



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM

Enq: Ms M. B. Lethole Tel: 015 290 7154 Fax: 015 295 5015 E-Mail: LetholeMB@ledet.gov.za Ref: 12/1/9/E-C303

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
P. O. Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

For attention: Mrs Gabriele Wood

Tel no: (011) 234 6621

Fax no: 086 684 0547

RE: THE PROPOSED KISON PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY WITH A GENERATING CAPACITY OF UP TO 75MW ON THE FARM SNYMANSDRIFT 738 LS WITHIN THE POLOKWANE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF THE CAPROCORN DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

1. The Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (the Department) received the draft Scoping Report (SR) for Public Review for the above-mentioned project on **09 September 2013**.
2. The Department has reviewed the draft SR and has the following comments:
 - 2.1 Attached in appendix F: Ecological Specialist Scoping Study, a copy of the study conducted for the proposed Gihon Solar Energy Facility south of Bela-Bela is included in the SR received by the Department. The vegetation type applicable to the proposed Kison Solar Energy Facility is the Polokwane Plateau Bushveld and it is not considered that an Ecological Study near Bela-Bela is applicable for this site.
 - 2.2 The visual impact of a photovoltaic solar energy facility at a site situated between two busy roads should be preferable compared to site alternatives in aesthetically more scenic areas. The possibility of reflections off the panels and whether these could in any way result in a hazard to road-users would, however, would have to be confirmed.

If you have any queries with regard to the above, please do not hesitate to contact Ms M. B. Lethole at the above contact details.

Yours sincerely

MANAGER:
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT

DATE: 11/10/2013

Cc: Department of Environmental Affairs
For attention: Mmatlala Rabothata

DEA Ref:14/ 12/16/3/3/2/577
Fax: 012 395 1768

HEAD OFFICE

20 Hans Van Rensburg Street / 19 Biccard Street, Polokwane, 0700, Private Bag X 9484, Polokwane, 0700
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water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X313, Pretoria, 0001, Schoeman Street 185, Sedibeng Building
Tel: (012) 336-6833, Fax: (012) 336-8629, matambelaj@dwa.gov.za

Enquiries: J. Matambela
Tel 012 336 6833
Fax 012 336 8629
Our ref: B15/1

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

ATTENTION: MRS G.WOOD

PROPOSED KISON SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN LIMPOPO

Your letter dated 06 September 2013 refers.

You are hereby informed to take consideration on comments and recommendations from the Sub-Directorate: Environmental and Recreation as attached to. This Department will not have any objections against the abovementioned proposed development.

Your co-operation will be appreciated.

LETTER SIGNED BY: J. VAN ROOYEN
SAO: LAND MATTERS
DATE:

2013 -10- 04



DEPARTMENT: WATER AFFAIRS

ENQUIRIES: Naidoo, D
TELEPHONE: 012 336 8162
REFERENCE: B15/1

DIRECTOR: LAND MATTERS
ATTENTION: Mr J Matambela

PROPOSED KISON ENERGY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The afore-mentioned application received by this office on 25 September 2013 refers.

The Sub-Directorate: Environment and Recreation (E&R), has the following comments and recommendations:

Water use entitlements

Any proposed development which may take place within the water resource as defined in the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) (NWA) constitutes a section 21 water use in terms of chapter 4 of the NWA and requires a water use authorisation obtained from this Department. Should the activity be identified as a section 21(c) water use [impeding and diverting the flow of water in a water course] and/or a Section (i) water use [altering the bed, banks, course and characteristics of a water course] taking place within the extent of a water course (the area within the 1:100 year flood line or delineated riparian habitat, whichever is the greatest, and/or within a 500m radius from the boundary of a wetland) the applicant must apply for a Section 21 (c) and (i) water use authorisation.

Based on the information at hand (refer to arrow three on page (v), Figure 1-1 on page 2 and the environmental sensitivity on page 15 of the draft scoping report), it is not clear nor indicated whether the proposed development's activities are within the extent of a watercourse. However, refer to Figure 4.1 on page 39, and Figure 4.2 on page 40 which illustrates the presence of wetlands and associated water bodies. Refer to Table 5.2 on pages 60, 61 and 64 which discusses wetlands beyond the study site that could be impacted upon by the proposed activities. The exact distance of the proposed activities from the wetlands and water bodies must be specified

Also refer to item 2.3.8 on page 23 regarding water usage. Please take note that should ground water be extracted from boreholes, a section 21 (a) water use will be required depending on the size of the borehole, the volume of water extracted and the extent of activity.

The Department through the relevant Regional Office (Department of Water Affairs: Limpopo Regional Office, Private Bag X9506, Polokwane, 0700, Tel: 015 290 1200, Fax: 015 295 3249) should be consulted to verify whether a water use authorisation will be required with regards to section 21 of the NWA and to discuss the appropriate permissible use depending on the scope and full extent of the proposed activities.

In addition, the applicant should provide the Regional Office with the following documents/information to assist with the decision making process thus allowing a timeous response to this application:

1. Clear, legible and detailed locality plans or maps (not 1:50000 scale) indicating all affected water resources.

2. Technical reports such as environmental impact assessment reports (with details regarding the proposed activities effect and/or impact on the water resources in the vicinity including alternatives and mitigation measures) or a comprehensive environmental management plan, and a wetland delineation and impact assessment.

Please refer to this letter in your future correspondence with the Department.

Storm water and erosion control

Appropriate measures should be implemented to avoid or minimise damming or ponding of water, as well as soil erosion and scouring as a result of increased and concentrated storm water run – in particular for Table 5.1 on page 54 of the draft scoping report.

The storm water drainage should not concentrate flow and should have multiple discharge points to diffuse flow, at discharge points monitoring should be done in respect of erosion control and an energy dissipater should be implemented where needed.

Pollution, Waste and Sewage

Please ensure that materials with a pollution potential are disposed of appropriately at a permitted waste disposal site.

Activities with an environmental consideration, for example item 2.3.2 on page 21 regarding the establishment of access roads and the solar power infrastructure must adhere to section 19 of the NWA for the prevention and remedying effects of pollution such as to ensure that the development does not contribute to cumulative impacts on the watercourse.

It is recommended that written service agreements between the service provider and the local municipality must be put in place.

Other

Please note that this letter and its content do not override any compliance to other legislation.



SCIENTIFIC MANAGER: ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION

DATE: 26/9/13
CC

DWA: LIMPOPO REGIONAL OFFICE
Private Bag X9506
Polokwane
0700



Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Networkx Renewables (Pty) Ltd
20 The Piazza, 2nd Floor
Melrose Arch
2076 johannesburg

Kison Solar Energy Facility near Polokwane, Limpopo Province

Van der Walt, J. August 2013. Archaeological Scoping Report For The Proposed Kison Solar Energy Facility And Associated Infrastructure, Polokwane, Limpopo Province.

Almond, J. Recommended Exemption From Further Palaeontological Studies: Proposed Development Of The Kison Solar Energy Facility Near Polokwane, Polokwane Local Municipality, Limpopo Province.

Networkx Renewables (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of photovoltaic solar energy facility, referred to as Kison Solar Energy on Portion 19 of the farm Snymansdrift 738, near Polokwane in the Limpopo Province. The proposed facility will generate up to 75Mw of electricity, with associated infrastructure planned. The Desktop Archaeological Impact Assessment and Letter of Exemption from further Palaeontological Assessment was submitted to SAHRA in support of the project.

The Desk based archaeological assessment concluded that there may be the possibility of archaeological resources being present and therefore requested that a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment be undertaken. No field assessment was undertaken for the Desktop assessment. In terms of the maps provided to SAHRA the property is bisected by what appears to vehicle tracks.

The palaeontological assessment the area is entirely underlain by ancient Precambrian granite-gneisses of the Goudplaats – Hout River Gneiss Suite that has been dated to approximately 3.3 Ga (billion years). According to the report the intrusive igneous granitoid gneisses are unfossiliferous and far too old to contain macroscopic fossils. The specialist suggested that no further palaeontological assessments will be required for this project.

Decision:

1. SAHRA supports the recommendation for a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment to be undertaken and that the report be submitted to SAHRA for review.
2. The recommendation that the project be exempted from further palaeontological studies is supported, however if any palaeontological resources are found during construction activities SAHRA (Mrs Colette Scheermeyer/Mr Phillip Hine, tel. 021 462 4502) or a professional palaeontologist must be alerted immediately. If the newly discovered palaeontological resource is deemed to be significant a rescue



Our Ref:

Enquiries: Phillip Hine
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: phine@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 3498

Date: Thursday September 19, 2013

Page No: 2



excavation may be required.

3. SAHRA will provide a Final Comment on this application as soon as the Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment is submitted. Please note that no development may commence before SAHRA has issued its Final Comment.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Phillip Hine
Heritage Officer

Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/130626>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/577)

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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