

3 May 2016

Dear Stakeholder

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS
WOODHOUSE SOLAR 1 AND WOODHOUSE SOLAR 2 PV FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED
INFRASTRUCTURE, NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF EIA REPORTS FOR REVIEW AND PUBLIC MEETING

Genesis Woodhouse Solar 1 (Pty) Ltd and Genesis Woodhouse Solar 2 (Pty) Ltd proposes the construction of two commercial photovoltaic (PV) solar energy facilities (known as the Woodhouse Solar 1 and Woodhouse Solar 2 PV Facilities) as well as all associated infrastructure on the Remaining Extent of Farm Woodhouse 729, situated approximately 10km south east of Vryburg. The proposed site falls under the jurisdiction of the Naledi Local Municipality and within the greater Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality in the North West Province. The contracted capacity of each proposed solar energy facility will be up to 100 MW.

The purpose of the proposed PV facilities will be to evacuate the generated power into the Eskom electricity grid. The projects are proposed to be bid into the Department of Energy's (DoE) Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement (REIPPP) Programme.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

In terms of sections 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act 107 of 1998) as read with Government Notices R982 to R985 Scoping and EIA processes are required to be undertaken for the proposed projects. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) is the competent authority. In order to obtain authorisation, comprehensive, independent environmental studies must be undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014. The DEA accepted the Scoping Reports and Plan of Study for both projects in February 2016. Separate EIA processes have been undertaken for each application. The DEA reference numbers allocated for each project are as follows:

- » Woodhouse Solar 1 PV Facility: 14/12/16/3/3/2/863
- » Woodhouse Solar 2 PV Facility: 14/12/16/3/3/2/865

Savannah Environmental has been appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the required EIA to identify and assess all the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project, and propose appropriate mitigation and management measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). As part of these environmental studies, Interested and Affected (I&APs) will be actively involved through the public involvement process.

AVAILABILITY OF EIA REPORTS FOR REVIEW

EIA Reports for the proposed projects have been prepared by Savannah Environmental and are available for public review. The review period is from

- » **Woodhouse Solar 1 PV Facility: 3 May 2016 – 2 June 2016**
- » **Woodhouse Solar 2 PV Facility: 4 May 2016 – 3 June 2016**

The EIA reports can be viewed at the Vryburg Public Library (Stella Road, Vryburg). The reports can also be downloaded from www.savannahSA.com.

Please could you kindly submit your formal comments by sending written correspondence in this regard. All comments received will be included in the final EIA Report which will be submitted to the DEA. Comments can be made as written submission of fax, post or email.

PUBLIC MEETING

In order to facilitate comments on the EIA Reports, a public meeting will be held during the public review period as follows:

Date: Thursday 19 May 2016
Time: 18:00
Venue: Banquet Hall, cnr Market and De la Rey Streets, Vryburg

The aim of the public meeting is to provide you with more information regarding the proposed projects (including technical details, project process and timeframes etc.), to provide a summary of the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment Reports, to invite comment on the proposed projects, and to further discuss possible issues of specific concern to you which may need to be addressed.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the proposed project. Our team welcomes your participation and looks forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind Regards

MRS GABRIELE WOOD
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND SOCIAL CONSULTANT
SAVANNAH ENVIRONMENTAL