



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/870

Enquiries: Salome Mambane

Tel: 012 399 9385 E-mail: SMambane@environment.gov.za

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

Fax: 086 684 0547
Tel: 011 656 3237
Email: Karen@savannahsa.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF A NEW APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (SCOPING PROCESS) AND A DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED PAULPUTS CONCENTRATED SOLAR POWER (CSP) PROJECT NEAR POFADDER, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Department confirms having received the application for environmental authorisation and the Draft Scoping report for the abovementioned project on 18 November 2015. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014.

Further note that in terms of regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of regulation 3(7).

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely

Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Ms Senisha Soobramany

Designation: Control Environmental Officer (Grade A): Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Date: 27 November 2015

cc:	Dr. Loui van Heerden	Paulputs CSP RF (Pty) Ltd	Email: louis.vanheerden@abengoa.com
	Mrs Nditshensi Ranuulu	Northern Cape: Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Email: nranuhulu@ncpg.gov.za
	Lenkoe	Nama Koi Local Municipality	Email: michelle@pagemam@namakhoi.gov



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Enquiries: Ms Nonhlahla Mkhwanazi

Telephone: (012) 399 9386 **E-mail:** NMkhwanazi@henvironment.gov.za

Ms Karen Jodas
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Telephone Number: (011) 656 3237
Email Address: karen@savannahsa.com

PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Jodas

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE 200 MW PAULPUTS CONCENTRATED SOLAR POWER (CSP) PROJECT AND ITS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 4 OF THE FARM SCUITKLIP 92 NEAR POFADDER WITHIN THE KHAIMA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The draft Scoping Report (SR) dated November 2015 and received by this Department on 18 November 2015, and the acknowledgement letter of the SR issued by this Department on 23 November 2015 refer.

This Department has the following comments on the abovementioned application:

- i. Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and that it can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.
- ii. If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.
- iii. Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final SR.
- iv. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014.
- v. Scoping specialist studies, if applicable, must be submitted to the Department with the final SR.
- vi. This Department requires a cumulative impact assessment to be undertaken in the final SR to determine potential fatal flaws.
- vii. This Department requests the EAP to include the specialist consultants who will conduct the specialist assessments.
- viii. This Department requires an avifaunal assessment study to be included as part of the PoSEIA. This must be a separate study and not form part of the ecological impact assessment.

- ix. This Department requests the EAP to familiarise themselves with the requirements of Appendix 2 of GNR 982 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 and ensure that the final SR submitted to this Department for consideration meets the requirements in terms of identifying, assessing and providing mitigation measures of the impacts on the alternative and preferred sites.
- x. Please provide a description of any identified alternatives for the proposed activity that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected by the activity as per Appendix 1 (2) (e) and 3 (1) (h) (i) of GN R.982 of 2014. Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 1.
- xi. In accordance with Appendix 1 (3) (1) (a) of the EIA Regulations 2014, the details of—
 - (i) the EAP who prepared the report; and
 - (ii) the expertise of the EAP to carry out Scoping and Environmental Impact assessment procedures; must be submitted.
- xii. You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014.
- xiii. Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of the these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

Signed by: Mr Coenrad Agenbach

Designation: Deputy Director: Strategic Infrastructure Developments

Date: 08/12/2015

cc:	Dr. Louis van Heerden	Paulputs CSP RF (Pty) Ltd	Email: Louis.vanheerden@abengoa.com
	Mrs N Ranuhulu	NC DENC	Email: nranuhulu@ncpg.gov.za



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Telephone: (012) 399 9386 **E-mail:** NMkhwanazi@environment.gov.za

Ms Karen Jodas
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Telephone Number: (011) 656 3237
Email Address: karen@savannahsa.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Jodas

ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 200 MW PAULPUTS CONCENTRATED SOLAR POWER (CSP) FACILITY AND ITS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 4 OF THE FARM SCUITKLIP 92 NEAR POFADDER WITHIN THE KHAI-MA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Scoping Report (SR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated January 2016 and received by this Department on 26 January 2016 refer.

This Department has evaluated the submitted SR and the PoSEIA dated January 2016 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014. The SR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014.

You may proceed with the EIA process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the PoSEIA and the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014.

All comments and recommendations made by all stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in the draft SR and submitted as part of the final SR must be taken into consideration when preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment report (EIAR) in respect of the proposed development. Please ensure that all mitigation measures and recommendations in the specialist studies are addressed and included in the final EIAR and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the final EIAR. This includes but is not limited to the Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), the provincial Department of Agriculture, the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), SENTECH, the Department of Transport, the Local Municipality, the District Municipality, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), the South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL), the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), BirdLife SA, the Department of Mineral Resources, the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, the Department of Environmental Affairs: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation and the Square Kilometre Array (SKA).

Please be advised that the contact person for renewable projects at the SKA office is Dr Adrian Tiplady and he can be contacted on Tel: (011) 442 2434 or E-mail: atiplady@ska.ac.za.

Please ensure that the EIAr and EMPr comply with Appendix 3 and Appendix 4 of Regulation 2014, before submission to the Department. You are also required to address all issues raised by organs of state and I&APs prior to the submission of the EIAr to the Department, particularly **Birdlife South Africa comments dated 03 December 2015.**

Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the EIAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.

In addition, the following additional information is required for the EIAr:

- i. GN R.983 Item 19: With regards to infilling and excavation of watercourses for the construction of the CSP Energy facility, this Department requires the applicant to provide an indication of the preferred and alternate locations from which the material used for infilling will be sourced and where excavated material will be stored and/or disposed of. In addition, the impacts associated with this activity must be adequately assessed in the EIAr.
- ii. The draft EIAr must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- iii. The listed activities represented in the EIAr and the application form must be the same and correct.
- iv. It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the EIAr process as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of all activities under GN R.985. Written comments from the relevant authorities must be obtained and submitted to this Department. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided.
- v. The EIAr must provide the technical details for the proposed facility in a table format as well as their description and/or dimensions. A sample for the minimum information required is listed under point 2 of the EIA information required below.
- vi. The EIAr must provide the four corner coordinate points for the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous bend points, at each bend point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities.
- vii. The EIAr must provide the following:
 - Clear indication of the envisioned area for the proposed CSP facility; i.e. placing of power tower and all associated infrastructure should be mapped at an appropriate scale.
 - Clear description of all associated infrastructure. This description must include, but is not limited to the following:
 - Power lines;
 - Internal roads infrastructure; and;
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area, guard house and control room etc.
 - All necessary details regarding all possible locations and sizes of the proposed satellite substation and the main substation.
- viii. This Department requires comments from the Department of Agriculture to be included in the EIAr.
- ix. This Department requires comments from the Department of Water and Sanitation, from the Impact Management and Resource Management Directorates to be included in the EIAr.
- x. A significant amount of materials and equipment will be delivered to the site during the construction phase of the development. The EIAr must include a traffic assessment study. The study must determine the specific traffic needs during the different phases of implementation.
- xi. The EIAr must assess all identified impacts including noise and geotechnical impacts.
- xii. The following activities applied for may trigger Section 19 and Section 21 of the National Water Act No. 36 of 1998 as GN R. 983 Activities 12 and 19 was applied for. The hydrological assessment to be

- conducted must also assess the impacts on the surface hydrology of the proposed development area and must be included in the EIAr. The terms of reference for the study must include, *inter alia* the following:
- Identification and sensitivity rating of all surface water courses for the impact phase of the proposed development;
 - Identification, assessment of all potential impacts to the water courses and suggestion of mitigation measures; and,
 - Recommendations on the preferred placement of the facility and all associated infrastructure and preference must be provided to the avoidance of the watercourses on the property.
- xiii. It is imperative that a reliable water source is secured for the success of this project. The Department requests proof of availability of water for the facility from the relevant authority.
- xiv. The EIAr must adequately assess and provide a comparative analysis for alternative water sources for the proposed development. The preferred water source alternative must further motivate the preferred technology choice for the facility.
- xv. **You are requested to provide the Department with a detailed motivation as to why only one site alternative was considered.**
- xvi. A cumulative assessment must be undertaken for the sourcing of water as there are numerous other facilities in the region.
- xvii. Should a water abstraction point in the Gariep River and a pipeline to pipe the water to the facility be required, the impact of these must be assessed.
- xviii. An Avifaunal Assessment must be conducted as part of the EIAr. The terms of reference for the study must include, *inter alia* the following:
- Determine the impacts that the proposed activity (including the powerline) may have on avifauna;
 - Must cover at a minimum, the summer and winter seasons;
 - The assessment must include mitigation measures to discourage the avifauna from entering the CSP field as well and limit nesting and breeding grounds within the CSP field.
 - The avifaunal specialist study must be expanded to include vantage point surveys as well as flight paths to consider how birds will move through the property. The study must also propose adequate mitigation measures to reduce the facilities impacts on avifauna frequenting the area.
 - Assess the cumulative impact on avifauna within the site and within the local area.
- xix. An Agricultural Specialist Study must be conducted as part of the EIAr. The terms of reference for the study must include, *inter alia* the following:
- Assessment of the loss of agricultural land;
 - The current state of agricultural activities on land;
 - The impact of the loss of agricultural land within the property as well as the cumulative impact of the loss of agricultural land on the site and within the area.
- xx. **Should in-house specialists be used for any specialist study, then the specialist study must be peer reviewed by external specialists.**
- xxi. The EIAr must also include a comments and response report in accordance with Appendix 2 h (iii) of the EIA Regulations, 2014.
- xxii. The EIAr must include the detail inclusive of the PPP in accordance with Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations.
- xxiii. Details of the future plans for the site and infrastructure after decommissioning in 20-30 years and the possibility of upgrading the proposed infrastructure to more advanced technologies.
- xxiv. Information on services required on the site, e.g. sewage, refuse removal, water and electricity. Who will supply these services and has an agreement and confirmation of capacity been obtained? Proof of these agreements must be provided.
- xxv. The EIAr must provide a detailed description of the need and desirability, not only providing motivation on the need for clean energy in South Africa of the proposed activity. The need and desirability must also indicate if the proposed development is needed in the region and if the current proposed location is desirable for the proposed activity compared to other sites.

- xxvi. A copy of the final site layout map and alternatives. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout map must indicate the following:
- Tower position and its associated infrastructure;
 - Positions of the power island, steam turbine and generator, molten salt storage tanks, water storage reservoir and tanks, lined evaporation ponds and water supply pipeline;
 - Permanent laydown area footprint;
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible);
 - Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used;
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, IBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint;
 - Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially roads;
 - Buffer areas;
 - Buildings, including accommodation; and
 - All “no-go” areas.
- xxvii. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
- xxviii. A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.
- xxix. A shapefile of the preferred development layout/footprint must be submitted to this Department. The shapefile must be created using the Hartebeesthoek 94 Datum and the data should be in Decimal Degree Format using the WGS 84 Spheroid. The shapefile must include at a minimum the following extensions i.e. .shp; .shx; .dbf; .prj; and, .xml (Metadata file). If specific symbology was assigned to the file, then the .avl and/or the .lyr file must also be included. Data must be mapped at a scale of 1:10 000 (please specify if an alternative scale was used). The metadata must include a description of the base data used for digitizing. The shapefile must be submitted in a zip file using the EIA application reference number as the title. The shape file must be submitted to:

Postal Address:

Department of Environmental Affairs
Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Physical address:

Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road
Pretoria

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

The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) to be submitted as part of the EIA must include the following:

- i. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIA and the specialist studies conducted.
- ii. The final site layout map.
- iii. Measures as dictated by the final site layout map and micro-siting.
- iv. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
- v. A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.
- vi. An alien invasive management plan to be implemented during construction and operation of the facility. The plan must include mitigation measures to reduce the invasion of alien species and ensure that the continuous monitoring and removal of alien species is undertaken.
- vii. A plant rescue and protection plan which allows for the maximum transplant of conservation important species from areas to be transformed. This plan must be compiled by a vegetation specialist familiar with the site and be implemented prior to commencement of the construction phase.
- viii. A re-vegetation and habitat rehabilitation plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. Restoration must be undertaken as soon as possible after completion of construction activities to reduce the amount of habitat converted at any one time and to speed up the recovery to natural habitats.
- ix. An open space management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
- x. A traffic management plan for the site access roads to ensure that no hazards would result from the increased truck traffic and that traffic flow would not be adversely impacted. This plan must include measures to minimize impacts on local commuters e.g. limiting construction vehicles travelling on public roadways during the morning and late afternoon commute time and avoid using roads through densely populated built-up areas so as not to disturb existing retail and commercial operations.
- xi. A storm water management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. The plan must ensure compliance with applicable regulations and prevent off-site migration of contaminated storm water or increased soil erosion. The plan must include the construction of appropriate design measures that allow surface and subsurface movement of water along drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface flows. Drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water run-off.
- xii. A fire management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
- xiii. An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Appropriate erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion.
- xiv. An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of all hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use and storage. This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems.
- xv. Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.

The EAP must provide detailed motivation if any of the above requirements is not required by the proposed development and not included in the EMPr.

The EAP must provide the final detailed Site Layout Plan as well as the final EMPr for approval with the final EIA as this Department needs to make a decision on the EA, EMPr and Layout Plan.

The EIA must include a **cumulative impact assessment** of the facility since there are other similar facilities in and around the proposed site as well as in the region. The specialist studies as outlined in the PoSEIA which is incorporated as part of the SR must also assess the facility in terms of potential cumulative impacts.

Please ensure that all the relevant Listing Notice activities are applied for, that the Listing Notice activities applied for are specific and that they can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure in the project description.

You are hereby reminded that should the EIA fail to comply with the requirements of this acceptance letter, the project will be **refused** in accordance with Regulation 24(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations, and Regulations 43 and 44 with regard to the allowance of a comment period for interested and affected parties on all reports submitted to the competent authority for decision-making. The reports referred to are listed in Regulation 43(1).

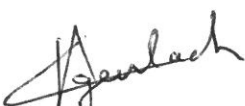
Furthermore, it must be reiterated that, should an application for Environmental Authorisation be subject to the provisions of Chapter II, Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999, then this Department will not be able to make nor issue a decision in terms of your application for Environmental Authorisation pending a letter from the pertinent heritage authority categorically stating that the application fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority as described in Chapter II, Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999. Comments from SAHRA and/or the provincial department of heritage must be provided in the EIA.

You are requested to submit two (2) electronic copies (CD/DVD) and two (2) hard copies of the EIA to the Department as per Regulation 23(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014.

Please also find attached information that must be used in the preparation of the EIA. This will enable the Department to speedily review the EIA and make a decision on the application.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, which stipulates that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza

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

Letter Signed by: Mr Coenrad Agenbach

Designation: Deputy Director: Strategic Infrastructure Developments

Date: 18/02/2016

cc:	Dr Louis van Heerden	Paulputs (Pty) Ltd	Email: Louis.vanheerden@abengoa.com
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A. EIA INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR CONCENTRATED SOLAR POWER (CSP) ENERGY FACILITIES

1. General site information

The following general site information is required:

- Descriptions of all affected farm portions
- 21 digit Surveyor General codes of all affected farm portions
- Copies of deeds of all affected farm portions
- Photos of areas that give a visual perspective of all parts of the site
- Photographs from sensitive visual receptors (tourism routes, tourism facilities, etc.)
- Concentrated Solar plant design specifications including:
 - Type of technology
 - Structure height
 - Surface area to be covered (including associated infrastructure such as roads)
 - Structure orientation
 - Laydown area dimensions (construction period and thereafter)
 - Generation capacity
- Generation capacity of the facility as a whole at delivery points

This information must be indicated on the first page of any Scoping or EIA document. It is also advised that it be double checked as there are too many mistakes in the applications that have been received that take too much time from authorities to correct.

2. Sample of technical details for the proposed facility

Component	Description / dimensions
CSP heliostats	
Tower	
Area of CSP	
Number of inverters required	
Area occupied by inverter / transformer stations / substations	
Capacity of on-site substation	
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	
Area occupied by buildings	
Length of internal roads	
Width of internal roads	
Proximity to grid connection	
Height of fencing	
Type of fencing	

3. Site maps and GIS information

Site maps and GIS information should include at least the following:

- All maps/information layers must also be provided in ESRI Shapefile format
- All affected farm portions must be indicated
- The exact site of the application must be indicated (the areas that will be occupied by the application)
- A status quo map/layer must be provided that includes the following:
 - Current use of land on the site including:

- Buildings and other structures
- Agricultural fields
- Grazing areas
- Natural vegetation areas (natural veld not cultivated for the preceding 10 years) with an indication of the vegetation quality as well as fine scale mapping in respect of Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas
- Critically endangered and endangered vegetation areas that occur on the site
- Bare areas which may be susceptible to soil erosion
- Cultural historical sites and elements
- Rivers, streams and water courses
- Ridgelines and 20m continuous contours with height references in the GIS database
- Fountains, boreholes, dams (in-stream as well as off-stream) and reservoirs
- High potential agricultural areas as defined by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
- Buffer zones (also where it is dictated by elements outside the site):
 - 500m from any irrigated agricultural land
 - 1km from residential areas
- Indicate isolated residential, tourism facilities on or within 1km of the site
- A slope analysis map/layer that include the following slope ranges:
 - Less than 8% slope (preferred areas for facility and infrastructure)
 - between 8% and 12% slope (potentially sensitive to facility and infrastructure)
 - between 12% and 14% slope (highly sensitive to facility and infrastructure)
 - steeper than 18 % slope (unsuitable for facility and infrastructure)
- A site development proposal map(s)/layer(s) that indicate:
 - Foundation footprint
 - Permanent laydown area footprint
 - Construction period laydown footprint
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible)
 - River, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used
 - Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint.
 - Cable routes and trench dimensions (where they are not along internal roads)
 - Connection routes to the distribution/transmission network (the connection must form part of the EIA even if the construction and maintenance thereof will be done by another entity such as ESKOM)
 - Cut and fill areas of power tower and heliostats sites along roads and at substation/transformer sites indicating the expected volume of each cut and fill
 - Borrow pits
 - Spoil heaps (temporary for topsoil and subsoil and permanently for excess material)
 - Buildings including accommodation

With the above information authorities will be able to assess the strategic and site impacts of the application.

4. Regional map and GIS information

The regional map and GIS information should include at least the following:

- All maps/information layers must also be provided in ESRI Shapefile format
- The map/layer must cover an area of 20km around the site
- Indicate the following:

- roads including their types (tarred or gravel) and category (national, provincial, local or private)
- Railway lines and stations
- Industrial areas
- Harbours and airports
- Electricity transmission and distribution lines and substations
- Pipelines
- Waters sources to be utilised during the construction and operational phases
- A visibility assessment of the areas from where the facility will be visible
- Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas
- Critically Endangered and Endangered vegetation areas
- Agricultural fields
- Irrigated areas
- An indication of new road or changes and upgrades that must be done to existing roads in order to get equipment onto the site including cut and fill areas and crossings of rivers and streams

5. Important stakeholders

Amongst other important stakeholders, comments from the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries must be obtained and submitted to the Department. Any application, documentation, notification etc. should be forwarded to the following officials:

Ms Mashudu Marubini
 Delegate of the Minister (Act 70 of 1970)
 E-mail: MashuduMa@daff.gov.za
 Tel 012- 319 7619

Ms Thoko Buthelezi
 AgriLand Liaison office
 E-mail: ThokoB@daff.gov.za
 Tel 012- 319 7634

All hardcopy applications / documentation should be forwarded to the following address:

Physical address:

Delpen Building
 Cnr Annie Botha and Union Street
 Office 270
 Attention: Delegate of the Minister Act 70 of 1970

Postal Address:

Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
 Private Bag X120
 Pretoria
 0001
 Attention: Delegate of the Minister Act 70 of 1970

In addition, comments must be requested from Eskom regarding grid connectivity and capacity. Request for comment must be submitted to:

Mr John Geeringh
Eskom Transmission
Megawatt Park D1Y38
PO Box 1091
JOHANNESBURG
2000

Tel: 011 516 7233
Fax: 086 661 4064
John.geeringh@eskom.co.za

B. AGRICULTURE STUDY REQUIREMENTS

- Detailed soil assessment of the site in question, incorporating a radius of 50 m surrounding the site, on a scale of 1:10 000 or finer. The soil assessment should include the following:
 - Identification of the soil forms present on site
 - The size of the area where a particular soil form is found
 - GPS readings of soil survey points
 - The depth of the soil at each survey point
 - Soil colour
 - Limiting factors
 - Clay content
 - Slope of the site
 - A detailed map indicating the locality of the soil forms within the specified area,
 - Size of the site
- Exact locality of the site
- Current activities on the site, developments, buildings
- Surrounding developments / land uses and activities in a radius of 500 m of the site
- Access routes and the condition thereof
- Current status of the land (including erosion, vegetation and a degradation assessment)
- Possible land use options for the site
- Water availability, source and quality (if available)
- Detailed descriptions of why agriculture should or should not be the land use of choice
- Impact of the change of land use on the surrounding area
- A shape file containing the soil forms and relevant attribute data as depicted on the map.

C. ASTRONOMY GEOGRAPHIC ADVANTAGE ACT, 2007 (ACT NO. 21 OF 2007)

The purpose of the Act is to preserve the geographic advantage areas that attract investment in astronomy. The entire Northern Cape Province excluding the Sol Plaatjie Municipality had been declared an astronomy advantage area. The Northern Cape optical and radio telescope sites were declared core astronomy advantage areas. The Act allowed for the declaration of the Southern Africa Large Telescope (SALT), MeerKAT and Square Kilometre Array (SKA) as astronomy and related scientific endeavours that had to be protected.

You are requested to indicate the applicability of the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act, Act No. 21 of 2007 on the application in the BAR/EIR. You must obtain comments from the Southern African Large Telescope (SALT) if the proposed development is situated within a declared astronomy advantage area.



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environmental House · 473 Steve Biko Road · PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9972

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/870

Enquiries: Ms Nonhlahla Mkhwanazi

Tel: 012 399 9386 **E-mail:** NMkhwanazi@environment.gov.za

Michelle Moodley
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Telephone Number: (011) 656 3237
Email Address: michelle@savannahSA.com

PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIMEFRAME FOR THE PROPOSED PAULPUTS CSP PROJECT NEAR POFADDER, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Department confirms having received the request for extension of regulated timeframe for the submission of the Final EIA Report for the above-mentioned project on 18 March 2016.

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

Yours sincerely

Sobramany

Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs:

Letter signed by: Ms Khashiwe Masinga

Designation: Director: Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Date: 4 April 2016

From the desk of Michelle Moodley
E-mail: michelle@savannahSA.com



17 March 2016

Attention: Ms Nonhlanhla Mkhwanazi
Department of Environmental Affairs
Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia, 0083

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF REGULATED TIMEFRAME FOR SUBMISSION OF THE
FINAL EIA REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED PAULPUTS CSP PROJECT NEAR
POFADDER, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

DEA REF: 14/12/16/3/3/2/870

Dear Nonhlanhla,

An EIA process is currently being undertaken by Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd in accordance with the EIA Regulations published in Government Gazette No 38282 in December 2014, in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA; Act No 107 of 1998), for the proposed Paulputs CSP Project (DEA Ref No 14/12/16/3/3/2/870).

The Scoping Report was accepted by the Department on 18 February 2016. In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, Government Notice No. 982, Regulation 23(1) *The applicant must within 106 days of acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority – (a) an environmental impact report inclusive of any specialist reports, and an EMPr, which must be subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority.*

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, Government Notice No. 982, Regulation 3(7) *In the event where the scope of work must be expanded based on the outcome of an assessment done in accordance with these Regulations, which outcome could not be anticipated prior to the undertaking of the assessment, or in the event where exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated, the competent authority may, prior to the lapsing of the relevant prescribed timeframe, in writing, extend the relevant prescribed timeframe and agree with the applicant on the length of such an extension.*

The Applicant formally requests the consideration of an extension of the prescribed EIA timeframes by the Competent Authority for the Paulputs CSP EIA.

The following provides motivation for the need for an extension in the regulated timeframe, and demonstrates the exceptional circumstances facing the practical completion of the required assessments for the EIA phase, which could not have been anticipated prior to the commencement of the application. Due to the following reasons, it is not considered to be feasible for the final EIAR to be submitted within the regulated timeframe of 106 days (i.e. by 3 June 2016):

1. In order for the avifaunal monitoring to adequately meet the Department's requirements as per condition xviii of the Acceptance of Scoping, an Avifaunal Assessment must be conducted as part of the EIAR and must include avifaunal surveys during summer and winter seasons (or, as per norm for the Northern Cape, a wet and dry season survey). During the Scoping Phase, a winter (or dry season) survey was undertaken in August 2015, and met in part the Department's requirements. The summer (or wet season) survey would required to be undertaken in March/April – March is typical of the wettest month in this part of the Northern Cape.
2. South Africa has been severely affected by an El Niño drought in the latter half of 2015 and the beginning of 2016. This has placed a strain on water supplies, agricultural production and general veld condition across the country. The greater Pofadder area, as with large tracts of the Northern and Eastern portions of the country, has been subject to severe drought conditions. December 2015 has been recorded as the driest December in South Africa in 15 years.
3. The limited rainfall and high temperatures in the area has compromised the summer growing season. Due to the anticipated late on-set of the colder temperatures associated with Autumn, it is the recommendation of the ecologist that the avifaunal monitoring survey as well as the ecological field-survey be undertaken as late as possible (that is, in April 2016) accommodating any late seasonal rains and allowing for improved veld conditions. This would enable the best possible in-field results to be used for the ecological as well as avifauna assessment.

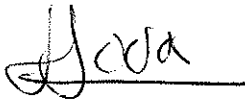
The Applicant therefore request an extension of 90 days to a) accommodate the delay in the field survey, b) ensure that the reporting is completed to the highest standard, and allow for sufficient time for engagement between the consultants and applicant, specifically with regards to sensitivities identified and the need for mitigation, and c) provide sufficient time as may be required in order for any

mitigation strategy to be adequately provided for. The following has been considered in this request for an extension of 90 days:

1. The proposed Paulputs CSP Project has a footprint of approximately 900 ha which is larger in comparison to other renewable energy project footprints (eg PV – 300ha) and therefore an extended amount of time is required for both the in-field surveys as well as reporting.
2. In considering the terms of reference as per Chapter 8 of the Final Scoping Report, i.e. the Plan of Study for the EIA, as well as the Departments requirement in the Acceptance of Scoping Report as per condition xviii for the Avifaunal Assessment, vantage point surveys as well as flight paths must be considered. Therefore the in-field avifauna survey must be accommodated for.
3. The 106 day timeframe includes the release of the report for public review as well as adequately addressing any comments received. Sufficient time is required in order to ensure adequate public participation as well as the consideration of the comments received, as required.

Please contact me with any queries in this regard.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Jodas', with a horizontal line underneath.

Karen Jodas
SAVANNAH ENVIRONMENTAL

Michelle Moodley

From: Nonhlahla Mkhwanazi <NMkhwanazi@environment.gov.za>
Sent: 04 May 2016 03:14 PM
To: Michelle Moodley
Cc: Mahlatse Shubane
Subject: RE: PROPOSED PAULPUTS CSP PROJECT NEAR POFADDER, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE - DEA REF NO. 14/12/16/3/3/2/870 - WITHDRAWAL OF REQUEST FOR EXTENSION ON SUBMISSION OF THE EIA REPORT

Dear Michelle

This serves as a confirmation that the email below has been received. Please consider your request for extension of the regulated timeframes for the submission of the Final EIAR (Paulputs CSP Project) as withdrawn.

Regards

From: Michelle Moodley [mailto:michelle@savannahsa.com]
Sent: 04 May 2016 10:55 AM
To: Nonhlahla Mkhwanazi
Subject: PROPOSED PAULPUTS CSP PROJECT NEAR POFADDER, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE - DEA REF NO. 14/12/16/3/3/2/870 - WITHDRAWAL OF REQUEST FOR EXTENSION ON SUBMISSION OF THE EIA REPORT

Hi Nonhlahla

Please find attached a letter withdrawing our request for extension on submission of the EIAR for PAULPUTS CSP PROJECT NEAR POFADDER, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE - DEA REF NO. 14/12/16/3/3/2/870.

Kind regards,

Michelle Moodley
Environmental Consultant
Email: michelle@savannahsa.com
www.savannahSA.com



Tel: +27 11 656 3237 | Fax: +27 86 684 0547 | P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
1st Floor, Block 2, 5 Woodlands Drive Office Park, Woodlands Drive, Woodmead, 2191

Awarded Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015 (SAWEA)

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From the desk of Michelle Moodley
E-mail: michelle@savannahSA.com



29 April 2016

Department of Environmental Affairs
Environment House
473 Steve Biko Street
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083

Attention: Ms. Nonhlahla Mkhwanazi

**PROPOSED PAULPUTS CSP PROJECT NEAR POFADDER, NORTHERN CAPE
PROVINCE
DEA REF: 14/12/16/3/3/2/870**

**WITHDRAWAL OF THE REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF REGULATED TIMEFRAME
FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE FINAL EIA REPORT**

Dear Ms. Mkhwanazi

An EIA process is currently being undertaken by Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd in accordance with the EIA Regulations published in Government Gazette No 38282 of December 2014, in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA; Act No 107 of 1998) for the proposed Paulputs CSP Project (DEA Ref No 14/12/16/3/3/2/870)

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd submitted a request for an extension of the prescribed timeframes in line with the EIA Regulations of 2014, Chapter 2, Section 3(7) on 18 March 2016 on behalf of the Applicant. Receipt of this submission was acknowledged by the DEA on 4 April 2016.

The request for the extension in time was made in order to allow for the field work for the specialist ecological studies (flora, fauna, avifauna) to be undertaken as late in the season as possible, owing to the wide spread draught conditions. In the absence of a response from the Department, the specialist surveys were undertaken in early April and have been used to inform the EIA.

UNIT 10, BUILDING 2, S WOODLANDS DRIVE OFFICE PARK, CNR. WOODLANDS DRIVE & WESTERN SERVICE ROAD, WOODMEAD, JOHANNESBURG
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WWW.SAVANNAHSA.COM

DIRECTORS: KM JODAS • J THOMAS • M MATSABU
COMPANY REGISTRATION NO.: 2006/000127/07
VAT REGISTRATION NO.: 4780226736

To date, no decision from the Department has been received in regards to the granting or rejection of the extension request. Savannah Environmental therefore hereby formally withdraw the extension request in order to comply with the prescribed timeframes of the EIA Regulations 2014

Please confirm the withdrawal in writing.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any queries.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michelle Moodley', written in a cursive style.

Ms Michelle Moodley

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Michelle Moodley

From: Nonhlahla Mkhwanazi <NMkhwanazi@environment.gov.za>
Sent: 15 June 2016 08:33 AM
To: Michelle Moodley
Subject: RE: PROPOSED PAULPUTS CSP PROJECT NEAR POFADDER, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE - DEA REF NO. 14/12/16/3/3/2/870 - Notification Regulation 23(1b)

Good day,

The Department acknowledge this notification.

Thank you
Nonhlahla

From: Michelle Moodley [mailto:michelle@savannahsa.com]
Sent: 08 June 2016 09:31 AM
To: Nonhlahla Mkhwanazi
Subject: PROPOSED PAULPUTS CSP PROJECT NEAR POFADDER, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE - DEA REF NO. 14/12/16/3/3/2/870 - Notification Regulation 23(1b)

Dear Nonhlahla

Please find attached written notification in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 for the Proposed Paulputs CSP Project Near Pofadder, Northern Cape Province - DEA Ref No. 14/12/16/3/3/2/870.

The original signed letter was hand-delivered for your attention this morning, please find attached the receipt.

Kind regards,

Michelle Moodley
Environmental Consultant
Email: michelle@savannahsa.com
www.savannahSA.com



From the desk of Michelle Moodley
E-mail: michelle@savannahSA.com



07 June 2016

Department of Environmental Affairs
Environment House
473 Steve Biko Street
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083

Attention: Ms Nonhlahla Mkhwanazi

**PROPOSED PAULPUTS CSP PROJECT NEAR POFADDER, NORTHERN CAPE
PROVINCE
DEA REF: 14/12/16/3/3/2/870**

**NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
ASSESSMENT REPORT WITHIN 156 DAYS OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING
REPORT (IN TERMS OF REGULATION 23(1)(b))**

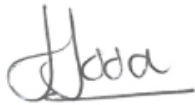
Dear Ms Mkhwanazi

An EIA process is currently being undertaken by Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd on behalf of Paulputs CSP RF (Pty) Ltd in accordance with the EIA Regulations published in Government Gazette No 38282 of December 2014, in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA; Act No 107 of 1998) for the proposed Paulputs CSP Project (DEA Ref No 14/12/16/3/3/2/870). The Environmental Impact Assessment report was made available for public review from the 04 May 2016 to 03 June 2016.

In terms of Regulation 23(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations of 2014, GN R982, this letter serves as a notification in writing that the environmental impact report, inclusive of specialist reports and an EMPr, will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the Department as significant new information has been added to the Environmental Impact Report and/or EMPr, which changes or information was not contained in the reports consulted on during the initial public participation review. The revised environmental impact report and/or EMPr will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days.

Please acknowledge the receipt of this notification in writing. Please contact me with any further queries in this regard, or should any further documentation in this regard be required.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen Jodas', with a horizontal line underneath the text.

Karen Jodas

Tel: +27 11 656 3237 | Fax: +27 86 684 0547 | P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
1st Floor, Block 2, 5 Woodlands Drive Office Park, Woodlands Drive, Woodmead, 2191

Awarded Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015 (SAWEA)

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