

**APPENDIX C6**  
**MEETING NOTES**



**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND  
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESSES  
FOR THE  
SIBANYE PMG SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES NEAR  
RUSTENBURG, NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

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**MEETING NOTES OF THE COMMUNITY LEADERS' INFORMATION MEETING  
WITH WARD COUNCILLORS FOR THE SIBANYE SRPM SOLAR PV AND  
KROONDAL SOLAR PV PROJECTS  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 24 MARCH 2022 AT 14H30  
VENUE: RUSTENBURG PLATINUM MINE RECREATION CLUB**

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**Notes for the Record prepared by:**

Raquel Peters

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**

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*Please note that these notes are not verbatim, but a summary of the comments submitted at the meeting.*

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

## SIBANYE STILLWATER SRPM AND KAREE SOLAR PVS LOCATED IN RUSTENBURG AND KROONDAL, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

### MEETING ATTENDEES

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Name	Position
<b>Rustenburg Local Municipality</b>	
Charles Serunye	Councillor
Simphiwe Mkholwa	Councillor
Libe Khoeu	Councillor
<b>Sibanye Stillwater</b>	
Joyce Mabe	Community Engagement & Development Manager
Yolande Janse van Rensburg	Environmental Superintendent: Project Compliance
Nwabisa Mgozoli	Superintendent Community Engagement and Development
Ipeleng Sewelo	
<b>Savannah Environmental</b>	
Lehlogonolo Mashego	Public Participation Consultant
Ansoné Esterhuizen	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Raquel Peters	Junior Environmental Assessment Practitioner

### APOLOGIES

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No apologies were rendered.

The Attendance Record is attached as **Appendix A** to the workshop notes.

### BACKGROUND AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

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**Lehlogonolo Mashego** welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their attendance. She proceeded to introduce herself and requested the project team to introduce themselves and granted the attendees the opportunity to formally do so too.

**Joyce Mabe** presented the emergency and evacuation procedures.

**Lehlogonolo Mashego** went on to present the agenda, meeting conduct, and purpose of the meeting by informing the attendees that Savannah Environmental has been appointed to conduct the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) and Public Participation Process (PPP) for these three proposed solar photovoltaic (PV) projects. These projects are still in the planning phase and Savannah Environmental requested Sibanye Stillwater to introduce them to the Ward Councilors, providing Savannah Environmental the opportunity to presented a brief overview of the proposed projects.

**Ansoné Esterhuizen** presented the following in terms of the technical and public processes:

- Brief overview of the project;
- Environmental Assessment Process; and
- Public Participation Process.

She informed the attendees that Sibanye Stillwater (hereafter "Sibanye") would be utilising the power generated by the PV plants for the mines and thereby increasing the capacity of Eskom's electricity grid network.

The presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

## DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
<p><b>Simphiwe Mkholwa</b> commented that Sibanye Stillwater should be engaging with the public from the onset of the process as initiated.</p> <p>He also commented that questions will be asked by community members as to who Savannah Environmental is and whether they are locals.</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> acknowledged the comment and confirmed that this is the initiation process of the projects.</p>
<p><b>Libe Khoeli</b> asked if Savannah Environmental is conducting the environmental studies.</p>	<p><b>Ansoné Esterhuizen</b> responded that Savannah Environmental will be appointing various environmental specialists to do the environmental studies and Savannah Environmental will pull all the information together in once report.</p> <p><b>Yolande van Rensburg</b> added that Savannah Environmental is responsible for the Environmental Authorisation (EA) application, and that the specialists' studies are being undertaken to identify any negative as well as positive impact associated with the proposed development of the PV plants. These would include heritage, watercourses etc. She added that the communities form part of the independent Public Participation Process (PPP).</p>
<p><b>Libe Khoeli</b> asked if Savannah Environmental would be responsible for the construction of the plant.</p>	<p><b>Yolande van Rensburg</b> replied that should the project received EA, Sibanye Stillwater would be responsible for the construction of the plant. Savannah Environmental is only responsible for the EA and PP processes.</p> <p>She informed the attendees that should the project be granted an EA, Sibanye Stillwater will recruit the labour force for the construction of the plant.</p>
<p><b>Charles Serunye</b> asked what process would be followed by Savannah Environmental for the PP?</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> responded that the purpose of the meeting is to obtain information from the community leaders as to what would be the best approach to ensure that as many community members as possible are informed of the proposed project, this also includes as to whether hard copies of the reports need to be made available and if so, where...</p>

Question / Comment	Response
	The attendees were also informed that the reports will be made available on Savannah Environmental's website for downloading.
<b>Charles Serunye</b> informed Savannah Environmental that there would be questions from community groups as to whether due process in terms of consultation has been followed.	<b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> responded that due process in terms of the EIA Regulations, to which these processes be governed, would be followed as well as being compliant to the DFFE's Public Participation Guidelines.
<b>Joyce Mabe</b> asked if the community leaders are expected to call a community meeting.	<b>Ansoné Esterhuizen</b> responded that consultation will be undertaken with the various community leaders to determine the need for face-to-face meetings and where such meetings can be held
<b>Ansonée Esterhuizen</b> asked if virtual meetings would be appropriate for community meetings and whether we can rely on the support from the community leaders to relay this to the communities.	Attendees collectively responded and agreed that face-to-face meetings would be required.
<b>Libe Khoeli</b> informed the project team that meetings with the no project report would not empower community members, however Councillors should be in a position to empower their communities when relaying information.  He further asked how this project is going to empower the community.	<b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> explained that it is still early in the process, so we do not have a direct response and stated that there will be a section in the report that addresses the socio-economic impacts.  <b>Yolande van Rensburg</b> added that the purpose of the session is to ask the Councilors as to the best way to approach the community members. At the next round of meetings, opportunity would provide to answer technical and social questions regarding the labour force to be used, etc.
<b>Libe Khoeli</b> stated that this meeting is a PP shortcut, and that the community will not be empowered which will enable them to fully participate in the process. He said that companies that normally conduct these types of processes, need field workers and asked if Sibanye Stillwater would need field workers.	<b>Yolande van Rensburg</b> responded that Sibanye-Stillwater will follow the recruitment process once the project commences.  <b>Nwabisa Mgozoli</b> added that approval from the Department would determine the process going forward, i.e. sourcing of labour in the community etc. She stated that there will be opportunities if the project is approved and implemented.
<b>Simphiwe Mkholwa</b> stated that this is the first engagement and asked what the process of consultation by Savannah Environmental will be with the communities. He asked how the project is going to be presented to the	<b>Ansoné Esterhuizen</b> responded that this initial phase should be taken as the paperwork phase. She reiterated that Savannah Environmental is independent from Sibanye Stillwater for these projects, and that Savannah Environmental was

Question / Comment	Response
community so that they can control the situation should the need arise.	appointed to obtain approval from the DFFE for the environmental assessments and public participation process. Sibanye Stillwater will address any technical aspects relating to these projects.

## CLOSURE AND WAY FORWARD

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**Lehlogonolo Mashego** informed the Councilors that Savannah Environmental's contact details are included at the back of the copy of the presentation issued to them should they have any further questions after the meeting, and that Savannah Environmental will respond to those questions. She reiterated that there will be ample time for further consultation regarding these projects.

She added that Savannah Environmental would be reliant on the Councilors to get information out to their communities. She requested that the Councilors inform Savannah Environmental as to how they should engage meaningful with the communities.

**Lehlogonolo Mashego** recognized the value of the comments and questions received and assured attendees that it will be included in the reports.

**Joyce Mabe** thanked the councillors for their attendance and said that she hopes the councillors have a better understanding as to what the project entails.

The meeting concluded at **15:24 pm**

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

EA	Environmental Authorisation	PPP	Public participation Process
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	PV	Photovoltaic
I&AP	Interested and Affected Party	S&EIA	Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment
PP	Public participation		

## Lehlogonolo Mashego

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**From:** Lehlogonolo Mashego  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 04 May 2022 12:24  
**To:** dbkhoeli@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Ansoné Esterhuizen; Nicolene Venter; Yolande Janse van Rensburg; joyce.mabe@sibanyestillwater.com; ipeleng.seabelo@sibanyestillwater.com; nwabisa.mgolozeli@sibanyestillwater.com  
**Subject:** SE3241 - Community Leaders Meeting Notes  
**Attachments:** SE3241-Sibanye CommLeaders SRPM 24032022 Final.pdf

Good day,

Following the meeting held on 24 March 2022, please see attached are the meeting notes for your attention. Should you have any remarks or comments, please do send these for us to consider.

Kind regards



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

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**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND  
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESSES  
FOR THE  
SIBANYE PMG SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES NEAR  
RUSTENBURG, NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

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**MEETING NOTES OF THE COMMUNITY LEADER'S INFORMATION MEETING  
WITH WARD COUNCILLORS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS FOR THE  
WONDERKOP SOLAR PV PROJECT  
HELD ON FRIDAY, 25 MARCH 2022 AT 10H00  
VENUE: SIBANYE STILLWATER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE,  
MOOINOOI**

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**Notes for the Record prepared by:**

Raquel Peters

**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**

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*Please note that these notes are not verbatim, but a summary of the comments submitted at the meeting.*

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

## SPGM SOLAR PV, KAREE SOLAR PV AND WONDERKOP SOLAR PV, MARIKANA, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

### MEETING ATTENDEES

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Name	Position
<b>Councillors and Community Leaders</b>	
Shomais Vuyiswe	Councillor: Ward 131
Magdonia Masuku	Councillor
Issac Bhebe	Councillor
Bheki Cecil Mphahele	Councillor: Ward 40
<b>Sibanye Stillwater</b>	
Busi Thabakwe	Environmental Compliance Officer
Yolande Janse van Rensburg	Environmental Superintendent – Project Compliance
Lesego Makgale	Superintendent Community Engagement and Development
<b>Savannah Environmental</b>	
Lehlogonolo Mashego	Public Participation and Environmental Consultant
Ansoné Esterhuizen	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Raquel Peters	Junior Environmental Assessment Practitioner

### APOLOGIES

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No apologies were received.

The list of attendance record is attached as **Appendix A** to the meeting notes.

### BACKGROUND AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

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**Lehlogonolo Mashego** welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their attendance. She proceeded to introduce herself and requested the project team to introduce themselves and granted the attendees the opportunity to formally do so too.

She presented the agenda, meeting conduct, purpose of the meeting, and informed the attendees that Savannah Environmental has been appointed to conduct the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) and Public Participation Process (PPP) for these three proposed solar photovoltaic (PV) projects. The projects are still in the planning phase and Savannah Environmental requested Sibanye Stillwater to introduce them to the Ward Councilors and to present a brief overview of the proposed projects.

**Lesego Makgale** extended a warm welcome to the attendees and apologised for starting the information meeting late. He presented the emergency and evacuation procedure.

**Ansoné Esterhuizen** presented the following in terms of the technical and public processes:

- Brief overview of the projects;
- Environmental Assessment Process; and
- Public Participation Process.

She informed the attendees that Sibanye Stillwater (hereafter "Sibanye") would be utilising the power generated by the PV plants for the mines' operational facilities and thereby increasing Eskom's electricity grid network.

The presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

**DISCUSSION SESSION**

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
<p><b>Councillor Issac Thebe</b></p>	<p>How will the community benefit from the proposed projects in terms of the power that would be generated and the overall developments.</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> responded that the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) for the projects have just commenced and that scoping reports have not yet been drafted. The scoping reports will have a section that addresses the socio-economic impacts (positive and negative) of the projects.</p>
	<p>He recommended face-to-face meetings be held with the affected communities and that hard copies of the reports be placed at local community centres.</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> acknowledged the request regarding face-to-face meetings and referred to the presentation regarding the periods in which this level of consultation will be undertaken, as required.</p>
<p><b>Councillor Magdonia Masuku</b></p>	<p>Informed the project team that there is no reason for her to be present at the meeting if she is going back home with no report.</p> <p>She stated that they do not want meetings, they want action. She further said that the meeting is a waste of valuable time if there is no reports available.</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> acknowledged the Councillor's comment and frustration, however, she explained that all projects are unique and that there is no single correct way of approaching the community, but thorough efforts are implemented to ensure that this process is as seamless as possible.</p>
	<p>Clarification was requested as to why the meeting was held.</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> responded that the meeting forms part of the initial engagement to obtain information from the attendees as to how the public participation process could be undertaken and as Councillors and Community Leaders have different perspectives, and that Savannah Environmental's preference is to first engaged with the</p>

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
		<p>relevant Councillors and elected community representatives.</p> <p><b>Yolande van Rensburg</b> added that the purpose of the meeting was also to introduce the Savannah Environmental team as the appointed independent environmental consultants and to present a brief overview of what the projects entail. Additionally, to that, the purpose was also to obtain information and understand how to best engage with the community.</p> <p>She reiterated that this is still the initial stage of the projects and Sibanye Stillwater felt that it was important to meet and greet the Councilors, the elected community leaders and Savannah Environmental.</p>
	<p>The project team was informed to present the projects in totality and ensuring that the reports have been made available prior to the meetings.</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> acknowledged the recommendation and confirm that the team will be fully prepared when presenting the projects to the applicable communities.</p>
	<p>This was a small presentation that could have been e-mailed and informed the project team that e-mail is a preferred means of communication with them as Councilors and community representatives.</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> acknowledged this preference and written communication will be shared via e-mail.</p>
<p><b>Councillor Issac Bhebe</b></p>	<p>The project team was informed that it is believed that the project information relayed in this meeting could have easily been facilitated via email as the need from us is to have the project report and have reference to the planned activities and impact thereof.</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> acknowledged the Councillors' view and stressed the purpose of the meeting.</p> <p>She further noted the Councillors' preferred means of communication and that it should have been clarified in the beginning.</p> <p>She indicated that she is of the view that this meeting was not a complete</p>

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
		waste, as the Councillors have not been introduced to the projects, the consultants and that it was necessary to get the Councillors input on the project at an early stage.
<b>Councillor Bheki Mphahele</b>	What the phases of the project entails.	<b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> clarified that there is one environmental authorization process which consist of a scoping and an environmental phase, and that PP form an important part of the two phases. She added that Savannah Environmental will be consulting throughout the S&EIA process, to provide stakeholders opportunity to submit comments in each phase.
<b>Councillor Magdonia Masuku</b>	<p>Savannah Environmental was informed that they need to be fully prepared with project related information when presenting and consulting the Wonderkop community.</p> <p>From a Councillor's approach, it is not envisaged that there would be a need to prevent the projects from following due process, but the community may not be as understanding.</p> <p>Will the community be linked with the electricity generated through these projects?</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> extended appreciation to the Councillor as her comment will prepare Savannah for the planned engagements, such feedback is of value in getting an emic perspective of the communities at large.</p> <p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> responded that as responded earlier, the electricity generated by these projects would be to strengthen the mine's electricity network.</p> <p>The request as to whether the community would be supply with electricity will be submitted to Sibanye Stillwater and a response will be provided once the scoping phase commenced.</p>

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
<p><b>Councillor Bheki Mphahele</b></p>	<p>The project team was informed that they need to be fully prepared with relevant information before consulting the communities.</p> <p>He added that the Councillors and communities have differences with Sibanye Stillwater and that Savannah Environmental must not only rely on Sibanye Stillwater's perspective regarding the communities, but need to do their own homework.</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> acknowledged the inputs provided.</p>
<p><b>Councillor Issac Bhebe</b></p>	<p>The loadshedding situation experienced by the communities has been raised and it was stated that Sibanye Stillwater mines have power during load shedding. He asked how the projects would benefit the communities.</p>	<p><b>Yolande van Rensburg</b> responded that to improve Sibanye Stillwater mines effectiveness, renewable energy is being introduced to relieve the pressure off Eskom. Insufficient power at the mine would impact on the mine's operations.</p>
<p><b>Councillor Magdonia Masuku</b></p>	<p>It was commented that the Wonderkop community is the most suffered community and if the project does not benefit them directly – the worst can be expected.</p> <p>She also stated that Savannah Environmental must facilitate their consultation and meetings independently from Sibanye Stillwater.</p> <p>It was commented that cable theft is a challenge, and the project team should take note thereof during the planning phase of the proposed developments.</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> acknowledge the comments raised.</p>
<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b></p>	<p>How many community meetings should be held and if it should be held individually or clustered?</p>	<p><b>Councillor Magdonia Masuku</b> confirmed that the meetings should not be clustered and that separate meetings be held in each of the Wards.</p>

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
<p><b>Councillor Bheki Mphahele</b></p>	<p>There needs to be background information as to why the projects are being proposed and how it would benefit the community, for example the power generated by the solar plants be utilised solely by the mine and that the power currently used by the mine through the Eskom network strengthen the power supply to the community.</p> <p>He added that the mine should consider channels in which the energy generated may feed into the key public facilities (police station, clinics and schools) so that there is direct benefit to the surrounding communities.</p>	<p><b>Lehlogonolo Mashego</b> thanked the Councillor for his valuable inputs and that it would be presented to the project team for assessing the sustainability thereof.</p>

#### **WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE**

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No further comments regarding the proposed developments were raised.

**Lehlogonolo Mashego** thanked the participants for making time available to attend the meeting and for their valuable inputs into the projects.

The meeting concluded at **12:00 pm**.

#### **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

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I&AP	Interested and Affected Party	PPP	Public participation Process
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	PV	Photovoltaic
PP	Public participation	S&EIA	Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment

## Lehlogonolo Mashego

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**From:** Lehlogonolo Mashego  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 04 May 2022 12:28  
**To:** magdoniamasuku@gmail.com; vshomanng@gmail.com; isaacbhebe@gmail.com; bhekimphahlelele514@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Ansoné Esterhuizen; Nicolene Venter; busi.tlhabakwe@sibanyestillwater.com; Yolande Janse van Rensburg; Lesego Makgale  
**Subject:** SE3241 - Community Leaders Meeting Notes  
**Attachments:** SE3241-Sibanye CommLeaders Wonderkop 25032022 Final.pdf

Good day,

Following the meeting held on 25 March 2022, please see attached are the meeting notes for your attention. Should you have any remarks or comments, please do send these for us to consider.

Kind regards



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