



## environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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

**DEA Reference:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/753

**Enquiries:** Ms Mmatlala Rabothata

**Tel:** 012 399 9372 **E-mail:** mrabothata@environment.gov.za

Ms Jo-Anne Thomas  
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd  
PO Box 148  
**SUNNINGHILL**  
2157

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

### **PER FACSIMILE / MAIL**

Dear Ms Thomas

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE OF A NEW APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (SCOPING/EIA PROCESS) FOR THE PROPOSED 75MW SOLAR PV FACILITY AT LETHABO POWER STATION WITHIN METSIMAHOLO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN FREE STATE PROVINCE**

The Department confirms having received the application form with motivation for exclusion from fee payment, project map, project schedule, Declaration of Applicant and Declaration of EAP for environmental authorisation for the abovementioned project submitted by you on 4 November 2014. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010. The application is accepted.

**Please note that in order for the Department to process the application as a SIP application you are requested to provide confirmation of SIP applications from the relevant SIP Coordinator within 7 working days, failing which, the application will be regarded as a normal application.**

In addition, please consider the following during compilation of reports for this application for environmental authorisation:

- Please be advised that in terms of the EIA Regulations and NEMA the investigation of alternatives is mandatory. Alternatives must therefore be identified, investigated to determine if they are feasible and reasonable. It is also mandatory to investigate and assess the option of not proceeding with the proposed activity (the "no-go" option).
- A detailed and complete EMPr must be submitted with the EIR. This EMPr must not provide recommendations but must indicate actual remediation activities which will be binding on the applicant. Without this EMPr the documents will be regarded as not meeting the requirements and will be returned to the applicant for correction.
- The applicant/EAP is required to inform this Department in writing upon submission of any draft report, of the contact details of the relevant State Departments (that administer laws

relating to a matter affecting the environment) to whom copies of the draft report were submitted for comment. Upon receipt of this confirmation, this Department will in accordance with Section 24O(2) & (3) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) inform the relevant State Departments of the commencement date of the 40 day commenting period, or 60 days in the case of the Department of Water Affairs for waste management activities which also require a licence in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998).

- Should it be necessary to apply for a permit in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999), please submit the necessary application to SAHRA or the relevant provincial heritage agency and submit proof thereof with the Environmental Impact Assessment Report. The relevant heritage agency should also be involved during the public participation process and have the opportunity to comment on all the reports to be submitted to this Department.

You are requested to submit two (2) electronic copies (the main report must be separated from the Appendices (each appendix saved separately) (CD/DVD) and two (2) hard copies of both the Draft and Final Report to the Department. The hard copies must be double-sided printed; and must be ring binded.

The EAP must, in order to give effect to regulation 56 (2), before submitting the Environmental Impact Assessment Report to the Department give registered interested and affected parties access to, and an opportunity to comment on the report in writing.

In terms of regulation 67 of the EIA Regulations, 2010 this application will lapse if the applicant (or the EAP on behalf of the applicant) fails to comply with a requirement in terms of the Regulations for a period of six months after having submitted the application, unless the reasons for failure have been communicated to and accepted by this Department

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 Ishaam Abader**

**Deputy Director-General: Legal, Authorisations, Compliance and Enforcement  
Department of Environmental Affairs:**

**Letter signed by: Ms Mmatlala Rabothata**

**Designation: Environmental Officer: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**

**Date: 18/11/14**

CC:	Deidre Herbst	Eskom Holdings SOC Limited	Fax: 086 660 6092	Email: HerbstDL@eskom.co.za
	Ms Grace Mkhosana	Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs	Fax: 051 400 9523	Email: mkhosana@detea.fs.gov.za
	Mr Steve Molala	Metsimaholo Local Municipality	Fax: 016 976 5205	Email: Stephen.molala@metsimaholo.gov.za



## **environmental affairs**

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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

**DEA Reference:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/753

**Enquiries:** Mr Herman Alberts

**Telephone:** (012) 399 9371 **E-mail:** HAlberts@environment.gov.za

Ms Jo-Anne Thomas  
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd  
PO Box 148  
**SUNNINGHILL**  
2157

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

### **PER EMAIL / MAIL**

Dear Ms Thomas

### **ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE LETHABO PV SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY NEAR SASOLBURG, FREE STATE PROVINCE**

The Scoping Report (SR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated May 2015 and received by this Department on 19 May 2015 refer.

This Department has evaluated the submitted SR and the PoSEIA dated May 2015 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2010. The SR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 30(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

You may proceed with the Environmental Impact Assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the PoSEIA and the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

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 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 Free State Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), the provincial Department of Agriculture, the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), the Department of Transport, the Metsimaholo Local Municipality, the Fezile Dabi District Municipality, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), the Department of Communications, SENTECH, Eskom Holdings SOC Limited, the South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL), the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), EWT, BirdLife SA, the Department of Mineral Resources, the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, and, the Department of Environmental Affairs: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation.



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.

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.

The EAP must, in order to give effect to Regulation 56(2), give registered I&APs access to, and an opportunity to comment on the report in writing within 21 days before submitting the final EIAr to the Department.

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

- i. Following a review of the SR and application form, the following information must form part of the EIAr as well as a separate document for ease of reference:
  - An amended application form with an indication of all the 2010 listed activities that are still listed;
  - An indication of all the similarly listed 2014 activities;
  - An indication if there are any new 2014 activities that are listed;
  - An indication where in the report all the 2014 activities have been assessed and mitigated for; and,
  - A letter/affidavit from the EAP indicating that the above is true and correct.
- ii. 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. 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 GN R. 546 Activity 14. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided.
- iv. The EIAr must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- v. Cumulative impacts of similar type of developments in the area must form part of the studies that must be assessed as part of the EIA process.
- vi. The following activities applied for may trigger Section 19 and Section 21 of the National Water Act No. 36 of 1998: GN R. 544 Activities 11(xi) and 18(i). The EAP is advised to conduct a surface hydrological study as part of 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 photovoltaic panels and associated infrastructure.
- vii. The listed activities represented in the EIAr and the application form must be the same and correct.
- viii. 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 for solar energy facilities below.
- ix. 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.
- x. The EIAr must provide the following:
  - Clear indication of the envisioned area for the proposed solar energy facility; i.e. placing of photovoltaic panels 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.
- xi. The EIA must also include a comments and response report in accordance with Regulation 28(m) of the EIA Regulations, 2010.
- xii. The EIA must include the detail inclusive of the PPP in accordance with Regulation 54 of the EIA Regulation.
- xiii. 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.
- xiv. An Avifaunal Assessment must be conducted to determine the impacts that the proposed activity (including the powerline) may have on avifauna. Mitigation measures must be proposed and included in the EIA and the EMP.
- xv. 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.
- xvi. The EIA 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.
- xvii. A copy of the final site layout map. 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:
- PV positions and its associated infrastructure;
  - 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, 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.
- xviii. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
- xix. A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.
- xx. 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 EIAr must include the following:

- i. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIAr 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 transportation plan for the transport of components, main assembly cranes and other large pieces of equipment.
- xii. 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.

- xiii. A fire management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
- xiv. 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.
- xv. 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.
- xvi. 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 EIAr must include a **cumulative impact assessment** of the facility if there are other similar facilities in the region. The specialist studies e.g. biodiversity, visual, noise etc. must also assess the facility in terms of potential cumulative impacts. 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 EIAr fail to comply with the requirements of this acceptance letter, the EIAr will be rejected.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 67 with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations, and Regulations 56 and 57 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 56(3a-3h).

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 EIAr.

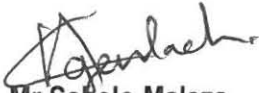
You are requested to submit two (2) electronic copies (CD/DVD and two (2) hard copies of the EIAr to the Department as per Regulation 34(1) (b) of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

Please also find attached information that must be used in the preparation of the EIAr. This will enable the Department to speedily review the EIAr 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:** 09/06/2015

cc:	Ms Deidre Herbst	Eskom Holdings SOC Limited	E-mail: HerbstDL@eskom.co.za
	Ms Grace Mkhosana	FS: DETEA	E-mail: mkhosana@detea.gov.za
	Mr Steve Molala	Metsimaholo Local Municipality	E-mail: Stephen.molala@metsimaholo.gov.za

## **A. EIA INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR SOLAR 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.)
- 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 the EIAr. 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**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Description / dimensions</b>
Height of PV panels	
Area of PV Array	
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 PV and infrastructure)
  - between 8% and 12% slope (potentially sensitive to PV and infrastructure)
  - between 12% and 14% slope (highly sensitive to PV and infrastructure)
  - steeper than 18 % slope (unsuitable for PV 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 at PV 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.



## 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:** 14/12/16/3/3/2/753  
**Enquiries:** Mr Muhammad Essop  
**Tel:** 012 399 9406 **E-mail:** [MEssop@environment.gov.za](mailto:MEssop@environment.gov.za)

Sandhisha Jay Narain  
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd  
P O Box 148  
**SUNNINGHILL**  
2157

**Tel No:** 011 656 3237  
**Email:** [sandhisha@savannahSA.com](mailto:sandhisha@savannahSA.com)

**PER E-MAIL / MAIL**

Dear Sir/Madam

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED LETHABO PV SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY NEAR SASOLBURG, FREE STATE PROVINCE**

The Department confirms having received the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the above-mentioned project on 29 March 2016.

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

Yours sincerely

*Soobramany*  
**Mr Sabelo Malaza**  
**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**  
**Department of Environmental Affairs**  
**Letter signed by: Ms Senisha Soobramany**  
**Designation: Control Environmental Officer (Grade A): Coordination and Strategic Planning and Support**  
**Date:** 12 April 2016