

**APPENDIX C7**  
**MINUTES OF MEETINGS**



# KIARA PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) CLUSTER AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE

**MEETING NOTES OF THE FOCUS GROUP MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 20 JULY 2022 AT 09H00  
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

**Nondumiso Bulunga**

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**  
E-mail: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

*Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address*

## **MEETING ATTENDEES**

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Position</b>
Rendani Rasivhetshela	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Consultant
Raquel Peter	Savannah Environmental	Junior Environmental Consultant
Nondumiso Bulunga	Savannah Environmental	Lead Consultant
Lameez Ahmed	Savannah Environmental	Junior Environmental and Public Participation Consultant

## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

**Nondumiso Bulunga** welcomed all (from Savannah Environmental) and requested for a 15-minute wait to see whether there will be any stakeholders who will be joining the session. After waiting until 11h15, no participants joined, and it was subsequently decided that a follow up email will be shared to grant stakeholders the opportunity to share their comments and/or request for clarify on any aspects of the proposed Kiara PV Cluster and Associated Infrastructure located in the North West Province.

The project presentation was not relayed as no external stakeholders were present at the meeting.

## **APOLOGIES**

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No apologies were rendered.

## **POST MEETING NOTES**

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A reminder email on the available Scoping Report and the public review and commenting period will be sent to all stakeholders on the database.

A copy of the virtual participants' attendance register is attached as **Appendix A** to the meeting notes.

## **WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE**

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

The meeting was closed at 09:31

## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

PV	Photovoltaic
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### 1. Summary

Attended participants	4
Start time	22/07/20, 08:45:25
End time	22/07/20, 09:31:48
Meeting duration	46m 23s
Average attendance time	29m 29s

### 2. Participants

Name	First join	Last leave	In-meeting duration	Email	Participant ID (UPN)	Role
Rendani Rasivhetshela	22/07/20, 08:45:32	22/07/20, 09:31:48	46m 15s	rendani@savannahsa.com	rendani@savannahsa.com	Presenter
Nondumiso Bulunga	22/07/20, 08:47:33	22/07/20, 09:19:20	31m 46s	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com	Presenter
Lameez Ahmed	22/07/20, 08:55:35	22/07/20, 09:22:16	26m 41s	lameez@savannahsa.com	lameez@savannahsa.com	Organiser
Raquel Peters	22/07/20, 09:06:12	22/07/20, 09:19:27	13m 14s	Raquel@savannahsa.com	Raquel@savannahsa.com	Presenter

### 3. In-Meeting activities

Name	Join time	Leave time	Duration	Email	Role
Rendani Rasivhetshela	22/07/20, 08:45:32	22/07/20, 09:31:48	46m 15s	rendani@savannahsa.com	Presenter
Nondumiso Bulunga	22/07/20, 08:47:33	22/07/20, 09:19:20	31m 46s	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com	Presenter
Lameez Ahmed	22/07/20, 08:55:35	22/07/20, 09:22:16	26m 41s	lameez@savannahsa.com	Organiser
Raquel Peters	22/07/20, 09:06:12	22/07/20, 09:19:27	13m 14s	Raquel@savannahsa.com	Presenter

# KIARA PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) CLUSTER AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE

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**MEETING NOTES OF THE FOCUS GROUP MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDY, 20 JULY 2022 AT 11H00  
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

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Notes for the Record prepared by:

**Nondumiso Bulunga**

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**

**E-mail: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)**

*Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address*

## MEETING ATTENDEES

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Name	Organisation	Position
David Mathinye	Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent (MISA)	Town Planner
Raquel Peters	Savannah Environmental	Junior Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Rendani Rasivhetshela	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Nondumiso Bulunga	Savannah Environmental	Public Participation Consultant and Facilitator

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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**Nondumiso Bulunga** welcomed the attendees at the Focus Group Meeting (FGM) for the proposed Kiara Photovoltaic (PV) Cluster and Associated Infrastructure, located in the North West province.

The agenda was provided, and the purpose of the meeting was presented by **Nondumiso Bulunga**.

## APOLOGIES

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No apologies were rendered.

## BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

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**Rendani Rasivhetshela** provided an overview of the proposed Kiara Photovoltaic (PV) Cluster and Associated Infrastructure located within the North West Province as well as a summary of the findings of the Scoping processes undertaken. **Rendani Rasivhetshela** presented the following key information:

- project description for the Kiara Photovoltaic (PV) Cluster and Associated Infrastructure;
- details of the Scoping and public participation process followed to date;
- key findings and aspects to be noted as presented in the Scoping Reports; and
- summary of the key environmental findings.

A copy of the virtual participants' attendance is attached as **Appendix A** and the presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

## DISCUSSION SESSION

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Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
David Mathinye	The total number of land proposed is 86 ha I wanted to find out who owns the land	Rendani Rasivhetshela clarified that the total hectares is approximately 856.ha and all land is privately owned with

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
		consent forms signed from those private landowners.
	How much power will be generated from the proposed development?	Rendani Rasivhetshela responded that the greater details will be provided in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) phase but as proposed in scoping it varies between 120 megawatts (MW) and 130 MW generated.
	How much of the land will be developed on, for the proposed facilities?	Rendani Rasivhetshela responded that approximately 200 ha's per project site, but this will be defined in the EIA phase in more details.
	How was it derived to have the projects named as Kiara 1 – 7 and why what is done in that manner?	Rendani Rasivhetshela responded that looking at the locality map different farm portions have been demarcated in seven different projects to make it easier to distinguish between the various project site and not necessarily have one big portion to develop on.
	Has the municipality been engaged regarding this project  It is important that engagements with the local municipality start now as opposed to much later when the authorisation is granted.	Rendani Rasivhetshela responded that as part of the public participation process the municipality has been engaged, all public participation documents have been shared with them and all available reports.  Nondumiso Bulunga confirmed that the local municipality is being engaged with and the project applicant is undertaking the same process for other municipal requirements.
	Will this presentation be shared?	Nondumiso Bulunga responded that it will be shared alongside the meeting notes of this meeting, once undergone an internal review.

## **WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE**

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**Nondumiso Bulunga** asked whether there were any other environmental-related concerns or comments. 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 11h46.

## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	FGM	Focus Group Meeting
PV	Photovoltaic	MW	megawatts





# SE3393 MEETING INVITATION FOR THE KIARA PHOTOVOLTAIC CLUSTER AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NORTH - WEST PROVINCE-20220720\_110133-Meeting

00:43:13

00:01:38



# KIARA PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) CLUSTER AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE

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**MEETING NOTES OF THE FOCUS GROUP MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDY, 20 JULY 2022 AT 14H00  
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

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Notes for the Record prepared by:

**Nondumiso Bulunga**

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**

**E-mail: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)**

*Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address*

## MEETING ATTENDEES

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Name	Organisation	Position
Rob Invernizzi	ABO Wind renewable energies	General Manager
Maanda Maseli	Biotherm	Environmental manager business development
Mohamed Ibrahim	BTE Renewables	Business Development Manager
Werner Engelbrecht	BTE Renewables	Director
Raquel Peters	Savannah Environmental	Junior Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Rendani Rasivhetshela	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Nondumiso Bulunga	Savannah Environmental	Public Participation Consultant and Facilitator

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

---

**Nondumiso Bulunga** welcomed the attendees at the Focus Group Meeting (FGM) for the proposed Kiara Photovoltaic (PV) Cluster and Associated Infrastructure, located in the North West province.

The agenda was provided, and the purpose of the meeting was presented by **Nondumiso Bulunga**.

## APOLOGIES

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No apologies were rendered.

## BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

---

**Rendani Rasivhetshela** provided an overview of the proposed Kiara Photovoltaic (PV) Cluster and Associated Infrastructure located within the North West Province as well as a summary of the findings of the Scoping processes undertaken. **Rendani Rasivhetshela** presented the following key information:

- project description for the Kiara Photovoltaic (PV) Cluster and Associated Infrastructure;
- details of the Scoping and public participation process followed to date;
- key findings and aspects to be noted as presented in the Scoping Reports; and
- summary of the key environmental findings.

A copy of the virtual participants' attendance is attached as **Appendix A** and the presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

## DISCUSSION SESSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Mohamed Ibrahim	Can a copy of the recording be shared with us?	Nondumiso Bulunga responded that the copy of the recording can be shared alongside the meeting notes once undergone internal review.
Rob Invernizzi	I see the project applicant is Voltalia, but Biotherm is in this meeting, what is the relationship between Voltalia and Biotherm. I am curious who is doing the actual development.	Maanda Maseli indicated that the interaction comes on the basis that Biotherm has a potential development site within the Lichtenburg area, but Biotherm is more of Interested and Affected Party (I&AP).
	So the actual client is not in this meeting, just to clarify this.	Maanda Maseli responded that they do not represent the client, so no they are not in the call.
	The proposed development is for the facility and the grid connection does not form part of this application.	Nondumiso Bulunga responded that the Scoping & Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) is for the proposed seven facilities and the grid connection is a separate process.  Rendani Rasivhetshela added that the grid connection basic assessment has been separated from this S&EIA but specialists are busy with their assessment so it will be out for public review in due course.
	If all goes well what is the expected dated to receive the Environmental Authorisation (EA).	Rendani Rasivhetshela responded that the final EIA report will be submitted approximately in November 2022, then with the 107 days for the competent authority to make a decision the EA should be early 2023.

## WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

**Nondumiso Bulunga** asked whether there were any other environmental-related concerns or comments. 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 14h36.

**LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	FGM	Focus Group Meeting
EA	Environmental Authorisation	I&AP	Interested and Affected Parties
S&EIA	Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment	PV	Photovoltaic

### 1. Summary

Attended participants	8
Start time	22/07/20, 13:47:30
End time	22/07/20, 14:36:21
Meeting duration	48m 50s
Average attendance time	23m 38s

### 2. Participants

Name	First join	Last leave	In-meeting duration	Email	Participant ID (UPN)	Role
Nondumiso Bulunga	22/07/20, 13:47:43	22/07/20, 14:28:58	41m 14s	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com	Presenter
Lameez Ahmed	22/07/20, 13:47:59	22/07/20, 13:51:39	3m 40s	lameez@savannahsa.com	lameez@savannahsa.com	Organiser
Rendani Rasivhetshela	22/07/20, 13:48:03	22/07/20, 14:29:00	40m 57s	rendani@savannahsa.com	rendani@savannahsa.com	Presenter
Werner Engelbrecht	22/07/20, 14:02:16	22/07/20, 14:28:54	26m 37s	wengelbrecht@bterenewables.com	wengelbrecht@biothermenergy.com	Attendee
Mohamed Ibrahim	22/07/20, 14:02:46	22/07/20, 14:02:49	3s	MIbrahim@bterenewables.com	MIbrahim@biothermenergy.com	Attendee
Maanda Maseli	22/07/20, 14:02:54	22/07/20, 14:28:57	26m 3s	MMaseli@bterenewables.com	MMaseli@biothermenergy.com	Attendee
Rob Invernizzi	22/07/20, 14:04:35	22/07/20, 14:28:59	24m 23s	Rob.Invernizzi@abo-wind.com	Robl@abo-wind.de	Attendee
Raquel Peters	22/07/20, 14:10:12	22/07/20, 14:36:21	26m 8s	Raquel@savannahsa.com	Raquel@savannahsa.com	Presenter

### 3. In-Meeting activities

Name	Join time	Leave time	Duration	Email	Role
Nondumiso Bulunga	22/07/20, 13:47:43	22/07/20, 14:28:58	41m 14s	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com	Presenter
Lameez Ahmed	22/07/20, 13:47:59	22/07/20, 13:51:39	3m 40s	lameez@savannahsa.com	Organiser
Rendani Rasivhetshela	22/07/20, 13:48:03	22/07/20, 14:29:00	40m 57s	rendani@savannahsa.com	Presenter
Werner Engelbrecht	22/07/20, 14:02:16	22/07/20, 14:28:54	26m 37s	wengelbrecht@bterenewables.com	Attendee
Mohamed Ibrahim	22/07/20, 14:02:46	22/07/20, 14:02:49	3s	MIbrahim@bterenewables.com	Attendee
Maanda Maseli	22/07/20, 14:02:54	22/07/20, 14:28:57	26m 3s	MMaseli@bterenewables.com	Attendee
Rob Invernizzi	22/07/20, 14:04:35	22/07/20, 14:28:59	24m 23s	Rob.Invernizzi@abo-wind.com	Attendee
Raquel Peters	22/07/20, 14:10:12	22/07/20, 14:36:21	26m 8s	Raquel@savannahsa.com	Presenter

# **KIARA PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) CLUSTER AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE**

## **NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

Focus Group Meeting

Wednesday, 20 July 2022

# AGENDA

- Welcome and Introduction
- Meeting Conduct
- Purpose of the Meeting
- Project Overview
- Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process
- Key Environmental Findings
- Way Forward
- Discussions



# MEETING CONDUCT

- Recording and Transcribe of the meeting
- Please stay on mute during the presentation
- Register attendance on chat function (name, surname, affiliation & email address)
- Equal opportunity
- Questions and comments can be submitted on the chat function during the presentation – team will respond after presentation
- Please hold all verbal questions until after the presentation
- Please raise your hand (virtual function) to ask a question and state your name

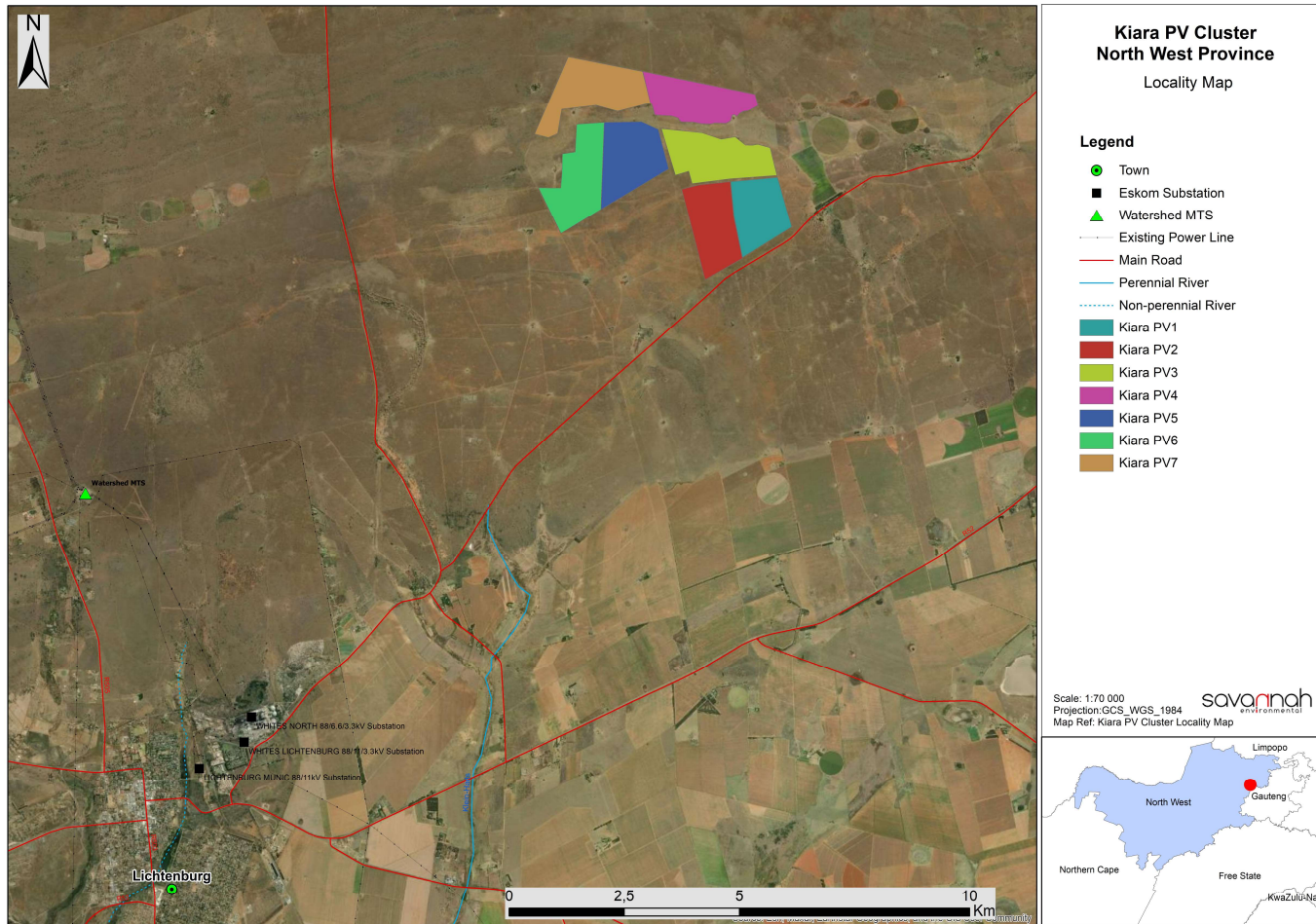
# PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

- Provide stakeholders & I&APs with an overview of the **Kiara PV Cluster (X7 projects)**
- Summary of the **Scoping & Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) & Public Participation** being undertaken
- Present a summary of the key environmental findings as documented in the respective **Scoping Reports**
- Provide stakeholders the opportunity to seek clarity regarding the projects and their respective environmental studies, as well as the opportunity to provide valuable input into/to inform the EIA process
- Obtain and record comments for inclusion in the submissions to DFFE

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

(Rendani Rasivhetshele)

# COMBINED LOCALITY MAP



- Renewable energy cluster, which includes seven separate Solar Energy Facilities.
- Located ~16km north-east of the town of Lichtenburg. The project sites are located within the Ditsobotla Local Municipality and the Ngaka Modiri Molema District, North West Province.
- Two farm portions (856.5ha) have been assessed during the Scoping Assessment, namely, Portion 2 of the Farm Hollaagte No. 8 and the Remaining extent of the Farm Hollaagte No. 8

## INFRASTRUCTURE ASSOCIATED WITH THE KIARA PV CLUSTER

Each project within the Kiara PV Cluster will comprise the following infrastructure:

- Solar PV array comprising PV modules and mounting structures.
- Inverters and transformers.
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).
- Site and internal access roads of up to 8m wide.
- Site offices and maintenance buildings, including workshop areas for maintenance and storage
- Temporary and permanent laydown area.
- Grid connection solution which will include:
  - 132kV onsite facility substation and cabling from the onsite substation to the collector substation (either underground or overhead).

# SCOPING & EIA PROCESS & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT



# APPROACH TO SCOPING

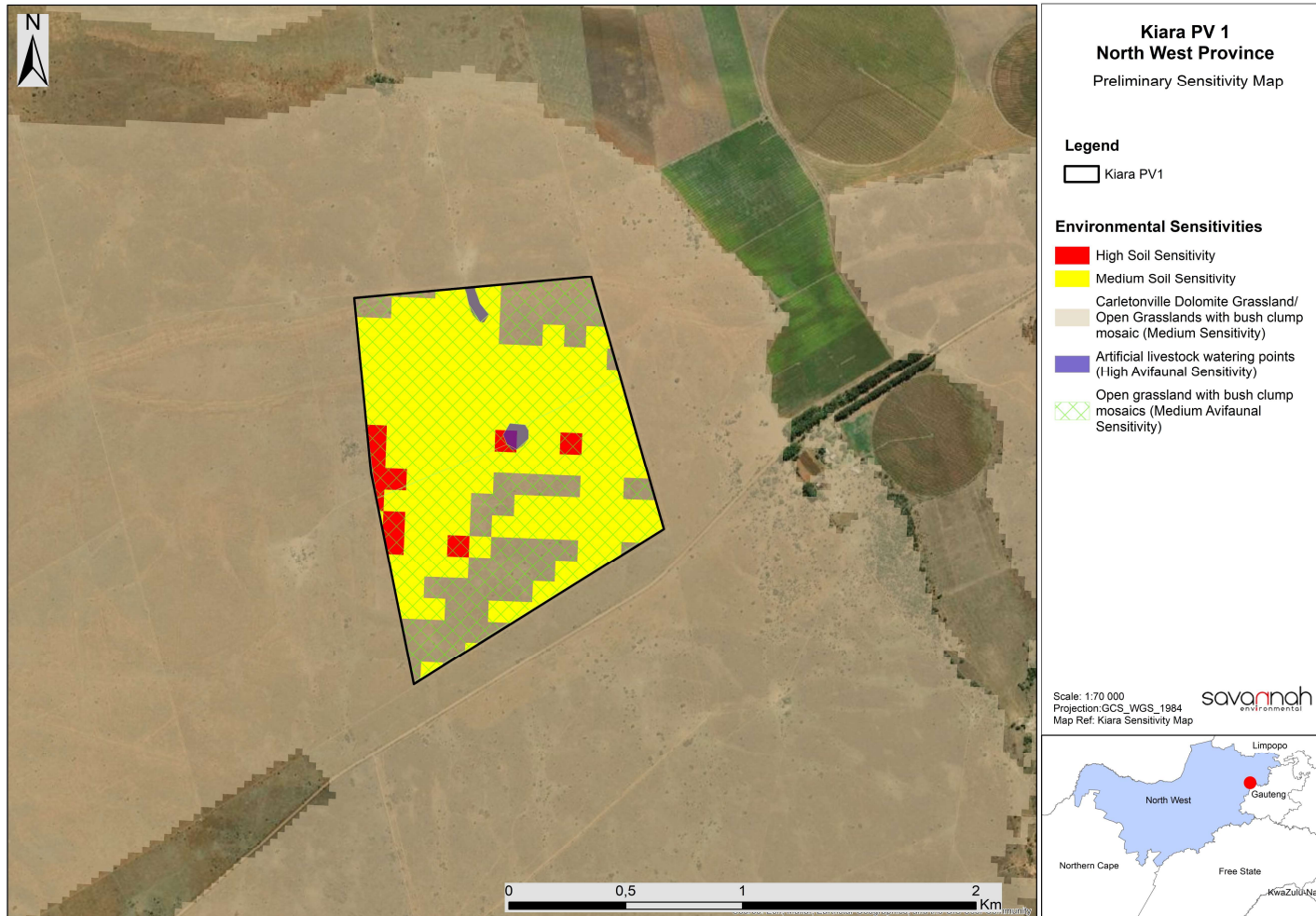
- Identification of issues – social and biophysical environment
- Potential sensitive areas identified through specialist desktop and in-field studies
- Design of appropriate facility layout to be informed by sensitive areas identified through the scoping process. The facility layout will be presented and considered in the EIA Phase
- An approach of the mitigation hierarchy (i.e., avoid, minimise, mitigate and offset)
- Any further micro-siting required to facility layout will be addressed in EIA Phase
- Prepare a Plan of Study for the EIA Phase

# SPECIALIST STUDIES

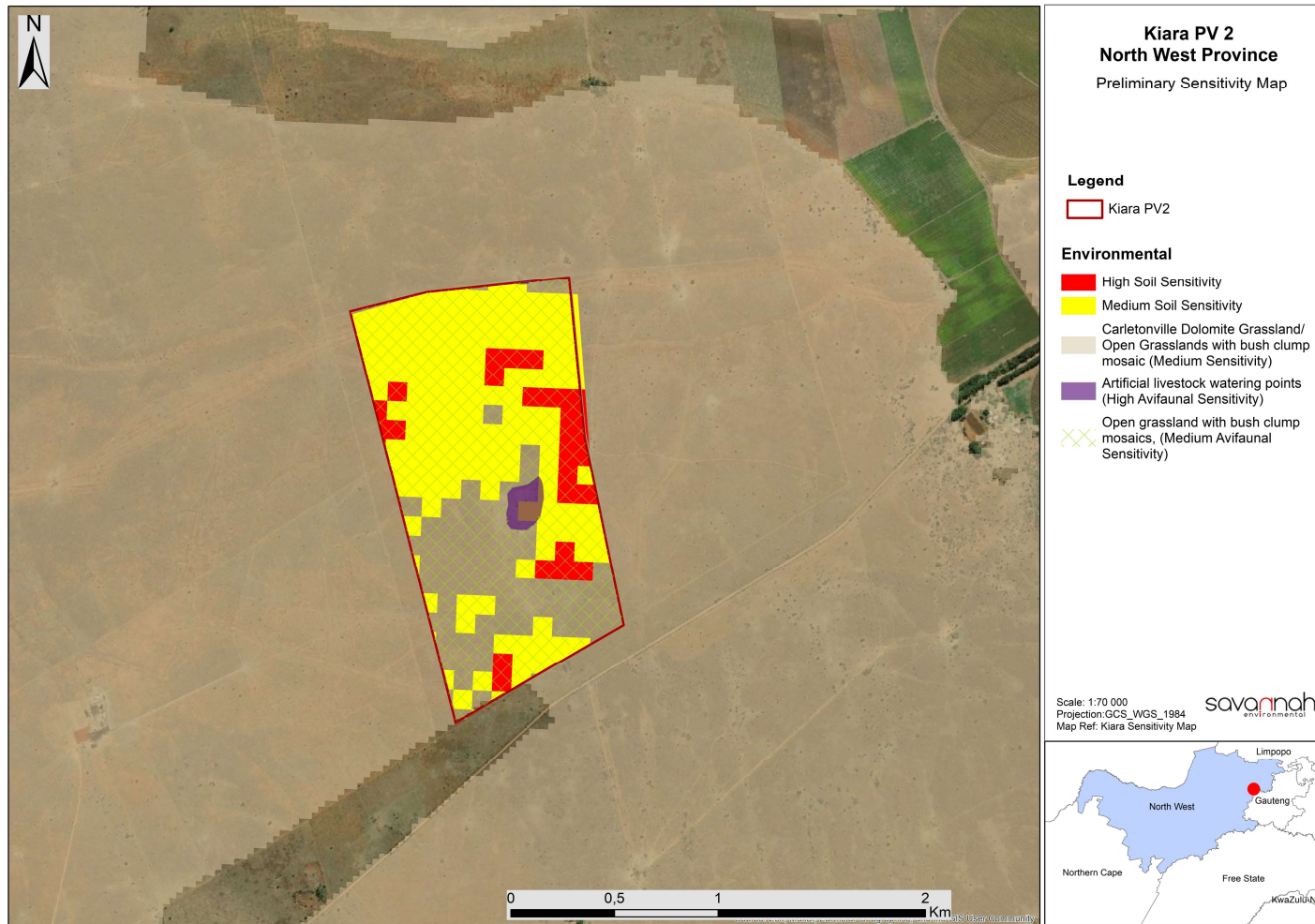
Specialist	Area of Expertise
Darius Van Resnburg of DPR Ecologists and Environmental Services	Ecology (Flora, Fauna and Freshwater)
Nondumiso Bulunga of Savannah Environmental and peer reviewed by Dr Neville Bews of Dr Neville Bews & Associates.	Social
Jenna Lavin of CTS Heritage	Heritage (including Archaeology Palaeontology and Cultural Heritage)
Lukas Niemand of Pachnoda Consulting	Avifauna
Marine Pienaar of Terra Africa	Soils and Agricultural Potential
Lourens Du Plessis of LOGIS	Visual



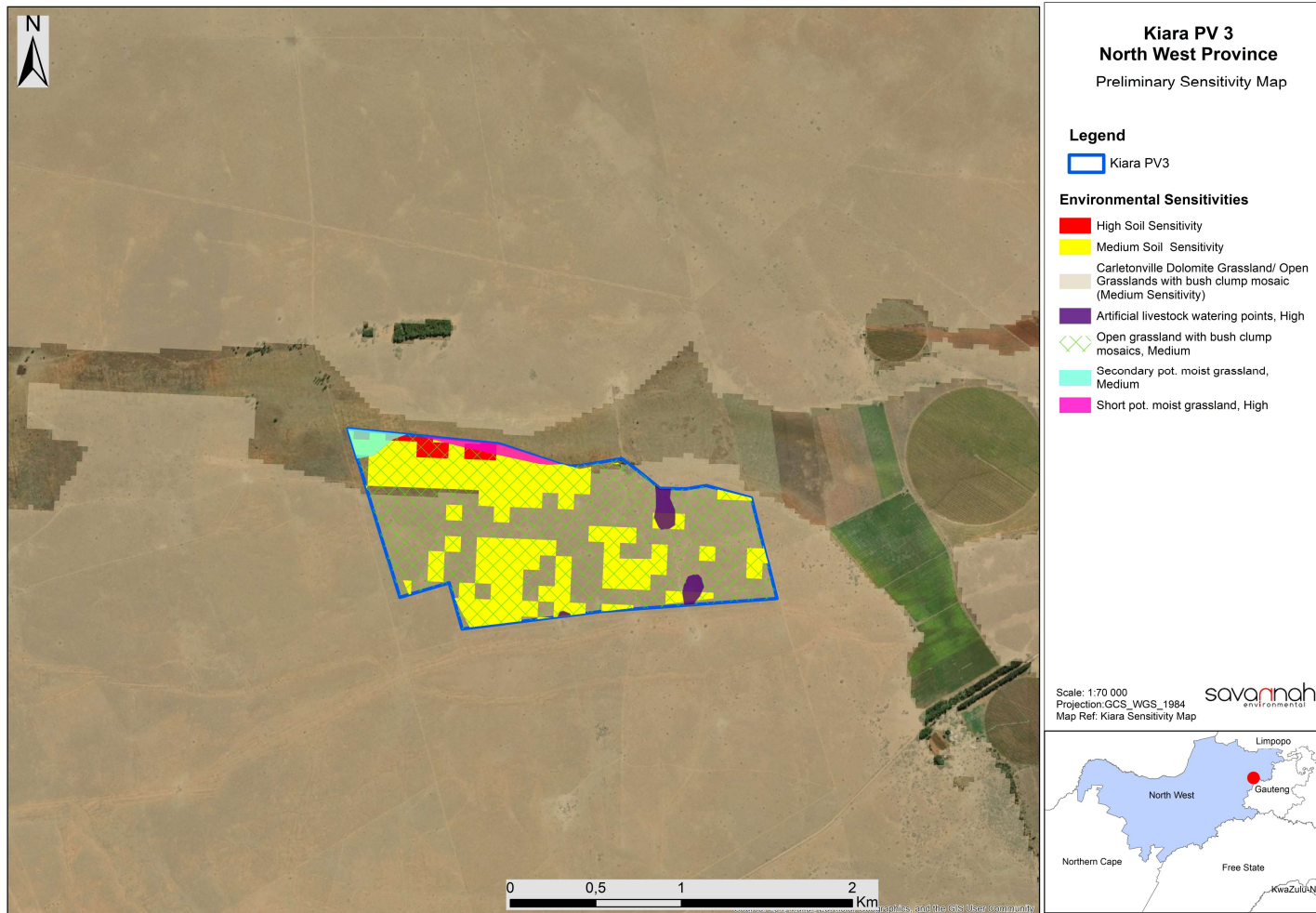
# SENSITIVITY MAPPING (Kiara PV1)



# SENSITIVITY MAPPING (Kiara PV2)

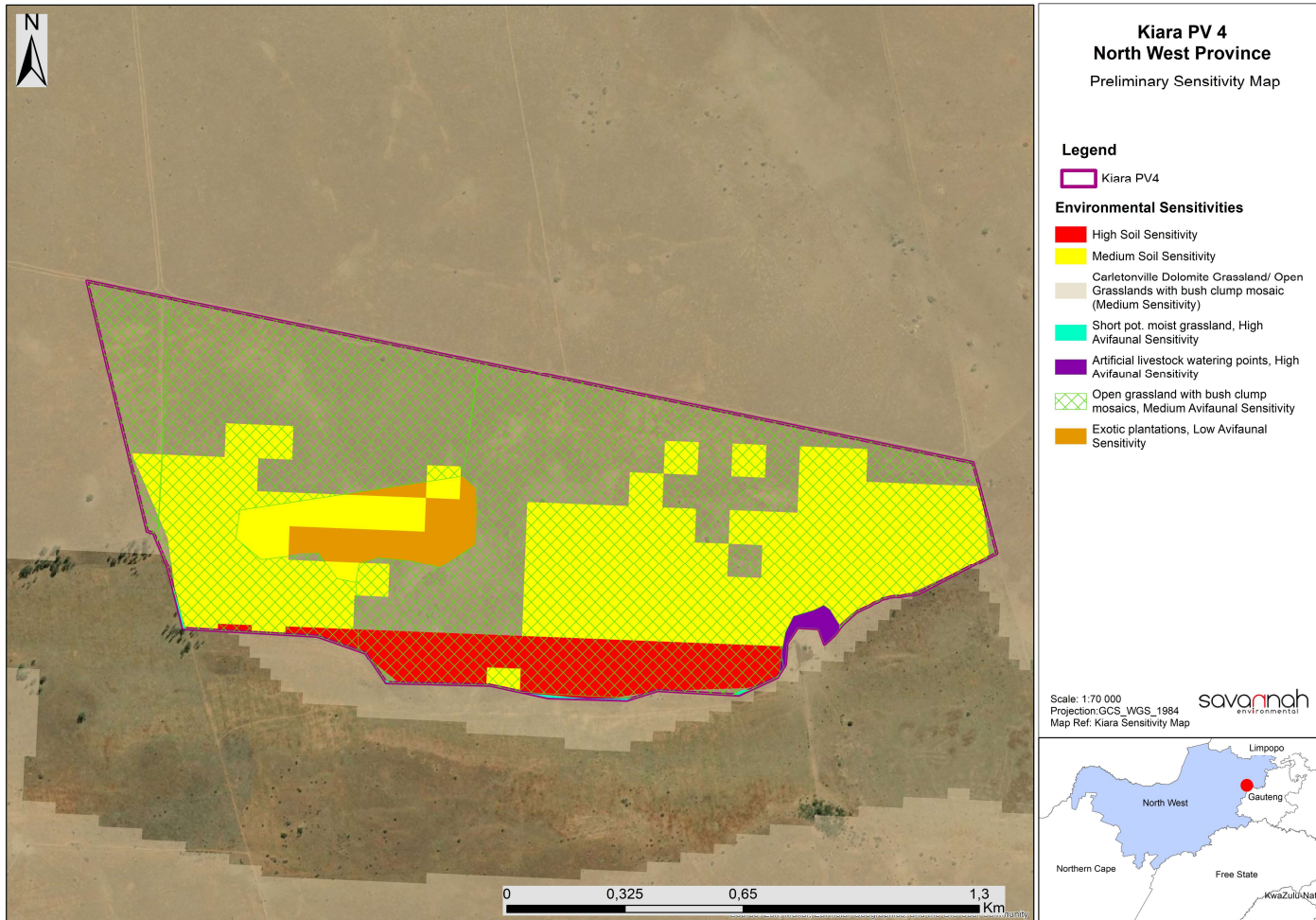


# SENSITIVITY MAPPING (Kiara PV3)

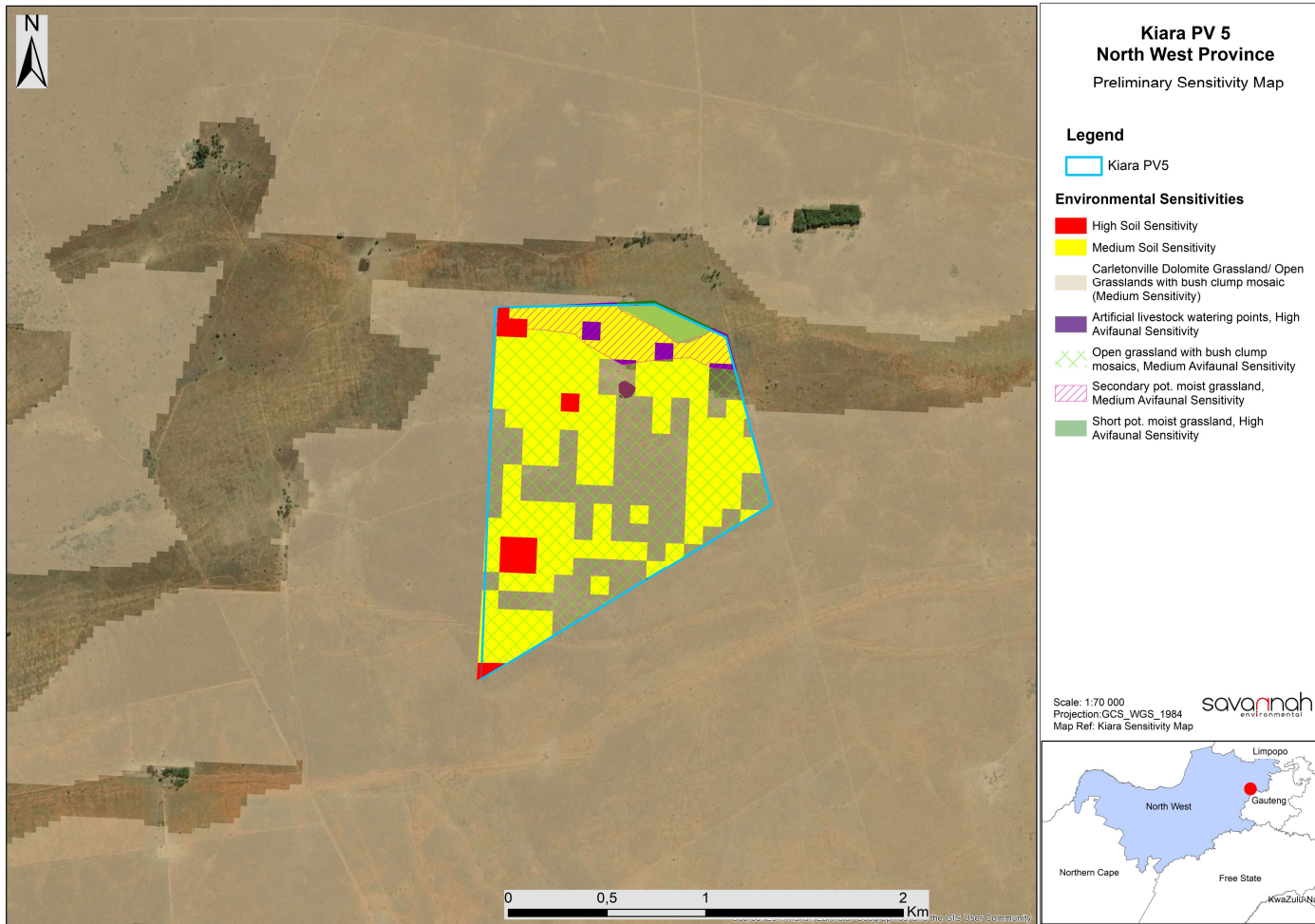




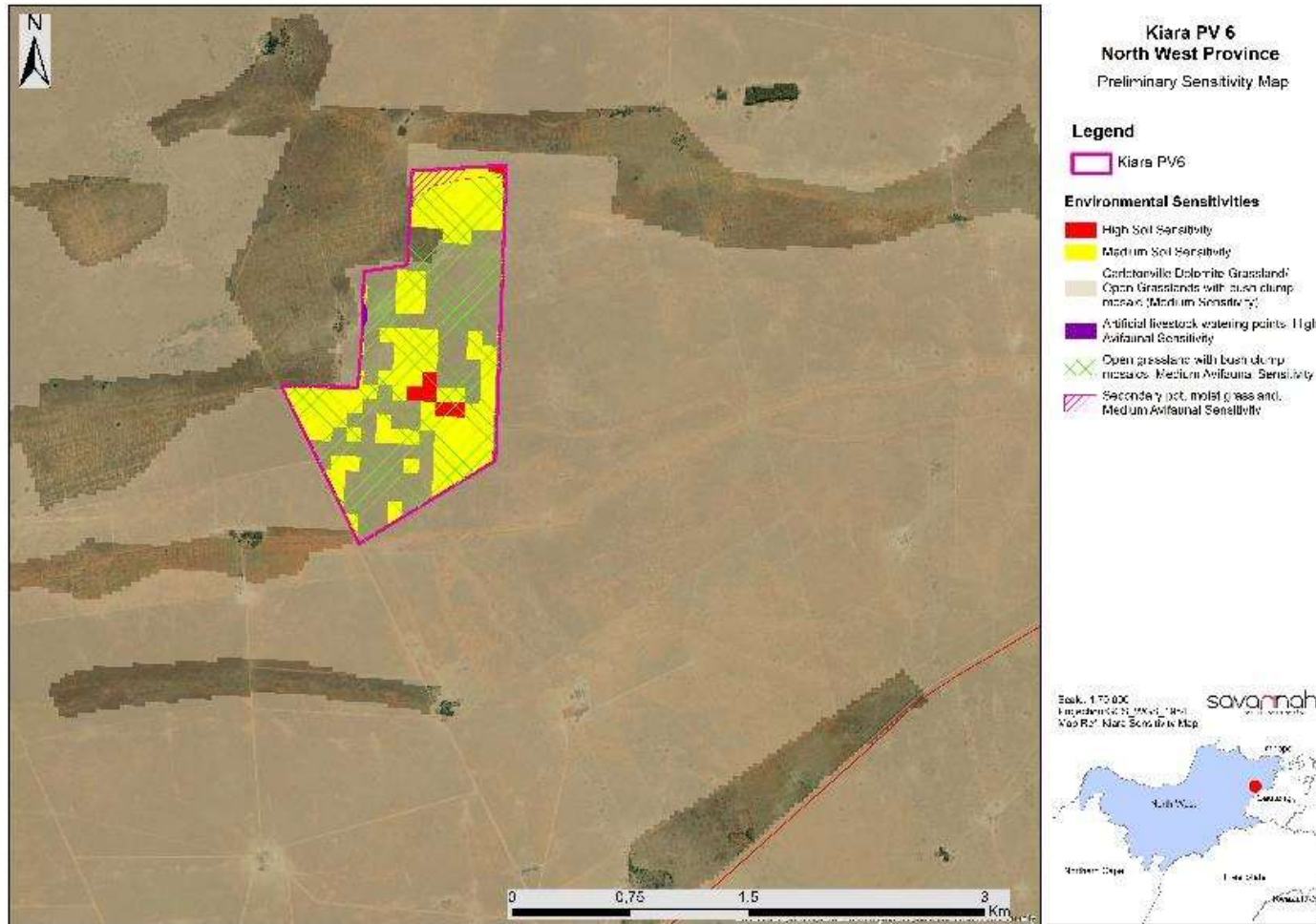
# SENSITIVITY MAPPING (Kiara PV4)



# SENSITIVITY MAPPING (Kiara PV5)

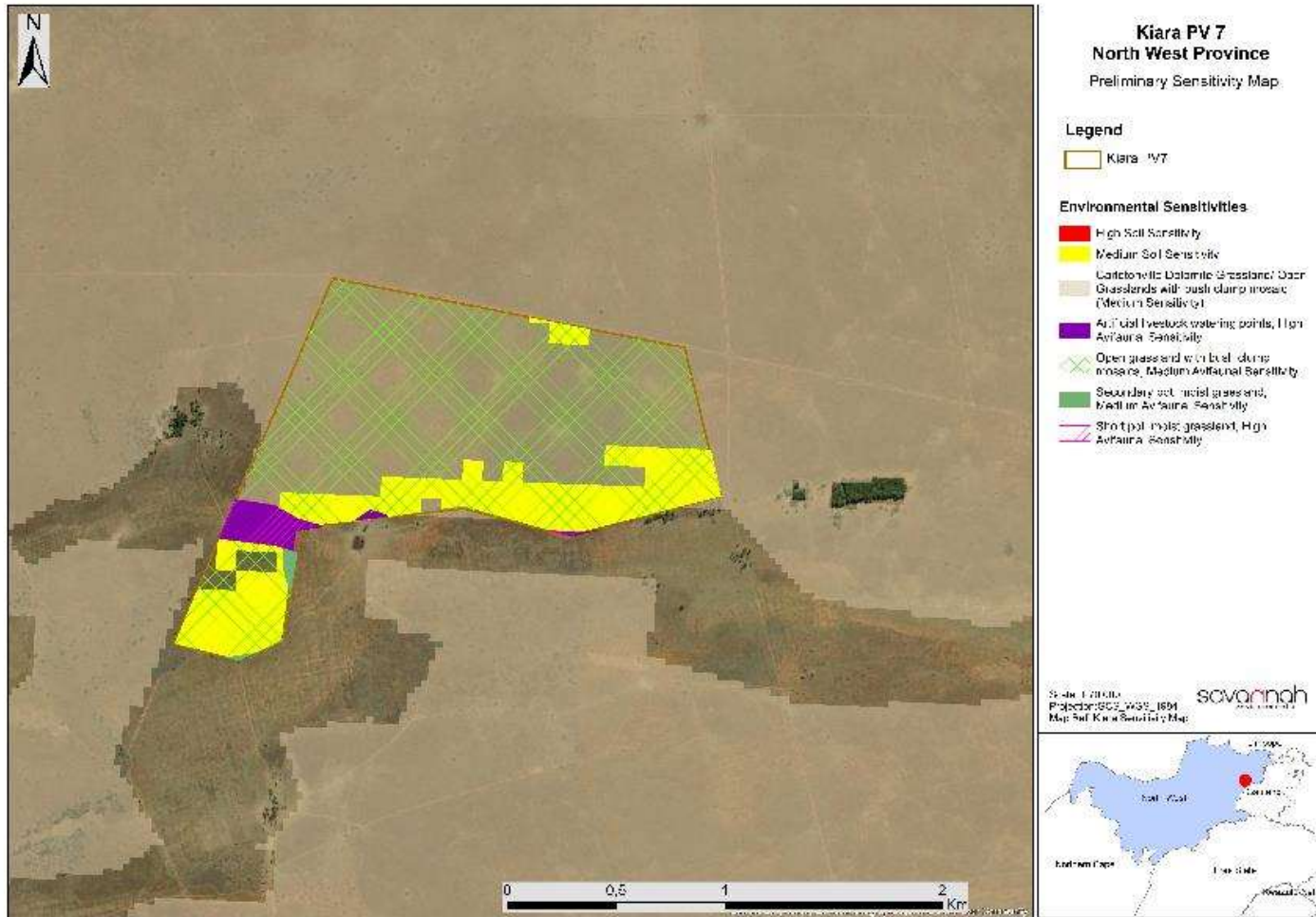


# SENSITIVITY MAPPING (Kiara PV6)





# SENSITIVITY MAPPING (Kiara PV7)



# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS IDENTIFIED (all projects)

Impacts	Scoping of Issues
Impacts on Ecology (fauna & flora) and freshwater resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impacts on vegetation and loss of protected, rare or threatened plant species</li> <li>• Direct faunal impacts</li> <li>• Alien plant invasion and establishment of exotic weeds</li> <li>• Impacts on watercourses, wetlands or the general catchment</li> </ul>
Social Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct and indirect employment opportunities and economic multiplier effects.</li> <li>• Influx of jobseekers and change in population and subsequent safety and security impacts.</li> <li>• Impacts on daily living and movement patterns.</li> <li>• Nuisance impacts including noise, dust, visual and a sense of place impacts.</li> </ul>
Impacts on Avifauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of habitat and displacement of birds due to the clearing of vegetation and habitat to accommodate the panel arrays and associated infrastructure.</li> <li>• Mortality of avifauna and avian electrocution from collisions with plant infrastructure including overhead power lines and/or disturbance of avifauna during construction and maintenance activities.</li> </ul>
Visual Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visibility of development to observers residing in rural homesteads and farmsteads</li> <li>• Observers traveling along the arterial and secondary roads</li> </ul>
Impacts on Agricultural Potential and Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The primary impact on soils will be compaction/soil erosion/loss of soil fertility/soil chemical pollution. The agricultural impact includes a loss of grazing areas where livestock can be produced.</li> </ul>
Impacts on Heritage (Cultural Landscape, Archaeology and Palaeontology)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct impact to archaeological heritage of scientific significance.</li> <li>• Direct impact to palaeontological heritage of scientific significance.</li> <li>• Direct and indirect impact to significant cultural landscapes and cultural landscape elements.</li> </ul>



# PLAN OF STUDY FOR THE EIA PHASE


- The Plan of Study for EIA is intended to describe the activities to be undertaken in the EIA Phase of the EIA process.
- **Based on the findings of the Scoping assessment, the following further investigations within the EIA Phase are required:**
  - Ecological Impact Assessment (including flora, fauna and freshwater)
  - Avifauna Impact Assessment
  - Visual Impact Assessment
  - Soils and Agricultural Potential Impact Assessment
  - Social Impact Assessment
  - Heritage Impact Assessment (including archaeology, palaeontology and cultural heritage)

# **WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE**

**(Nondumiso Bulunga)**



# WAY FORWARD

- Scoping Report review period: **24 June 2022 – 25 July 2022** (can be downloaded from the Savannah Environmental website – [www.savannahsa.com](http://www.savannahsa.com))
  - Final Scoping Report to be submitted to DFFE: end-July 2022
  - EIA & EMPr for review – envisaged August 2022 (TBC)
  - 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.
- 

# WHO TO CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**

Nondumiso Bulunga

Email: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157

Tel: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (*including "please call me"*)

Fax: 086 684 0547

[www.savannahSA.com](http://www.savannahSA.com)

