

APPENDIX C7:
Minutes of Meetings

**ADDITIONAL FOOTPRINT FOR THE ENGIE SANNASPOS SOLAR PV FACILITY,
FREE STATE PROVINCE**

Land Occupiers Meeting

Date: 04 July 2022

Time: 08:30

Venue: Additional Footprint for the Engie Sannaspos Solar PV Facility

Attendees (attendance register attached):

NAME	ORGANISATION
Victor Moramang	Landowners of Farm 2962 Lejwe
Ntomane Tshidiso	Landowners of Farm 2962 Lejwe
George Ntomane	Landowners of Farm 2962 Lejwe
Lehlohonolo Vincent Lenkoe	Landowners of Farm 2962 Lejwe
Reggie Niemand	Engie (Pty) Ltd
Ishmael Masiu	
Tamryn Lee Goddard	Savannah Environmental
Nondumiso Bulunga	Savannah Environmental

A meeting was requested by **Lehlohonolo Vincent Lenkoe** and supporting family members to understand the project information and background as the project is on their project site. In February 2022 there was correspondence between Savannah Environmental and the landowners of Farm 2962 Lejwe where project documents were sent referring to the ownership of the farm.

A WhatsApp call between the owners of Farm 2962 Lejwe was administrated between Savannah Environmental, the developer and affected parties. The project agenda was as follows:

- » Project Overview
- » Locality Map
- » Approach to Undertaking the EIA Report
- » Environmental Sensitivities
- » Way Forward

Nondumiso Bulunga welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance for Additional Footprint for the Engie Sannaspos Solar PV Facility, Free State Province.

Tamryn Lee Goddard presented the process undertaken in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report and Environmental sensitivities.

Please find attached the presentation as Appendix A.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Lehlohonolo Vincent Lenkoe	Can you clarify whether it is 150ha that is proposed for this project?	Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that there is 150 ha that is already authorised for the facility and associated infrastructure, to implement this project, an additional 50ha is required.
	We want to know with the previous authorisation that was granted who granted this authorisation.	Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that the authorisation would have been granted by Department of Fisheries, Forestry and the Environment (DFFE) as well as Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS).
	How will the landowners benefit from this project.	Reggie Niemand responded that a monthly rental will be paid post construction which is during the operational phase of the project. Generation by the facility will be calculated by the facility that a 0.55% which will be paid to the landowner of the respective landowners owning the land
	There are some historical disputes and criminal injustices regarding this Lejwe farm because in 2014 the previous owner passed away and this farm belongs to a trust, how will the monies be separated between the two families.	Reggie Niemand responded that George who passed away in 2010 was the representative of the trust as far as what was understood, and they signed over the Power of Attorney and resolutions. Then in 2020 it was understood that the power of attorney was through Ishmael Masiu family representatives who signed the resolutions. We were not aware there were two sub families.
	During the discussions in February 2022 when the project commenced, we did send this information to Savannah Environmental and explained the dynamics regarding this farm.	Reggie Niemand responded that he would be travelling to Bloemfontein, and it would be better if the families could meet and the proof of title to be provided so the change in land lease agreement can be resolved.
	We can forward the title deed documents to you.	Nondumiso Bulunga acknowledged this comment and informed that post the meeting a WhatsApp will be sent so that the documents can be reshared. Post meeting notes: The title deeds were shared with Savannah Environmental on the 4 th of July 2022 and forwarded to the project developer.
	In terms of employment who will be employed in this project.	Reggie Niemand explained that developer will appoint a contractor who will be responsible for commissioning the facility. Meetings will be held with the local community before operation commences to understand the skill set in the area which will be near the end of this year.
	We would like to know about security, we know that once the facility operators there will be theft issues.	Reggie Niemand explained that there will 24/7 security and a guard house will be constructed to have someone patrol the area. This company appointed will be on behalf of Engie and their services will be

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Further project information will be relayed accordingly. It was noted by all attendees that no further comments needed to be raised at this time.

Nondumiso Bulunga thanked the participants for making time available to attend FGM and for their valuable input into the process.

The meeting was closed at 09h30.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	FGM	Focus Group Meeting
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment	DWS	Department of Water and Sanitation

**ADDITIONAL FOOTPRINT FOR THE ENGIE
SANNASPOS SOLAR PV FACILITY,
FREE STATE PROVINCE**

Project Overview for the Public Participation
Process

July 2022

CONTENT

- Project Overview
- Locality Map
- Approach to Undertaking the EIA Report
- Environmental Sensitivities
- Way Forward

PURPOSE OF THE PRESENTATION

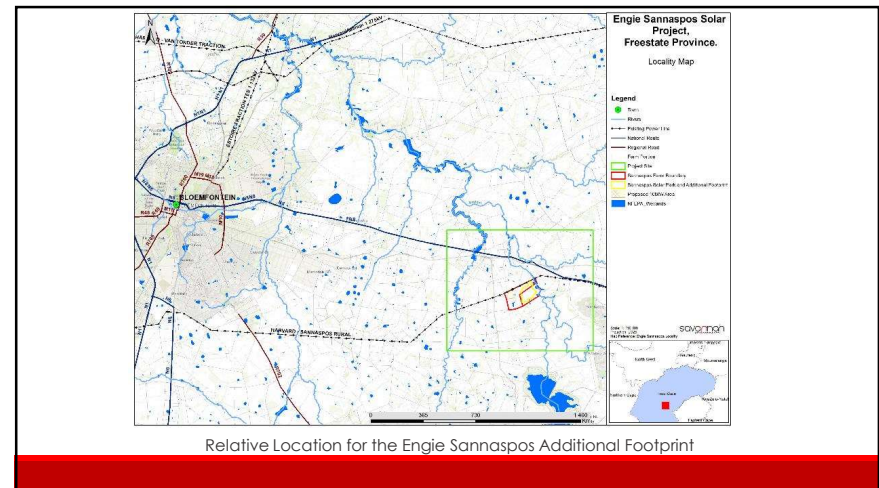
- Provide stakeholders with an overview of the planned project
- Provide a summary of the **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) & Public Participation** being undertaken
- Provide details of how to provide input into/to inform the EIA process

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- **Applicant:** Sannaspos Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
- **Location:** located on Portion 0 of Farm 1808 Besemkop and Portion 0 of Farm 2962 Lejwe, within the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality in the Free State Province and east of Bloemfontein.
- **Project details:**
 - Sannaspos Solar PV Project (Pty) Ltd received an Environmental Authorisation for the proposed Sannaspos PV Plant Phase 1 (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).
 - 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.

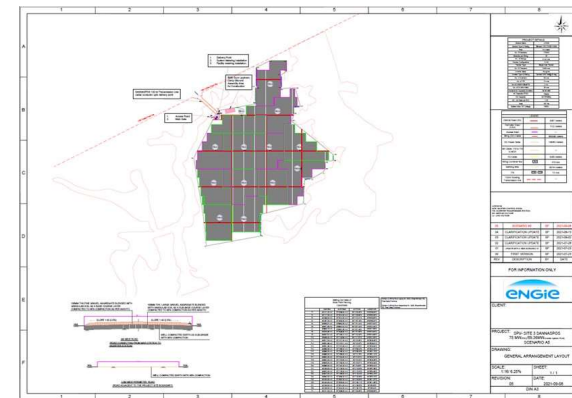
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- **Need for the additional area:**
 - The developer is proposing to install bifacial PV modules, which enable energy generation from both sides of the PV modules, thereby improving the efficiency of the facility. This technology requires additional space between PV module rows, compared to traditional monofacial PV modules as originally considered for the project, to enable reflected solar irradiation (solar energy) to reach the underside of the bifacial modules.
- **Infrastructure/components associated with authorised PV project:**
 - PV arrays and inverters
 - Cabling between project components, laid underground as far as possible²
 - 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



APPROACH TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

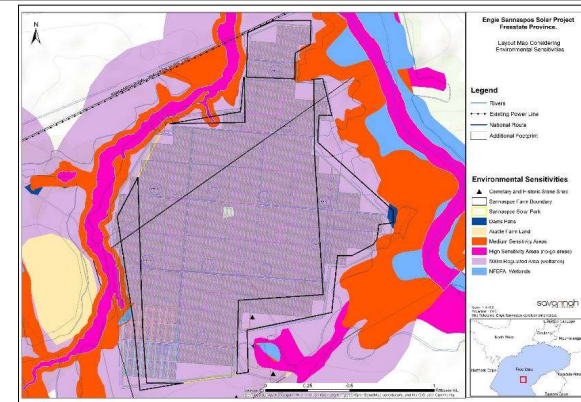
- Identification of issues – social and biophysical environment
- Potential sensitive areas identified through specialist desktop and in-field studies
- Identification of a development footprint within the development area in which the proposed PV infrastructure is to be placed to be informed by sensitive areas identified through the EIA process
- Preliminary facility layout during the scoping phase based on technical considerations - considered by all specialists at Scoping
- A revised facility layout to be presented and considered in EIA Phase
- Application of the mitigation hierarchy (i.e. avoid, minimise, mitigate and offset)
- Further micro-siting required to facility layout during the EIA phase
- Submission of EIA Report and Environmental Management Plan with a final layout to the DFFE for consideration and final decision making.



Preliminary Layout for the Engie Sannaspos PV Facility

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

- Issues identified part of the EIA process:
 - Ecology (fauna, flora and freshwater)
 - Heritage
 - Soil and Agriculture



Environmental Sensitivities and final layout for the Engie Sannaspos Additional Footprint.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS/SENSITIVITIES IDENTIFIED DURING THE SCOPING PHASE

	Scoping of issues
Ecological Impacts (fauna & flora);	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An ESA and NPAES will be lost; and SCCs will also be lost. Mitigation measures as described in this report can be implemented to reduce the significance of the risk but there is still a possibility of impacts. Considering that this area that has been identified as being of significance for biodiversity maintenance and ecological processes (ESAs), development may proceed but with caution and only with the implementation of mitigation measures. Considering the above-mentioned information, no fatal flaws are evident for the proposed project. It is the opinion of the specialist that the project may be favourably considered, on condition all prescribed mitigation measures and supporting recommendations are implemented.

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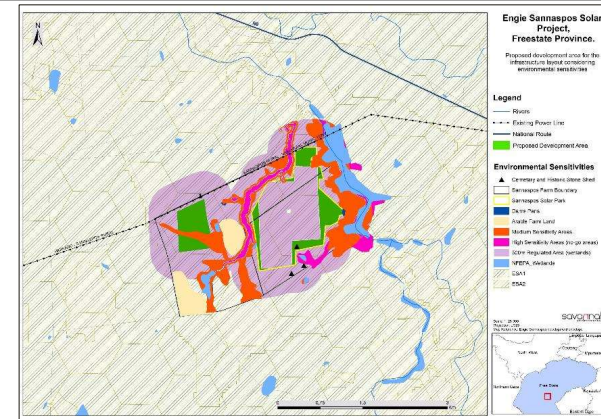
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS/SENSITIVITIES IDENTIFIED DURING THE SCOPING PHASE

	Scoping of issues
Freshwater Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project area is located within a 500 m regulated area, with reference to unchanneled valley bottom wetlands, which flows in a north-easterly direction into the Modder River. The proposed development is likely to pose an indirect risk to the water resources, especially in terms of Section 21 (c) "Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse" and (i) "Altering the beds, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse". Subsequently, Section 21 (c) and (i) will be triggered by this development. In terms of Water Use Authorisation, owing to the expected post-mitigation Low risks, a General Authorisation is permissible for the development. A General Authorisation has been issued for one of the affected farm portions, namely the farm Basemkop 1808 (reference number: WU23983). An application for the other affected farm (Portion 0 of Farm 2962 Lejwe) is in process (reference number: WU25438).

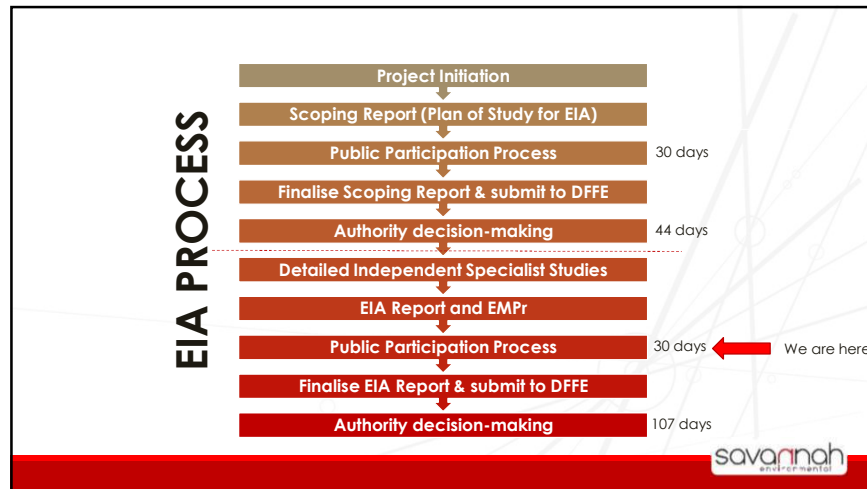
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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS/SENSITIVITIES IDENTIFIED DURING THE SCOPING PHASE

	Scoping of issues
Impacts on Soil & Agricultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erosion during the construction phase Loss of land capability Overland flow dynamics are expected to be affected during the operation phase, although only slightly, due to access and maintenance routes. Impacts on this phase are expected to be of low significance. Compliance statement compiled in EIA Phase
Impacts on Heritage (archaeology and palaeontology)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct impact to archaeological sites, historical sites and burial sites Damage or destruction of unmarked graves Damage or destruction of fossil materials No sensitive sites affected by the proposed additional footprint No further assessment required to be undertaken for the EIA phase



Environmental Sensitivities for the Engie Sannaspos Additional Footprint identified through EIA



WAY FORWARD

- The draft EIA Report is available for review from **24 June 2022 – 25 July 2022** at <http://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/energy-generation/>. (can be downloaded from the Savannah Environmental website)
- Final EIA Report to be submitted to DFFE – July 2022
- Our Public Participation team is available to answer any questions on the development and register you as an I&AP so that you can receive important project information as it becomes available.

savannah environmental

**WHO TO CONTACT FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION**

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