; Eskom; 07/03/2012	<p>The following projects have reference:</p> <p>12/12/20/2501 – proposed PV plant on Klipgats Pan near Copperton; 12/12/20/2502 – proposed PV plant on Struisbult farm near Copperton; and 12/12/20/2503 – proposed PV plant on Farm Hoekplaas near Copperton.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12/12/20/2502 – Cover page have wrong DEA reference number.</li> <li>12/12/20/2502 – Figure 4.2 is the same as figure 4.2 in the report for 12/12/20/2501.</li> <li>Eskom is currently busy with an EIA for 2x132kV power lines from Cuprum to Kronos and see that two of the proposed PV plants are in close vicinity to Kronos substation.</li> <li>Eskom would require that the applicant take into consideration that Eskom may also in future require additional 400kV infrastructure to be connected to Kronos substation and would therefore request that the applicant ensures that Eskom assets stays accessible.</li> <li>Eskom's Tx's rights and services must be acknowledged and respected at all times.</li> <li>Eskom's Tx's shall at all times retain unobstructed access to and egress from its servitudes.</li> <li>Eskom's Tx's rights and duties in the servitude shall be accepted as having prior right at all times and shall not be obstructed or interfered with.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comment noted. Mulilo has been closely following the Eskom upgrade plans and is a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&amp;AP) on the basic assessment process. Mulilo intends to use the planned 6 x 132 kV bays at Kronos Substation as the preferred connection point for the proposed solar plant and has ensured to not locate the solar sites within the servitude boundaries of either the existing or planned Eskom transmission lines. Furthermore, Mulilo has ensured that adequate access would be available on all sides of the Kronos substation for any potential upgrade plans. Mulilo requests to be kept informed as to the timeframe and status of the Kronos Cuprum link to allow construction planning of both projects to link with Eskom planning.</li> </ol>

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON FARM KLIPGATS PAN NEAR COPPERTON,  
NORTHERN CAPE: COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT 3 (FINAL EIA REPORT)**

NO.	NAME, ORGANISATION & DATE RECEIVED	ISSUE	RESPONSE
2.	T. Buthelezi DAFF; 15/03/2012	<p>DAFF does not have any objection to the establishment of a solar plant on portions of the abovementioned properties with 300 hectares footprint sizes as indicated from an agricultural point of view. The following should however be adhered to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Any further extension of this proposed project should be reviewed in terms of the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act, 70 (Act 70 of 1970).</li> <li>2. No subdivision for the purpose of demarcating the individual footprint area should be allowed.</li> <li>3. No construction should be placed on the existing agricultural activities.</li> <li>4. Natural vegetation should be restored after the construction of the plant to prevent degradation.</li> <li>5. Provision should be made for the control of runoff water where applicable.</li> <li>6. Water needed for the maintenance of the site should not be sourced from existing water rights allocated to the site or nearby farm portions as it will negatively impact on agricultural production.</li> <li>7. The applicant should take responsibility of the maintenance and status of the natural resource base of the site.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comment noted. At this stage no expansion is planned.</li> <li>2. No subdivision would be required for the proposed project.</li> <li>3. The farm is currently used for sheep grazing and would continue to be used for grazing. However, due to safety risks, i.e. theft, and the possibility of livestock damaging the solar panels, the proposed site would need to be fenced off. No cultivated land would be impacted on by the proposed project.</li> <li>4. The Lifecycle Environmental Management Plan (LEMP) included in Annexure D of the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), contains guidelines pertaining to restoring and revegetating the construction site, including a Rehabilitation Plan. Furthermore, the site would be cleared in sections for construction and rehabilitation is to start immediately on sections upon completion of work on the specific section.</li> <li>5. The LEMP requires that a storm water management program is compiled and adhered to, to mitigate potential stormwater issues during the lifecycle of the proposed project. Also included in the LEMP are erosion mitigation measures. Please refer to Annexure D of the EIAR for the LEMP.</li> <li>6. Comment noted. Limited water would be required during the construction and operational phases of the proposed solar energy facility. An application for water availability has been submitted to the Siyathemba Municipality (the regional Water Services Authority (WSA)). Furthermore, confirmation has been requested by the Siyathemba Municipality to Alkantpan on the capacity of their Pipelines and pumps. Mulilo is awaiting the final confirmation approval.</li> <li>7. Specific mitigation and management measures have been included in the LEMP for the Construction, Operational and Decommissioning Phases (see Annexure D of the EIAR) to limit impacts on the existing environment.</li> </ol>
3.	Harry Roberts South African Civil	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kindly provide a kml (Google earth) file reflecting the footprint of the proposed development site. Both the development site and</li> </ol>	<p>Mulilo's responses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The requested information was included in the solar plant</li> </ol>

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY PLANT ON FARM KLIPGATS PAN NEAR COPPERTON,  
NORTHERN CAPE: COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT 3 (FINAL EIA REPORT)**

NO.	NAME, ORGANISATION & DATE RECEIVED	ISSUE	RESPONSE
	Aviation Authority (SACAA)	<p>footprint of the PV Farm (referenced to the WGS E4 datum) should be reflected on the same kml file, for each of the three sites mentioned.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Also indicate the highest structure of the project.</li> <li>3. Note that there may be other wind farms and PV farms in the area. Unique names are preferable.</li> <li>4. Please always use the proposed PV farm name in the Subject box when corresponding via email with this office.</li> <li>5. Please note that the lead time for approval may take up to 90 days.</li> <li>6. The Sites PV 3 and PV 4 should not present a problem with regard to the present airfield; however the PV2 site will not be processed until such time as clarity has been obtained with regard to the intended relocation of the Alkantpan airfield. Should you have any information regarding the relocation or not, it would be appreciated if this could share with my office, as this would expedite the processing of your applications.</li> </ol>	<p>SACAA applications that were submitted to the email address 'obstacles@caa.co.za' on 7 March 2012 for the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prieska PV2 (Struisbult)</li> <li>• Prieska PV3 (Hoekplaas)</li> <li>• Prieska PV4 (Klipgats)</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The solar panels (the highest structures on site) would either be 15.4 m (preferred) or 4 m (alternative) in height. The maximum height of the 132 KV power lines would be 25 m.</li> <li>3. Mulilo has assigned unique names to each of the proposed solar energy facilities for which they are in the process of applying Environmental Authorisation (EA) for. Furthermore, a map is provided in the Scoping and the EIAR documentation to show the location of wind and solar energy projects for which EAs are currently being applied for by the various developers.</li> <li>4. Noted.</li> <li>5. Noted.</li> <li>6. The alignment of the Alkantpan airstrip has recently been revised in the Final EIAR for the proposed Plan 8 wind energy facility. The proposed project should not impact on the airstrip, either in its current location or if it is moved, as there are numerous cases globally where solar plants have been constructed adjacent to airfields. Furthermore, Mulilo confirms that the solar panels would meet the necessary requirements in terms of potential glint and glare. It should also be noted that the relocation of the airstrip is dependent on the environmental authorisation of the Plan 8 wind energy facility, as well as its acceptance by the Department of Energy as an Independent Power Producer (IPP).</li> </ol> <p>Since the submission of the SACAA's comment, approval has been received for all three projects.</p>

## Interested and Affected Parties (updated)

Title	Initial /Name	Surname	Organisation
Ms	Tania	Anderson	
Mr	Mark	Anderson	Birdlife South Africa
	Thoko	Buthelezi	DAFF: Land Use & Soil Management
Mr	RC	Barlow	Department of Transport
Ms	Jemima J	Bernard	
Mr	Gert	Bessies	The Municipal Manager: SiyaThemba Local Municipality
Mr	James	Braid	
Mr	PJ	Buys	
Mr	Johnny	Callum	Mulilo Renewable Energy
Ms	Mashubu	Marbubini	DAFF: Land Use & Soil Management
Mr	Ralph	Damonse	Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa
Mr	Karniels	de Jager	105/Remainder
Mr	Berend	Deventer	Repli Investments No 27 Pty Ltd
Mr	Sam	Diokpala	Pixley ka Seme District Municipality
Mr	Frans	Ekkerd	Welverdiend; Farm 117/4
Cllr	A	Faro	SiyaThemba Local Municipality
Mr	Pieter	Fourie	Nelspoortjie Farm (No. 103/5)
Dr	Mariagrazia	Galimberti	South African Heritage Resources Agency
Mr	Andrew	Timothy	Northern Cape Provincial Heritage (Boswa ya Kapa Bokone)
Mr	Hano	Hamman	Repli Investments No 27 Pty Ltd
Mr	Wayne	Hector	Department of Environmental Affairs: Integrated Environmental Management
Mr	HG	Human	Agri-Prieska Stockfarmers; Farm no. 118/3
Mr	WJ	Human	Plat Sjambok; Farm no. 102/RE
	Johannes	Human	Hoekplaas: Farm no. 146/RE
Mr	Zuben	Jessa	Plan 8
Mr	Lutando	Klaas	Alkantpan Test Range
	Chamuwari J	Ketano	Department of Environment and Nature Conservation
	Mere	Kgampe	SKA
Ms	Liesl	Koch	Sivest
Mr	John	Geeringh	Eskom
Mr	Pieter	Mangate	Department of Land Reform
Mr	Michael	Mangnall	Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa
Ms	Lucia	Manong	Department of Agriculture (Northern Cape)
Mr	Mike	Meyer	Request Trust
Mrs	SP	Mokuele	Department of Energy (Northern Cape): Regional Energy Director
Mr	Warren	Morse	Mulilo Renewable Energy
Mr	WVD	Mothibi	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development
Mr	Isaac	Phooka	
Mr	Harry	Roberts	Civil Aviation Authorities
Mr	Berchtwald	Rode	Rode and Associates (Pty) Ltd
Ms	Thusile	Nyalunga	Department of Environmental Affairs: Integrated Environmental Management
Mr	Tshepo	Seekoe	Department of Science and Technology
Mr	Joas	ekkerd	Northern Cape Provincial Heritage (Boswa ya Kapa Bokone)

## Interested and Affected Parties (updated)

Mr	Jon	Smallie	Endangered Wildlife Trust
Mr	Kevin	Storie	Aero Club of South Africa
Mrs	Lizelle	Stroh	Civil Aviation Authorities
Mr	Adrian	Tiplady	Square Kilometer Array (SKA)
Mr	Eric	Torr	Gyro SA
Ms	Kelly	Tucker	Sivest
Mr	Gert	van der Westhuizen	Alkantpan Test Range
Mr	Bêrend	van Deventer	Agama Exploration & Mining
Mr	Anton	van Heerden	Farm Vrugbaar
Mr	Bertie	van Heerden	Alkantpan Test Range
Mr	Fransi	van Wyk	Witfontein Farm (No. 103/7 & 266)
Mr	Salmon	van Zyl	Farm no. 106/4
Mr	Coenie	Viljoen	Farm no. 118/1
Mr	Piet	Vos	Agri-Prieska
Mr	Keith	Woolf	Alkantpan Test Range
Ms	Anga	Yaphi	Northern Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Nature Conservation
	The Municipal Manager		Pixley ka Seme District Municipality
			Farm no. 117/3
	Van Wyk Broers		
	AA	Hlengani	Department of Water Affairs