

Tamryn Lee Goddard

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 18 November 2021 18:29
To: Tamryn Lee Goddard
Cc: Jo-Anne Thomas
Subject: RE: Additional footprint for the Engie Sannasport Solar Project - Request for Pre-Application Meeting
Attachments: april2021application_meetingrequest.docx

Dear Tamryn.

Please note that we cannot process your application for Pre-Application Meeting as you have used the incorrect form. The form used is dated November 2021 and we have not created or issued a November 2021 form. Kindly advise us where you obtained this form. Please use the correct form (attached) and we will gladly process your request and allocate your application.

Regards

EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Please note that this email is for the receipt and processing of online applications only, and is not monitored for responses. All queries must be directed to EIAdmin@dffe.gov.za.

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From: Tamryn Lee Goddard <tamryn@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 November 2021 15:26
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Jo-Anne Thomas <joanne@savannahsa.com>
Subject: Additional footprint for the Engie Sannasport Solar Project - Request for Pre-Application Meeting

Good day,

Please find attached pre-application meeting request for the proposed additional footprint for the Engie Sannasport Solar Project. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries regarding the project or the application.

Please note and as stated in the application form, we do not require a meeting but do need approval of the PP Plan. Please advise if you require a meeting and a suitable date.

Thank you and kind regards,

 **Tamryn Lee Goddard**
Environmental Consultant
c: +27 (0) 63 936 8434
e: tamryn@savannahsa.com
t: +27 (0)11 656 3237
f: +27 (0) 63 936 8434

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Tamryn Lee Goddard

From: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 November 2021 09:59
To: Tamryn Lee Goddard; Jo-Anne Thomas
Cc: Dr. Danie Smit; Julliet Mahlangu; Ephron Maradwa
Subject: Additional footprint for the Engie Sannasport Solar Project - PPP Plan Approval 2021-11-0021

Dear Tamryn

The Public Participation Process (PPP) Plan for the abovementioned project received by this department on 18 November 2021, refer.

The Department has evaluated the Public Participation Plan which is submitted as per Minister Directive dated 05 June 2020 in response to Covid-19 pandemic and the minutes of the pre application meeting hereby approves the plan and minutes for the abovementioned project.

You may proceed with the public participation process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the PPP plan. Should you wish to deviate from the submitted PPP Plan, the amended PPP Plan must be submitted to the Department for approval prior commencement.

Please ensure that the PPP plan forms part of the report that will be submitted to the department. Kindly ensure that all I&APs are consulted as per requirement of EIA Regulations 2014 as amended.

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

Regards,
Zamalanga

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 25 November 2021 14:30
To: Julliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Dr. Danie Smit <DSMIT@dffe.gov.za>; Jo-Anne Thomas <joanne@savannahsa.com>; reggie.niemand@engie.com
Subject: 2021-11-0021

Dear Julliet.

Please note that you have been allocated an application:

Type of Application: Pre-Application Meeting Request;
Reference Number: 2021-11-0021;
Date Received: 18/11/2021;
Action Required: Decide on meeting request.

Kindly let Ephron know which date the meeting is to be held, if it will be set.

*EAP/Applicant: please use this reference number when submitting the application for EA/amendment application (page 1 of the application form), as well as attach the approved PP Plan if the application requires a PP process.

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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From: Tamryn Lee Goddard <tamryn@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 19 November 2021 10:51
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Jo-Anne Thomas <joanne@savannahsa.com>
Subject: FW: Additional footprint for the Engie Sannasport Solar Project - Request for Pre-Application Meeting

Good day,

Please find attached pre-application meeting request for the proposed additional footprint for the Engie Sannasport Solar Project. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries regarding the project or the application.

Please note and as stated in the application form, we do not require a meeting but do need approval of the PP Plan. Please advise if you require a meeting and a suitable date.

Thank you and kind regards,

 Savannah
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Tamryn Lee Goddard
Environmental Consultant
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Tamryn Lee Goddard

From: Julliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 26 November 2021 10:14
To: Tamryn Lee Goddard
Cc: Zama Langa; Jo-Anne Thomas; reggie.niemand@engie.com
Subject: FW: 2021-11-0021
Attachments: Request for Pre-Application for the Engie Sannaspos additional footprint.pdf; 2021-11-0021.pdf

Good Morning

The department acknowledges the receipt of the Pre Application request and have noted that you do not require a meeting.

Please send the public Participation Plan to the department for approval before submitting the application.

Regards
Julliet

From: EIA Applications [mailto:EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za]
Sent: Thursday, 25 November 2021 2:30 PM
To: Julliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Dr. Danie Smit <DSMIT@dffe.gov.za>; Jo-Anne Thomas <joanne@savannahsa.com>; reggie.niemand@engie.com
Subject: 2021-11-0021

Dear Julliet.

Please note that you have been allocated an application:

Type of Application: Pre-Application Meeting Request;
Reference Number: 2021-11-0021;
Date Received: 18/11/2021;
Action Required: Decide on meeting request.

Kindly let Ephron know which date the meeting is to be held, if it will be set.

*EAP/Applicant: please use this reference number when submitting the application for EA/amendment application (page 1 of the application form), as well as attach the approved PP Plan if the application requires a PP process.

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Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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From: Tamryn Lee Goddard <tamryn@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 19 November 2021 10:51
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Jo-Anne Thomas <joanne@savannahsa.com>
Subject: FW: Additional footprint for the Engie Sannasport Solar Project - Request for Pre-Application Meeting

Good day,

Please find attached pre-application meeting request for the proposed additional footprint for the Engie Sannasport Solar Project. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries regarding the project or the application.

Please note and as stated in the application form, we do not require a meeting but do need approval of the PP Plan. Please advise if you require a meeting and a suitable date.

Thank you and kind regards,

 **Tamryn Lee Goddard**
Environmental Consultant
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Tamryn Lee Goddard

From: Tamryn Lee Goddard
Sent: Wednesday, 12 January 2022 14:16
To: Mangalane.DuToit@drdlr.gov.za
Cc: queries@drdlr.gov.za; Nondumiso Bulunga
Subject: Sannaspos PV Land Claim Enquiry
Attachments: SE3213- Sannaspos Land Claims Letter final.pdf

Dear Mangalane,

I trust this email finds you well.

Please kindly find attached land claims enquiry for two farm portions in question. We (Savannah Environmental) are currently conducting a full Scoping and EIA process for the development on an additional footprint on these two properties and require confirmation of whether there are land claims against them. This will assist our project team to consult with the relevant claimants as required by the regulatory environmental legislation.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,



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Tamryn Lee Goddard
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Tamryn Lee Goddard

From: Tamryn Lee Goddard
Sent: Thursday, 13 January 2022 12:13
To: 'queries@dalrrd.gov.za'
Cc: 'info@DALRRD.gov.za'; 'landclaims@drdlr.gov.za'; Nondumiso Bulunga
Subject: Sannaspos PV Land Claim Enquiry
Attachments: SE3213- Sannaspos Land Claims Letter final.pdf

To whom it may concern.

Please kindly find attached land claims enquiry for the two farm portions in question. We (Savannah Environmental) are currently conducting a full Scoping and EIA process for the development on an additional footprint on these two properties and require confirmation of whether there are land claims against them. This will assist our project team to consult with the relevant claimants as required by the regulatory environmental legislation.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,



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12 January 2022

Manager: Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
Kimberlite Building,
162 George St, West End,
Kimberley,
8301
Attention: Mrs Mangalane Du Toit
Email: Mangalane.DuToit@drdlr.gov.za

**BASIC ASSESSMENT RPROCESS REQUIRED FOR THE PROPOSED ENVIRONEMNTAL AUTHORISATION OF
THE ENGIE SANNASPOS PV ADDITIONAL FOOTPRINT, FREE STATE PROVINCE**

ENGIE Sannaspos Solar Project (Pty) Ltd obtained an Environmental Authorisation for the proposed Sannaspos PV Plant Phase 1 and associated infrastructure, located on Portion 0 of Farm 1808 Besemkop and Portion 0 of Farm 2962 Lejwe, within the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality, Free State Province in May 2013 (DFFE Reference No.: 14/12/16/3/3/2/360). The project has been selected as a Preferred Bidder project under Round 5 of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme (REIPPPP).

The proposed facility will have a contracted capacity of 75MW (90MW installed capacity) and will include the following infrastructure:

- » PV arrays and inverters
- » Cabling between project components, laid underground as far as possible
- » An on-site 132kV Independent Power Producer (IPP) substation to facilitate the grid connection
- » Internal access roads.
- » Guard house
- » Laydown, Campsite, and assembly area.
- » Office and Control centre.

A developmental footprint of 150 ha in extent is authorised for the facility and associated infrastructure. In order to implement the project, an additional 50ha is required. This additional area is located within the properties assessed for the project.

An application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of Sections 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998), as read with the environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, GNR 982-985 of 4 December 2014, as amended, a Scoping and EIA is required to be undertaken for the proposed additional footprint and its associated infrastructure.

Savannah Environmental has been appointed as the independent environmental consultant responsible for managing the application for EA and undertaking the supporting Scoping and EIA process required to identify and assess potential environmental impacts associated with the project, as well as propose appropriate mitigation and management measures to be contained within the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

Savannah Environmental would like to enquire if there are any land claims against the following farms:

- » Portion 0 of Farm 1808 Besemkop
- » Portion 0 of Farm 2962 Lejwe

Confirmation of whether there are land claims against the mentioned property will assist our project team to consult with the relevant claimants as required by the regulatory environmental legislation. You may direct any queries to Lehlogonolo Mashego (Reference number SE3212) at:

Lehlogonolo Mashego

Savannah Environmental

P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157

Tel: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (*also include please call me*)

Fax: 086 684 0547

Email: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Yours sincerely,

Lehlogonolo Mashego

Public Participation and Environmental Consultant

Tamryn Lee Goddard

From: Savannah Public Process
Sent: Thursday, 10 February 2022 10:31
To: Tamryn Lee Goddard
Subject: RE: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2126

Won't you look at that 😊

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 10 February 2022 10:28
To: Raquel Peters <Raquel@savannahsa.com>; Tamryn Lee Goddard <tamryn@savannahsa.com>; Savannah Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>; Brenda Ton <Brenda@savannahsa.com>
Cc: Julliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2126

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT AREA FOR THE AUTHORISED ENGIE SANNASPOS PV FACILITY, IN THE MANGUANG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Application form and draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 04 February 2022. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Kindly note that your application for Environmental Authorisation falls within the ambit of an application applied for in terms of Part 3 of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

Please take note of Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that potential Interested & Affected Parties, including the Competent Authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, prior to the submission of an application but **must** be provided an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the Competent Authority.

Note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, 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 by the Department in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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.

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Priority Infrastructure Developments
Tel: (012) 399 9370
Email: LKutu@environment.gov.za



t: 011 656 3237
f: 086 684 0547

Nicolene Venter
Public Process

e: publicprocess@savannahsa.com
c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

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forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2126

Enquiries: Ms Julliet Mahlangu

Telephone: (012) 399 9320 **E-mail:** jmmahlangu@environment.gov.za

Ms Jo-Anne Thomas
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

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

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ms Thomas

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT AREA FOR THE AUTHORISED ENGIE SANNASPOS PV FACILITY, IN THE MANGUANG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated February 2022 and received by the Department on 10 February 2022, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the Final Scoping Report:

(a) Listed Activities

- Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.
- 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>.

(b) Public Participation Process

- 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. 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, as amended.
- A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document

from the main report. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as “Noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments.

- The final SR must provide evidence that all identified and relevant competent authorities have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposed development; particularly the South African Astronomical Observatory, the Free State Environmental Department, the District and Local Municipalities.

(c) Specialist Assessments

- Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of turbine positions, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.
- The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation, will not be accepted.
- Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.
- It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. “the Protocols”), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. **Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.**

(d) Cumulative Assessment

- Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:
 - Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
 - Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist’s recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.
 - The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

General

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:

“If S&EIR must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 44 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority a scoping report which has been 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”

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, as amended.

Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes 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 Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Letter signed by: Dr Danie Smit
Designation: Deputy Director: National Infrastructure Projects
Date: 03/03/2022

cc:	Reginald Niemand	ENGIE Sannaspos (Pty) Ltd.	E-mail: reggie.niemand@engie.com
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forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/12126

Enquiries: Julliet Mahlangu

Telephone: (012) 310 9320 **E-mail:** jmmahlangu@dfffe.gov.za

Ms Jo-Anne Thomas
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

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

PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Thomas

ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT AREA FOR THE AUTHORISED ENGIE SANNASPOS PV FACILITY, IN THE MANGUANG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated March 2022 and received by the Department on 11 March 2022, refer.

The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated March 2022 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

In addition, the following amendments and additional information are required for the EIAR:

(a) Listed Activities

- (i) The EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- (ii) The listed activities represented in the EIAR and the application form must be the same and correct.
- (iii) The EIAR must assess the correct sub listed activity for each listed activity applied for.

(b) Public Participation

- (i) The departments would like to further highlights its comments on the draft SR, more specifically the paragraph pertaining to Regulation 25 (4) which reads as follows "Please be advised that as per

Regulation 25(4), “the competent authority may replace an existing valid environmental authorisation with an environmental authorisation contemplated in this regulation, indicating the extent of replacement in the environmental authorisation, if the existing valid environmental authorisation is directly related to the application for environmental authorisation”.

- (ii) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAr. This includes but is not limited to the Department of Water and Sanitation, the provincial Department of Agriculture, SANRAL, Local Municipality, the District Municipality, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), 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, and the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation.
- (iii) Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR and draft EIAr from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final EIAr. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final EIAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (iv) A Comments and Response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final EIAr. The C&R report must incorporate all comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Appendix 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as “noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments.
- (v) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.
- (vi) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- (vii) The EAP is requested to contact the Department to make the necessary arrangements to conduct a site inspection prior to the submission of the final EIAr.

(c) Alternatives

- (i) Please provide a description of each of the preferred alternative type and provide detailed motivation on why it is preferred.

(d) Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- (i) 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.
- (ii) The EIAr must provide the following:
 - Clear indication of the envisioned area for the proposed additional 50ha in relation to approved Engie Sannaspos Pv Facility; i.e. placing of solar 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:
 - 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.

- (iii) A copy of the final preferred route layout map and or **consolidated layout map** as per point F(iii) below. 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:
- 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;
 - Location of access and service roads;
 - Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;
 - All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads;
 - Buffer areas;
 - Buildings, including accommodation; and
 - All “no-go” areas.
- (iv) An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
- (v) A map combining the final layout map (**for both the authorised facility and the additional 50ha**) superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.

(e) Specialist assessments

- (i) The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies must include the following:
- A detailed description of the study’s methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.
 - Provide a detailed description of all limitations to the studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation will not be allowed.
 - Please note that the Department considers a ‘no-go’ area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the ‘no-go’ areas.
 - Should the specialist definition of ‘no-go’ area differ from the Departments definition; this must be clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the ‘no-go’ area’s buffer if applicable.
 - **All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.**
 - Should a specialist recommend specific mitigation measures, these must be clearly indicated.
 - The list of specialist studies indicated in the background information letter that is attached as Appendix C3 of the Public Participation Process Report will be regarded as the ones that will be undertaken as part of the EIA phase.
 - Regarding cumulative impacts:
 - Clearly defined cumulative impacts and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
 - A detailed process flow to indicate how the specialist’s recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.

- Identified cumulative impacts associated with the proposed development must be rated with the significance rating methodology used in the process.
 - The significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.
- (ii) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.
- (iii) Please be reminded that section 2(3) of NEMA requires developments to be socially, environmentally and *economically* sustainable, while section 2(4)(i) of NEMA requires the social, *economic* and environmental impacts of activities, including disadvantages and benefits, to be considered, assessed and evaluated
- (iv) The following Specialist Assessments will form part of the EIAr:

Specialist Study	Company
Heritage Assessment	Jenna Lavin
Wetland and Biodiversity	Andrew Husted
Terrestrial ecology and botany	Martinus Erasmus
Wetland and ecosystem services, hydrogeology and pedology	Ivan Baker

(f) Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)

- (i) Please ensure that the mitigation measures specified in the EIAr and specialist reports are also incorporated into the EMPr. In addition, ensure that the EMPr complies with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- (ii) Please also include in the EMPr, a recommended frequency for the auditing of compliance with the conditions of the EA and EMPr, and for the submission of such compliance reports to the competent authority.
- (iii) Should the applicant wish to consolidate the two EAs, (which the department strongly recommends and supports, subject to a positive environmental authorisation being obtained), as per Regulation 25 (4) then the following information will need to be provided and or included when submitting the EIAr:
- A consolidated draft EMPr; and
 - A consolidated layout Map (which will include the additional 50ha).

(g) General

- (i) 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 Annexure 2 below.
- (ii) 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 must be indicated.
- (iii) Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.
- (iv) The EAP must provide landowner consent for all farm portions affected by the proposed project, whether the project component is linear or not, i.e. all farm portions where the access road, solar panels and associated infrastructure is to be located.
- (v) A construction and operational phase EMPr that includes mitigation and monitoring measures must be submitted with the final EIAr.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amendment, with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations.

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 Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Signed by: Ms Nyiko Nkosi
Designation: Acting Deputy Director: National Infrastructure Projects
Date: 26/04/2022

cc:	Reginald Niemand	ENGIE Sannaspos (Pty) Ltd.	E-mail: reggie.niemand@engie.com
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Annexure 1

Format for Comments and Response Trail Report:

Date of comment, format of comment name of organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
27/01/2016 Email Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries: Priority Infrastructure Projects (John Doe)	Please record C&R trail report in this format Please update the contact details of the provincial environmental authority	EAP: (Noted) The C&R trail report has been updated into the desired format, see Appendix K EAP: Details of provincial authority have been updated, see page 16 of the Application form

Annexure 2: Sample of technical details for the proposed facility

Component	Description / dimensions
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	

Tamryn Lee Goddard

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 14 March 2022 17:02
To: Lameez Ahmed; Tamryn Lee Goddard; Savannah Public Process
Cc: Julliet Mahlangu; Salome Mambane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2126

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT AREA FOR THE AUTHORISED ENGIE SANNASPOS PV FACILITY, IN THE MANGUANG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Final Scoping Report for the abovementioned project on 11 March 2022. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support
Tel: (012) 399 9370
Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

Tamryn Lee Goddard

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 27 July 2022 10:14
To: Tamryn Lee Goddard; Lameez Ahmed; Jo-Anne Thomas; Nondumiso Bulunga
Cc: Julliet Mahlangu; EIAadmin
Subject: RE: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2126
Attachments: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2126

Good day.

Please find the attached.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,
Lydia Kutu
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Priority Infrastructure Developments
Tel: (012) 399 9370
Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!

From: Tamryn Lee Goddard <tamryn@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 26 July 2022 12:06
To: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>; Lameez Ahmed <lameez@savannahsa.com>; Jo-Anne Thomas <joanne@savannahsa.com>; Nondumiso Bulunga <Nondumiso@savannahsa.com>
Cc: Julliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>; EIAadmin <EIAadmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Masingita Maluleke <MPMaluleke@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2126

Good day,

The below email refers.

We have not yet received comments on the draft EIA assessment for the Sannaspos Solar PV facility. Please kindly forward any comments for the draft for the finalisation of the Report.

Kind regards,

savannah
environmental

t: +27 (0) 11 656 3237
f: +27 (0) 63 936 8434

Tamryn Lee Goddard
Environmental Consultant
c: +27 (0) 63 936 8434
e: tamryn@savannahsa.com

SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015

We respect your privacy and acknowledge that this e-mail will contain Personal Information, which may belong to you, others and/or to your organization and which we will process. The processing of your personal information by Savannah Environmental may be included in reports submitted to governmental departments or on our public platforms, which processing will be done in accordance with our processing notice housed on our website - <https://savannahsa.com/privacy-policy-privacy-policy-page/>. By sending and/or receiving this message, you hereby consent to the lawful processing of personal information for the intended purposes, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No 4 of 2013).

This email has been scanned for viruses and malware, and automatically archived by **Mimecast SA (Pty) Ltd**, and is believed to be clean

From: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@dffe.gov.za>

Sent: Tuesday, 28 June 2022 10:56

To: Lameez Ahmed <lameez@savannahsa.com>; Tamryn Lee Goddard <tamryn@savannahsa.com>; Jo-Anne Thomas <joanne@savannahsa.com>; Nondumiso Bulunga <Nondumiso@savannahsa.com>

Cc: Julliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>; EIAadmin <EIAadmin@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Masingita Maluleke <MPMaluleke@dffe.gov.za>

Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2126

Dear Mr Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR THE ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT AREA FOR THE AUTHORISED ENGIE SANNASPOS PV FACILITY, IN THE MANGUANG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 24 June 2022. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Please take note of Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that “*Potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in subregulation (1) prior to submission of an application but must be provided with an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the competent authority.*”

Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, 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) of these Regulations.

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

Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@dffe.gov.za

To God be the Glory!!!



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2126

Enquiries: Ms Julliet Mahlangu

Telephone: (012) 399 9320 **E-mail:** jmmahlangu@dffe.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 MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ms Thomas

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT AREA FOR THE AUTHORISED ENGIE SANNASPOS PV FACILITY, IN THE MANGUANG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAr) received by the Department on 24 June 2022 and the acknowledgement of receipt email dated 28 June 2022, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included in the final EIAr:

(a) Specific comments

- Recommendations provided by specialist reports must be considered and used to inform the layout.
- Please ensure that all mitigation recommendations are in line with applicable and most recent guidelines.
- The final EIAr must provide the technical details for the proposed facility in a table format as well as their description and/or dimensions.
- Please ensure that all softcopy maps are clear and legible
- Please ensure that the final EIAr complies with the requirements of Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- Please also ensure that the final EIAr includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

(b) Listed Activities

- Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. Only activities applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.
- If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final EIAr, 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>.

- The relevant authorities with jurisdiction in respect of geographically designated areas in terms of GN R. 985 (Listing Notice 3) Activities must be continuously involved throughout the environmental impact assessment process. Written comments (or proof of consultation) must be obtained from the relevant authorities and submitted to this Department. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided. Please also ensure that the potential impacts on the affected Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas are fully assessed in the EIAr.

(c) Public Participation

- (i) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAr. This includes but is not limited to the Department of Water and Sanitation, the provincial Department of Agriculture, SANRAL, Local Municipality, the District Municipality, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), 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, and the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation.
- (ii) Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR and draft EIAr from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final EIAr. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final EIAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (iii) A Comments and Response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final EIAr. The C&R report must incorporate all comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as “noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments.
- (iv) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.
- (v) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- (vi) The EAP is requested to contact the Department to make the necessary arrangements to conduct a site inspection prior to the submission of the final EIAr.

(d) Cumulative Assessment

- Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:
 - Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e., hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
 - Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist’s recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.
 - The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

(e) Specialist Assessments

- Please include a table in the EIAr summarising the specialist studies required by the Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted.

- Specialist studies must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for the authorisation.
- The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation, will not be accepted.
- Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.
- It is further brought to your attention that the *Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation*, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. “the Protocols”), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species) have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols, except where the applicant provides proof to the competent authority that the specialist assessment affected by these protocols had been commissioned before the date on which the protocols came into effect, in which case Appendix 6 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, will apply to such applications. Please indicate in the EIAr whether the protocols were applied.
- Please note further that the Protocols require the specialists to be SACNASP registered.

(f) Environmental Management Programme

- The EMPr must also include the following:
- All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIAr and the specialist studies conducted.
- An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process.
- 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.
- In addition to the above, the EMPr must comply with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

General

Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.

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



Ms Milicent Solomons
Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Signed by: Dr Danie Smit
Designation: Deputy Director: National Infrastructure Projects
Date: 27/07/2022

cc:	T Sieplemeyer	Doornfontein Solar (Pty) Ltd	Email: epupa@web.de
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