



DFFE References: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2323, 14/12/16/3/3/2/2324 and 14/12/16/3/3/2/2325

MURA PV DEVELOPMENT

MURA 2, MURA 3 AND MURA 4 SOLAR PV FACILITIES

Public Participation Process Report





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Public Participation Process Report

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MURA PV DEVELOPMENT

MURA 2, MURA 3 AND MURA 4 SOLAR PV FACILITIES

Public Participation Process Report

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GLOSSARY

Abbreviation	Definition
BA	Basic Assessment
CA	Competent Authority
CAA	South African Civil Aviation Authority
DALRRD	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment
DMRE	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
DWS	Department of Water and Sanitation
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EGI	Electrical Grid Infrastructure
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GN	Government Notice
HWC	Heritage Western Cape
I&APs	Interested and Affected Parties
NC DENC	Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation
NC DALRRD	Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998)
PPP	Public Participation Process
PV	Photovoltaic
REDZ	Renewable Energy Development Zone
S&EIR	Scoping & Environmental Impact Report
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Agency
SANRAL	South African National Roads Agency Limited



SAWS	South African Weather Service
SKA	Square Kilometre Array
WC DEADP	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
WSP	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd

1 INTRODUCTION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed by Mura 1 (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to meet the requirements under the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA), for the proposed Mura Photovoltaic (PV) Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces.

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West (Refer to **Figure 1-1**). The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development.

Each solar facility will connect to the Eskom grid via new 132 kV overhead lines (assessed in a separate process to the PV facilities) connecting up to two on-site solar substations via adjacent Eskom switching stations to the approved Nuweveld Collector Substation.

For the grid connection, an Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) Corridor is proposed and is assessed as a separate project. The grid line is arranged in what is called a "collector ring line". This implies that it is a circular grid line and not just a single line between the Nuweveld Collector Substation and the Mura facilities. The use of a circular "collector ring line" is an approach used by Eskom and others to improve the grid stability and to ensure that if the grid line is damaged on one side of the "collector ring line", that the solar facilities can still export their energy along the other side of the ring line while the fault is repaired. This allows these facilities to be better integrated into the national grid and to better reduce risks of downtime which enables these solar facility projects to be better adapted to potential amendments to future bidding requirements or to potentially give them a competitive advantage over other similar projects.

Mura 1 Solar PV Facility and Mura EGI Corridor fall within the Beaufort West Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ), as per Government Notice (GN) No. 145 in Government Gazette 44191, therefore these applications will be subject to a Basic Assessment (BA) Process in terms of NEMA (as amended) and Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 promulgated in Government Gazette 40772 and GN R326, R327, R325 and R324 on 7 April 2017. Mura 2, 3 and 4 Solar PV Facilities will be subject to a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process in terms of NEMA (as amended) and Appendix 2 and 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 promulgated in Government Gazette 40772 and GN R326, R327, R325 and R324 on 7 April 2017.

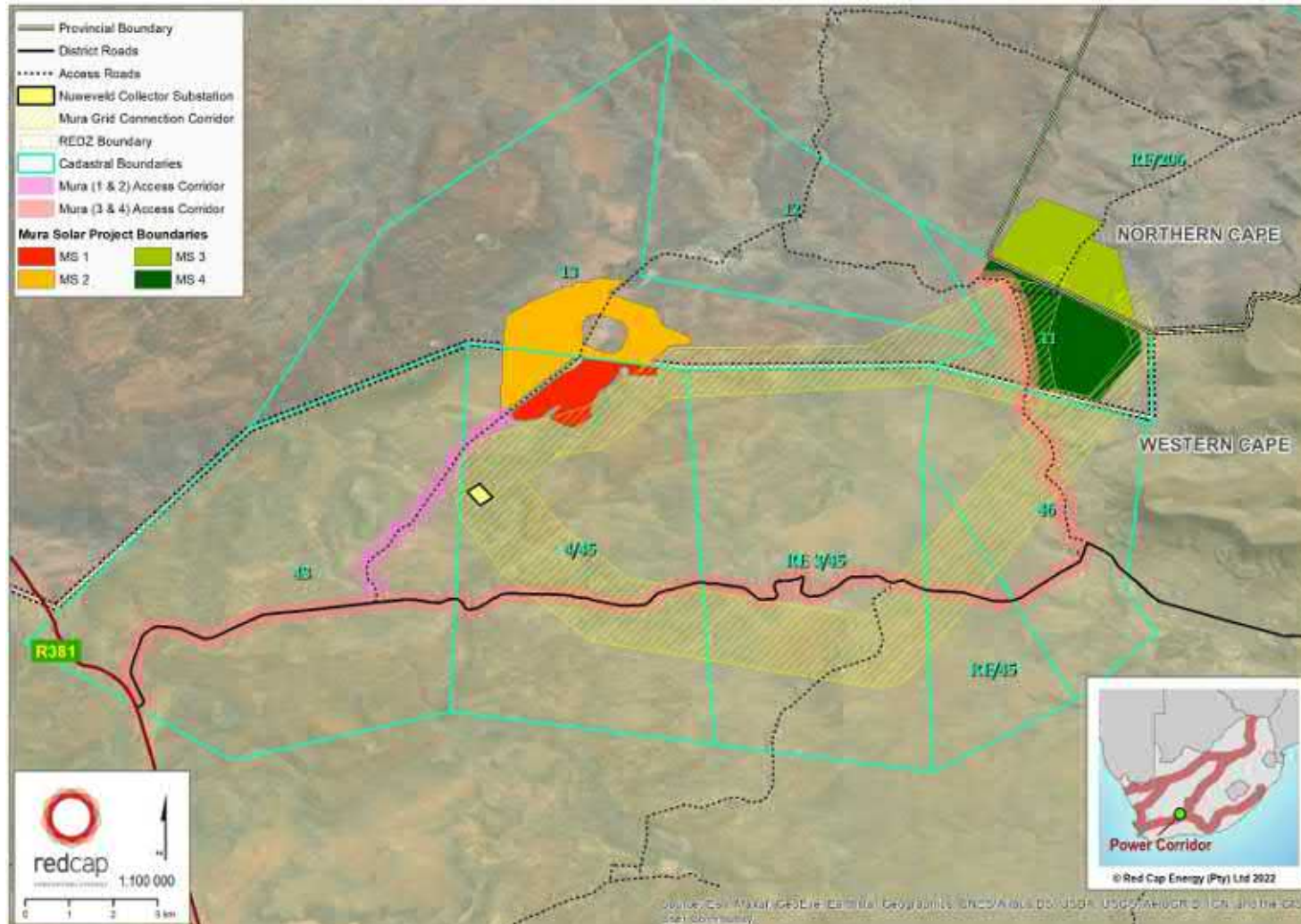


Figure 1-1 - Mura PV Development Locality

1.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE

There are five applications associated with the Mura PV Development as indicated in **Table 1-1**.

Table 1-1 – Mura PV Development Environmental Applications

Project	Details	Environmental Process
Mura 1 Solar PV Facility	Up to 150 MW solar facility including associated infrastructure	BA Process (Final BAR submitted to DFFE on 11 May 2023)
Mura 2 Solar PV Facility	Up to 400 MW solar facility including associated infrastructure	Scoping & Environmental Impact Report (S&EIR) Process
Mura 3 Solar PV Facility	Up to 320 MW solar facility including associated infrastructure	S&EIR Process
Mura 4 Solar PV Facility	Up to 360 MW solar facility including associated infrastructure	S&EIR Process
Mura EGI Corridor	132 kV lines and associated infrastructure within the Mura EGI Corridor	BA Process (Final BAR submitted to DFFE on 11 May 2023)

A combined Public Participation Process (PPP) is being undertaken for all projects mentioned above. This PPP Report is applicable to the Mura 2 Solar PV Facility, Mura 3 Solar PV Facility and Mura 4 Solar PV Facility Projects following a S&EIR Process.

1.3 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

WSP was appointed in the role of Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Process for the proposed project. This PPP Report was compiled as part of the EA Process and must be read in conjunction with the applicable Scoping Reports in support of the EA applications. **Table 1-2** details the relevant contact details of the EAP.

Table 1-2 – Details of the EAP

EAP:	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Contact Person:	Ashlea Strong
Physical Address:	Building C, Knightsbridge, 33 Sloane Street, Bryanston, Johannesburg
Postal Address:	P.O. Box 98867, Sloane Park 2151, Johannesburg
Telephone:	011 361 1392
Fax:	011 361 1301
Email:	Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com
EAP Qualifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Masters in Environmental Management, University of the Free State ■ B Tech, Nature Conservation, Technikon SA ■ National Diploma in Nature Conservation, Technikon SA

EAPASA Registration Number:	EAPASA (2019/1005)
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To adequately identify and assess potential environmental impacts, the EAP was supported by a number of specialists, the details of which are provided in the applicable EIA Reports.

STATEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE

Neither WSP nor any of the authors of this Report have any material present or contingent interest in the outcome of this Report, nor do they have any business, financial, personal or other interest that could be reasonably regarded as being capable of affecting their independence. WSP has no beneficial interest in the outcome of the assessment.

1.4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation is understood to be a series of inclusive and culturally appropriate interactions aimed at providing stakeholders with opportunities to express their views, so that these can be considered and incorporated into the decision-making process. Effective public participation requires the prior disclosure of relevant and adequate project information to enable stakeholders to understand the risks, impacts, and opportunities of the proposed Project.

Basic reasons why the public are involved in the PPP:

- The environment is held in public trust; therefore, use of environmental resources is everyone's concern;
- To ensure that projects meet the citizens' needs and are suitable to the affected public;
- The project carries more legitimacy, and less hostility, if interested and affected parties (I&APs) are able to influence the decision-making process; and
- The final decision is deemed informed when local knowledge and values are included and when expert knowledge is publicly examined.

1.4.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the PPP can be summarised as follows:

- Identify relevant individuals, organisations and communities who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project;
- Clearly outline the scope of the proposed Project, including the scale and nature of the existing and proposed activities;
- Identify viable proposed Project alternatives that will assist the relevant authorities in making an informed decision;
- Identify shortcomings and gaps in existing information;
- Identify key concerns, raised by I&APs that should be addressed in the subsequent specialist studies;
- Highlight the potential for environmental impacts, whether positive or negative; and
- To inform and provide the public with information and an understanding of the proposed Project, issues and solutions.

1.4.2 WHAT IS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY

An I&AP is defined as any person, group of persons or organisations interested in or affected by an activity, and any organ of state that may have jurisdiction over any aspect of the activity.

The difference between an I&AP and a registered I&AP:

- An I&AP can be directly or indirectly impacted on by a proposed activity.
- A registered I&AP is a person whose name has been placed on the register of registered I&APs. According to the PPP Guidance document, 2017, only registered I&APs will be notified:
 - Of the availability of reports and other written submissions made to the Competent Authority (CA) by the Applicant, and be entitled to comment on these reports and submissions; and
 - Of the outcome of the application, the reasons for the decision, and that an appeal may be lodged against a decision.

For the purpose of this report, registered I&APs will be referred to as Stakeholders.

Rights, Roles and Responsibilities of the Stakeholders

Stakeholders have the right to bring to the attention of the CA any issues that they believe may be of significance to the consideration of the application. The rights of stakeholder are qualified by certain obligations, namely:

- Stakeholders must ensure that their comments are submitted within the timeframes that have been approved by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE), or within any extension of a timeframe agreed by the Proponent, EAP or competent authorities;
- Serve a copy of the comments submitted directly to the competent authorities, the Proponent or the EAP; and
- Disclose to the EAP any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that they might have in the approval or refusal of the application.

The roles of stakeholders in a public participation process usually include one or more of the following:

- Assisting in the identification and prioritisation of issues that need to be investigated;
- Making suggestions on alternatives and means of preventing, minimising and managing negative impacts and enhancing proposed Project benefits;
- Assisting in or commenting on the development of mutually acceptable criteria for the evaluation of decision options;
- Contributing information on public needs, values and expectations;
- Contributing local and traditional knowledge; and
- Verifying that their issues have been considered.

In order to participate effectively, stakeholders should:

- Become involved in the process as early as possible;
- Advise the EAP of other stakeholders who should be consulted;
- Contribute towards the design of the public participation process (including timeframes) to ensure that it is acceptable to all stakeholders;
- Follow the process once it has been accepted;
- Read the material provided and actively seek to understand the issues involved;
- Give timeous responses to correspondence;
- Be respectful and courteous towards other stakeholders;
- Refrain from making subjective, unfounded or ill-informed statements; and
- Recognise that the process is confined to issues that are directly relevant to the application.

1.5 APPROACH TO STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Our approach to stakeholder engagement is based on the following principles:

- Undertake meaningful and timely participation with stakeholders;
- Focus on important issues during the process;
- Undertake due consideration of alternatives;
- Take accountability for information used;
- Encourage co-regulation, shared responsibility and a sense of ownership over the proposed Project lifecycle;
- Apply “due process” particularly with regard to public participation as provided for in the EIA Regulations; and
- Consider the needs, interests and values of stakeholders.

The Public Participation guideline in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, drafted by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) (now DFFE) in 2017, tabulates the level of Public Participation required for various levels of anticipated project impacts. This table has been used to identify additional Public Participation methods which are required for the Project. Highlighted cells (red) indicate the applicable response to the anticipated impacts. Results of the process are shown in **Table 1-3**.

Table 1-3 – Level of Public Participation as per Public Participation Guideline (DEA, 2017)

Scale of Anticipated Impacts	Recommended Response	
	If “Yes”	If “No”
Are the impacts of the project likely to extend beyond the boundaries of the local municipality?	Formal Consultation with other affected municipalities should be carried out during the PPP.	No need to have a formal consultation with other municipalities during PPP. Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA must be met.
Are the impacts of the project likely to extend beyond the boundaries of the province?	Formal Consultation with other affected provinces should be carried out during the PPP.	No need to have a formal consultation with other provinces during PPP. Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA must be met.
Is the project a greenfields development (a new development in a previously undisturbed area)?	Extensive consultation with Registered Interested and Affected Parties (RI&APs) might be required before a decision is taken on the project to in order to gather more information, and to ensure that there is minimal impact on the environment.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.

Scale of Anticipated Impacts	Recommended Response	
	If “Yes”	If “No”
Does the area already suffer from socio-economic problems (e.g. job losses) or environmental problems (e.g. pollution), and is the project likely to exacerbate these?	Extensive consultation with RI&APs within the area should be undertaken, to gather more information on both the socio-economic and environmental problems.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Is the project expected to have a wide variety of impacts (e.g. socio-economic and ecological)?	Thorough consultation needs to be conducted with RI&APs, in order to address variety of impacts.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Public and environmental sensitivity of the project:		
Are there widespread public concerns about the potential negative impacts of the project?	Broader consultation with all RI&APs will need to be undertaken.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Is there a high degree of conflict among RI&APs?	There might need to be more consultation to ensure that there is consensus reached among RI&APs.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Will the project impact on private land other than that of the applicant?	Consultation with the private landowner must be done, and all their concerns need to be addressed.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Does the project have the potential to create unrealistic expectations (e.g. that a new factory would create a large number of jobs)?	Thorough consultation that addresses the perceptions of unrealistic expectations needs to be carried out.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Potentially affected parties:		
Has very little previous public participation taken place in the area?	More thorough public participation should take place within the area, to ensure that all potential and RI&APs participate.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Did previous public participation processes in the area result in conflict?	Additional consultation might be needed to ensure that issues of conflict are addressed effectively.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Are there existing organisational structures (e.g. local forums) that can represent I&APs?	Organizational structures might minimise conflict whilst maximising the participation.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.

Scale of Anticipated Impacts	Recommended Response	
	If “Yes”	If “No”
Is the area characterised by high social diversity (i.t.o. socio-economic status, language or culture)	Proper consultations that address language and cultural diversity should be promoted.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Were people in the area victims of unfair expropriations or relocation in the past?	PPP should be extensive and address any unfair practices that occurred in the past.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Is there a high level of unemployment in the area?	The PPP should ensure that there are no unrealistic expectations created due to the project. The consultation should ensure that any unrealistic expectations are adequately addressed before the project starts.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Do the RI&APs have special needs (e.g. a lack of skills to read or write, disability, etc)?	Consultation should include mechanisms that will ensure full participation by people with special needs.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met. Minimum requirements for PP in accordance with the Act must be met as well as best practices relating to PP.

2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TO DATE

2.1 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION

A pre-application meeting was held on **22 September 2022** with the DFFE in order to discuss the proposed Project. The minutes of this meeting and approval from the DFFE are included in **Appendix C.1**.

2.2 IDENTIFICATION OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Section 41 of the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) states that written notices must be given to identified stakeholders as outlined in **Table 2-1**.

Relevant authorities (Organs of State) have been automatically registered as stakeholders. In accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), all other persons must request in writing to be placed on the register, submit written comments, or attend meetings to be registered as stakeholders, and included in future communication regarding the Project.

Table 2-1 – Interested and Affected Parties

NEMA Requirement	Discussion
(i) the owner or person in control of that land if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land	<p>The project activity is located on various portions of privately owned land. The landowners have been included on the stakeholder database. The land portions associated with the Mura PV Development include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Leeuwkloof Farm 43 ■ Bultfontein Farm 13 ■ Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 ■ RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 ■ Bultfontein Farm 12 ■ Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11 ■ RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 206 ■ Sneeuwkraal Farm 46 ■ RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 ■ Portion 2 of Paardeberg Farm 49
(ii) the occupiers of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken	All landowners have been contacted to confirm whether there are any occupiers on the land portions. Where applicable, occupiers have been included on the database.
(iii) owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken	Adjacent landowner details were collected and have been included on the stakeholder database. Where applicable, occupiers have been included on the database.
(iv) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area	Ward Councillors of Ward 7 (Beaufort West Local Municipality) and Ward 3 (Ubuntu Local Municipality) have been included on the stakeholder database.

NEMA Requirement	Discussion
(v) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area	The project is located in Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality located within the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality. Both Local and District Municipalities have been included on the stakeholder database.
(vi) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity	DFFE has been, and will continue to be, consulted. The Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (WC DEADP) and Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (NC DENC) have been included on the stakeholder database.
(vii) any other party as required by the competent authority.	<p>All tiers of government, namely, national, provincial, local government and parastatals have been included on the stakeholder database. Inclusive of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ DFFE; ■ Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS); ■ Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE); ■ Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD); ■ Department of Public Works; ■ Department of Defence; ■ National Department of Transport; ■ South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL); ■ South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA); ■ South African Civil Aviation Authority (CAA); ■ Square Kilometre Array (SKA); ■ South African Weather Service (SAWS); ■ Air Traffic Navigation Services (ATNS); ■ Beaufort West Local Municipality; ■ Ubuntu Local Municipality; ■ Central Karoo District Municipality; ■ Pixley ka Sema District Municipality; ■ WC DEADP; ■ Heritage Western Cape (HWC); ■ Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (NC DALRRD); ■ NC DENC; ■ Northern Cape Heritage Resources Authority; ■ BirdLife South Africa; ■ CapeNature; ■ Endangered Wildlife Trust; and ■ South African National Parks. <p>For a full list of registered stakeholders please refer to Appendix A.</p>

Appendix A provides a list of stakeholders registered on the Project database. The stakeholder database will be updated throughout the EA process.

2.3 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

AUTHORITY CONSULTATION

A pre-application meeting was held on **22 September 2022** with the DFFE in order to discuss the proposed Project. The minutes of this meeting and approval from the DFFE are included in **Appendix C.1**.

DIRECT NOTIFICATION

Notification of the proposed Project was issued to potential and existing Stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e., site notices, emails, SMSes, etc.). Proof of notification is included in **Appendix B**.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

In accordance with the requirements of GNR 982, as amended, the proposed project was advertised in three local newspapers. The purpose of the advertisement is to notify the public about the proposed project and to invite them to register as stakeholders. A copy of the advertisement and proof of placement is included in **Appendix B.1**. The advertisement publication details are provided in **Table 2-2**.

Table 2-2 – Dates on which the adverts were published

Newspaper	Distribution Area	Language	Publication Date
Die Burger	Western Cape	Afrikaans	3 March 2023
Die Courier	Beaufort West, Prince Albert, Leeu-Gamka, Nelspoort, Murraysburg, Laingsburg, Victoria West, Merweville	English	3 March 2023
Victoria Messenger	Loxton, Victoria West, Vosburg	Afrikaans	3 March 2023

SITE NOTICES

In accordance with GNR 326 Section 41(2)(a-b) site notices have been developed and have been placed at strategic points in close proximity to the proposed Project site, as well as in public places within Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality. Proof of placement is included in **Appendix B.2**.

2.4 AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS

2.4.1 AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS

The Draft Scoping Reports were placed on public review for a period of at least 30 days from **06 March 2023** to **06 April 2023**, at the venues as follows:

- Hard Copy: Beaufort West Public Library;
- Hard Copy: Beaufort West Municipal Offices;
- Hard Copy: Loxton Library;
- Electronic Copy: WSP Website (<https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>); and
- Electronic Copy: Datafree Website (<https://wsp-engage.com/>).

The Draft Reports were also made available to Commenting Authorities via a One Drive link ([Mura PV Development - Public Review](#)).

In order to ensure maximum participation of all I&APs, reports were shared on the Datafree website as well as an audio presentation in both English and Afrikaans.

Proof of placement of the Draft Reports is provided in **Appendix B.6**.

2.4.2 AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORTS

The final scoping reports were submitted to the DFFE on 18 April 2023 and was made available to registered I&APs on the WSP website. Proof of placement is provided in **Appendix B.6**.

The acceptance of the final scoping reports is indicated in **Table 2-3**.

Table 2-3 – Acceptance of final scoping reports

Project	DFFE Reference	Date of Acceptance of Final Scoping Report
Mura 2 Solar PV Facility	14/12/16/3/3/2/2323	12 May 2023
Mura 3 Solar PV Facility	14/12/16/3/3/2/2324	12 May 2023
Mura 4 Solar PV Facility	14/12/16/3/3/2/2325	29 May 2023

2.4.3 AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT EIRS

The Draft Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) will be placed on public review for a period of at least 30 days from **03 July 2023** to **02 August 2023**, at the venues as follows:

- Hard Copy: Beaufort West Public Library;
- Hard Copy: Loxton Library;
- Electronic Copy: WSP Website (<https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>); and
- Electronic Copy: Datafree Website (<https://wsp-engage.com/>).

The Draft Reports will also be made available to Commenting Authorities via a One Drive link ([Mura PV Development - Public Review](#)).

2.5 STAKEHOLDER REGISTRATION

All I&APs that either call in or send written correspondence, such as emails, fax, or post, to the EAP have been added to the database and their comments and/or queries have been responded to.

3 COMMENTS RECEIVED

All concerns, comments, viewpoints, and questions (collectively referred to as 'issues') received have been documented and responded to adequately in the Comments and Responses tables below. The original comments are included in **Appendix D**.



3.1 COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING DRAFT SCOPING PHASE

The Draft Scoping Reports were placed on public review from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023. The comments received are reflected in the sections below.

3.1.1 COMMENTS RECEIVED FOR ALL MURA PROJECTS

Comments Received During Draft Scoping Phase for all the Mura Projects are incorporate in **Table 3-1** below and have been responded to adequately. The original comments have been included in **Appendix D.1**.

Table 3-1 – Comments received during Draft Scoping Phase for all Mura Projects

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
Central Karoo District Municipality			
Rene Van Tonder 07 March 2023 Via Email	Good afternoon Megan I cannot open the attachment that you send to the manager address Regards Rene Van Tonder Manager: Records - Central Karoo District Municipality	WSP Responded: Good Morning Rene I have shared the folder with your email address. You should have received the attached email. Please let me know if you still have any issues downloading the reports. Alternatively, you can also download the reports from the WSP website or a Datafree Website using the links below: WSP Website https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents Datafree Website https://wsp-engage.com/ Kind Regards,	Appendix D1 of the PPP Report



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC)			
Natalie Uys 06 March 2023 Via Email	Good day Could you please send the kml/kmz/shapefile layer for the development . Please could you send the onedrive link? I cannot get access to the onedrive link. Best regards Natalie	WSP Responded: Good Morning Natalie Please see attached .kml files of the development areas as requested. I have also shared the One Drive Folder with your email address. You should have received the attached email. Please let me know if you still have any issues downloading the reports. Alternatively, you can also download the reports from the WSP website or a Datafree Website using the links below: WSP Website https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents Datafree Website https://wsp-engage.com/ Kind Regards,	Appendix D1 of the PPP Report
Western Cape Department of Agriculture			
Brandon Layman 06 March 2023 Via Email	Hi Ms. Govender Please note that this office is bound by the government filing system which is currently in physical file format as approved by the Auditor General. The transition to electronic filing is slow and must be according to government protocols. The provincial	WSP Responded: Good Morning Brandon The below is noted. WSP will courier a USB to your offices. Kind Regards,	Appendix D1 of the PPP Report



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>department responsible for our electronic storage/filing etc. is in process to develop that.</p> <p>As solution to the cost of printing hard copies and lack of electronic filing system on our side (as discussed above) we decided the best option is to give you as consultants the option for a CD or USB as alternative to hard copy.</p> <p>The main difference between a CD or USB is storage. A hard copy, CD or USB is the “store”. Email or we-transfer needs to be printed to be stored physically as we do not have an approved filing system available in the cloud or other network.</p> <p>CD or USB we can still put on a physical file.</p> <p>With many thanks and kind regards</p> <p>Brandon Layman</p>		
Department of Water and Sanitation			
<p>Fourie Lizna 07 March 2023 Via Email</p>	<p>Morning Megan</p> <p>SITA does not allow me to open this</p> <p>Please email me the relevant docs which we need to review</p> <p>Thanks</p> <p>Lizna Fourie</p>	<p>WSP Responded:</p> <p>Good Morning Lizna</p> <p>The total size of the files is 601 MB (with a total of 101 reports) so I am unable to send it via email. Are you perhaps able to download the report from either the WSP website or the Datafree Website using the links below:</p> <p>WSP Website https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</p> <p>Datafree Website https://wsp-engage.com/</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p>



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
		<p>If you are unable to download the reports, please let me know if there is an alternative method of sending you the reports?</p> <p>Kind Regards,</p>	
DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation			
<p>Kamogelo Mathetja 07 March 2023 Via Email</p>	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs P Makitla and Ms M Mudau (Both copied on this email). In addition, kindly share the shapefiles of the development footprints/application site with the Case Officers.</p> <p>Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota</p> <p>Regards, Kamogelo</p>	<p>WSP Responded:</p> <p>Good Day Mrs Makitla and Ms Mudau</p> <p>Please find attached .kml files related to the project.</p> <p>Should you have any additional queries, please feel free to contact me.</p> <p>Kind Regards,</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
<p>Mashudu Mudau 06 April 2023 Via Email</p>	<p>Good day Ashlea and Megan.</p> <p>Kindly find attached comments for the three scoping reports Mura 2, 3 and 4.</p> <p>I will be sending out comments for the remaining two DBAR soon.</p> <p>Regards, Mashudu Mudau</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP confirms receipt of the comments from the DFFE Biodiversity Directorate.</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p>
<p>Mashudu Mudau 06 April 2023 Letter (Via Email)</p>	<p>Dear Ms. Strong</p> <p>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THREE SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES, NAMELY MURA 2, MURA 3, AND MURA 4, BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE BEAUFORT WEST LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND THE CENTRAL KAROO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE</p> <p>The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the reports.</p> <p>The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the reports and does not have any objection to the draft Scoping Reports and the Plans of Study, however, the EIA reports must comply with the procedures for the assessment and minimum criteria for reporting on identified environmental themes in terms of sections 24(5)(A)</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges the Directorates statement of no objection. In addition, WSP confirms that the EIA reports will comply with 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.</p> <p>All documents will continue to be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email; BCAdmin@dfre.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>and (H) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998.</p> <p>In conclusion, the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email; BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.</p> <p>Yours faithfully</p> <p>Mr. Seoka Lekota</p> <p>Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation</p>		
Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment			
<p>Annette Geertsema</p> <p>07 March 2023</p> <p>Via Email</p>	<p>Good day Megan</p> <p>Can you please send the title deeds, proposed site development and locality maps to enable the Department to consider the applications?</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>Annette</p>	<p>WSP Responded:</p> <p>Good Day Annette</p> <p>I have uploaded the title deeds, development site and locality maps to this One Drive Folder: Mura Additional Information as the files are too big to send via email.</p> <p>Please confirm receipt and download of the files.</p> <p>Kind Regards,</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p>
SANRAL			
<p>René de Kock</p> <p>08 March 2023</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for your email, unfortunately I cannot open it.</p>	<p>WSP Responded:</p> <p>Good Day Rene</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
Via Email	regards René de Kock STATUTORY CONTROLLER	Please see if you can access the files using the following link: Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review Alternatively, you can also download the reports from the WSP website or a Datafree Website using the links below: WSP Website https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents Datafree Website https://wsp-engage.com/ Please let me know if you have any issues downloading the reports. Kind Regards,	
René de Kock 08 March 2023 Via Email	Thank you, Megan. Please forward all EIA related emails to Nicole Abrahams at abrahamsn@nra.co.za for comment. Kind regards René de Kock STATUTORY CONTROLLER	WSP Response: WSP confirms that Nicole Abrahams has been included in the Database.	Appendix D1 of the PPP Report Appendix A of the PPP Report
Sinazo Pekula 14 March 2023 Via Email	Good day Megan Please find the attached letter for your attention. Kind Regards Sinazo Pekula	WSP Responded: Good Day Sinazo Thank you, your comment is noted. Kind Regards,	Appendix D1 of the PPP Report
Sinazo Pekula 14 March 2023	Dear Megan Govender	WSP Response: WSP acknowledges the comment from SANRAL.	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
<p>Letter (Via Email)</p>	<p>NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES</p> <p>Thank you for your email dated 6 March 2023.</p> <p>The South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL) has no jurisdiction regarding the above application and therefore, has no comment.</p> <p>Yours Sincerely</p> <p>Ms. S Pekula</p> <p>STATUTORY CONTROL</p>		
Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works Chief Directorate: Road Planning			
<p>Vanessa Stoffels</p> <p>13 March 2023</p> <p>Via Email</p>	<p>Good day Megan</p> <p>Thank you for your e-mail.</p> <p>Unfortunately I could not access your documents. Staff are blocked by our IT department to open links due to Cyber threats.</p> <p>Please feel free to send documents via multiple e-mails.</p> <p>Kind Regards</p> <p>Vanessa Stoffels</p> <p>Admin Clerk: Road Use Management</p>	<p>WSP Responded:</p> <p>Good Day Vanessa</p> <p>There are a total of 101 reports with several above the email limit size so I am unable to send it via email. Are you perhaps able to download the report from either the WSP website or the Datafree Website using the links below:</p> <p>WSP Website https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</p> <p>Datafree Website https://wsp-engage.com/</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
		<p>If you are unable to download the reports, please let me know if there is an alternative method of sending you the reports?</p> <p>Kind Regards,</p>	
<p>Vanessa Stoffels 14 March 2023 Via Email</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Received your application, our reference Job 30235.</p> <p>The matter is receiving attention and further communication will be addressed to you as soon as circumstances permit.</p> <p>Kind Regards</p> <p>Vanessa Stoffels</p> <p>Admin Clerk: Road Use Management</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges the Directorates reference number.</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p>
AGRI Northern Cape			
<p>Marian Van Der Westhuizen 08 March 2023 Via Email</p>	<p>Hi</p> <p>Please send this information in the future to bestuurder@agrink.co.za and geo@agrink.co.za</p> <p>Thanks</p> <p>MARIAN VAN DER WESTHUIZEN</p> <p>Finansies / Finance</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP confirms that bestuurder@agrink.co.za and geo@agrink.co.za have been included in the Database.</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p> <p>Appendix A of the PPP Report</p>



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
I&AP: SOLA			
<p>Reuben Maroga 16 March 2023 Via Email</p>	<p>Hi Megan, I hope you are well.</p> <p>We would like to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the proposed Mura 1 Solar PV facility between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province. For the registration, please capture this email address: iap@solagroup.co.za</p> <p>Furthermore, could you kindly share the KML files of the proposed development extent and the grid connection corridor route assessed to the nearest ESKOM substation.</p> <p>Lastly, we would also like to request that WSP registers us as an I&AP for all renewable energy projects. We are continuously developing sites across various Provinces so it would be great to have sight of other projects that we can include in our own stakeholder databases for our projects, as well as take into consideration from a technical perspective.</p> <p>Looking forward to hearing from you.</p> <p>Best Regards Reuben Maroga Permitting Specialist</p>	<p>WSP Responded:</p> <p>Good Day Reuben</p> <p>Please find attached kml files as requested. I can also confirm that you have been added to our stakeholder database.</p> <p>Kind Regards,</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p> <p>Appendix A of the PPP Report</p>



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
Endangered Wildlife Trust			
Bonnie Schumann 17 March 2023 Via Email	Hi Megan Thank you for the email below. We note the proposed development and at this stage and have no comments. Kind Regards	WSP Response: WSP acknowledges the EWT's statement of no comment.	Appendix D1 of the PPP Report
I&AP: G7 Energies			
Shonese Bloy 27 March 2023 Via Email	Good day Ashlea, Could you please register Caryn Clarke with email address eia@g7energies.com as an I&AP for the proposed Mura 1-4 Solar Energy Facility and Mura Grid Infrastructure. Would you kindly send through any relevant documents and reply with confirmation of registration. Thanks so much. Kind Regards,	WSP Responded: Dear Shonese Thank you for your email. I can confirm that Caryn has been added to the database as requested and will receive all project related notifications going forward. Kind regards	Appendix D1 of the PPP Report Appendix A of the PPP Report
Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEADP)			
Adri La Meyer 05 April 2023 Via Email	Dear Megan and Ashlea, I hope you are well. The comments on the DSRs and Draft BARs for the MURA PV and EGI development are due tomorrow (06 April 2023). I have received comments from our Waste and Pollution Management Directorates.	WSP Responded: Good Day Adri Thank you so much for letting us know. We can still accommodate your comments if you send it on Tuesday morning.	Appendix D1 of the PPP Report



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>However, our Development Management Directorate (EIA section) is unable to provide comments as the case officer's laptop has crashed and her comments cannot be retrieved by our IT section.</p> <p>Unfortunately, I also cannot provide you with the collated comments tomorrow as I am already under so much stress to deliver collated comments on 4 x BARs for solar facilities that are also due tomorrow. (I'm sure Megan from CapeNature feels my pain!). I'm still waiting for our George Office's comments on those 4 BARs.</p> <p>Whilst I am only supposed to collate comments from our commenting directorates and not review the reports myself, I will now have to review the DSRs and BARs for the Mura development this weekend in the absence of comments from our EIA section. Such comments can however only be provided to you on Tuesday morning. Should you however be unable to accommodate the Department's comments to be submitted on Thursday morning, please go ahead and finalise the reports without our inputs.</p> <p>Kind regards, Adri</p>	<p>Goodluck! Kind Regards,</p>	
I&AP: Anthony Jeffathon			
<p>Anthony Jeffathon 07 April 2023 Via Email</p>	<p>Dear M/s Megan Govender, Attached comments for the four subject matter applications.</p>	<p>WSP Responded: Good Day Anthony</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p>



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Kindly note it is a day late due to loadshedding interruptions and reviewing and commenting on more than 1.5 applications documents was very time constraining within 30 days.</p> <p>Kind regards Anthony</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. We will include them in the Stakeholder Engagement Report and respond accordingly.</p> <p>Kind Regards,</p>	
Cape Nature			
<p>Megan Simons 14 April 2023 Via Email</p>	<p>Good morning, Megan I hope you are well.</p> <p>Thank you for following up, we have been battling with internet connectivity since stage 6 loadshedding was implemented. Kindly see attached comments from CapeNature and our apology for the delay. If you require anything else, do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Have a good day. Megan Simons Land Use Scientist – Landscape East Conservation Operations: Conservation Intelligence</p>	<p>WSP Responded:</p> <p>Thank you very much Megan. Cape Nature’s comment is noted. Kind Regards,</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p>
<p>Megan Simons 14 April 2023 Letter (Via Email)</p>	<p>CapeNature would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the above report. Please note that our comments only pertain to the biodiversity related impacts and not to the overall desirability of the application. CapeNature wishes to make the following comments:</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP takes note of Cape Nature’s consideration of rehabilitation. Natural habitats will be avoided as much as possible and a rehabilitation plan will be included in the</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>According to the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (Pool-Stanvliet et.al. 2017) the proposed Mura series of PV developments and infrastructure footprints are within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA 1: Terrestrial, Aquatic, River; CBA 2: Terrestrial), Ecological Support Areas (ESA 1: Aquatic, ESA 2: restore), and Other Natural Areas over most of the area. The freshwater features include the Krom Rivers, numerous non-perennial drainage lines, and wetlands. The wetlands are classified as National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (NFEPA) are important in achieving biodiversity targets for riverine ecosystems and have an important role in allowing plant and animal species movement within the landscape.</p> <p>According to the National Biodiversity Assessment (Skowno et al. 2018) the vegetation for the proposed development area is Eastern Upper Karoo which is Least Concerned (SANBI 2022). The Eastern Upper Karoo has experienced low rates of natural habitat loss and 97% of the original extent remains (SANBI 2022). Although, the vegetation type is Least Threatened (LT), kindly note that any loss to natural habitat should be avoided. Considering that arid habitats could take years to rehabilitate, even from temporary disturbances and we only consider habitat as rehabilitated when comparable level of ecosystem functionality has been proven.</p>	<p>EMPr for the rehabilitation of any disturbed natural vegetation.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>The Department of Environment and Forestry identified geographical areas as renewable energy development zones (REDZ). Thus, it can be expected that renewable energy developments will increase, and such a monitoring program are essential to inform future renewable energy developments, especially in the Karoo. It is noted that the proposed WEF is situated within a Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZs) known as the Beaufort West REDZ 117.</p> <p>The Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (Pool-Stanvliet et.al. 2017) has specific guidelines regarding CBA and ESA loss and their sensitivity and conservation objectives.</p> <p>Thus, the proposed development must be guided by those objectives to conserve and protect the CBAs and ESAs (Pool-Stanvliet et al. 2017). CapeNature maintains minimal habitat loss is acceptable, in line with the WCSBP Land Use Guidelines Handbook, provided the underlying biodiversity objectives and ecological functioning are not compromised.</p> <p>CapeNature notes that not all the Mura PV facilities are located within CBAs and ESAs. Existing infrastructure (i.e., already disturbed areas) must be used where possible and constructing new infrastructure must avoid watercourse/ sensitive areas and their buffers.</p> <p>The areas of medium sensitivity areas must not be disturbed by the solar PV development or associated infrastructure. Furthermore, No-Go Areas and 35m</p>	<p>The site and layout selection process undertaken for this development included a screening assessment whereby the specialists provided No-Go layers of areas that have to be avoided by the development. Following this, the layout of the facilities was determined and subject to further assessment. The outcomes of this are the Development Envelopes presented within the reports. A combined No-Go Sensitivity Map and Sensitivity Map has been included in Table 7-18 and Table 7-19 of each FSR for each Facility. The Development Envelope avoids the required No-Go Areas.</p> <p>The aquatic biodiversity and species specialist assessment for the Proposed Development of the four Mura Solar Projects, north of Beaufort West in the Western and Northern Cape Provinces provided sensitivity layers and associated development restrictions that had to be implemented when determining the Development Envelope. The report states that the no-go areas are areas of high aquatic sensitivity should be avoided for the PV facilities. The existing access roads that intersecting with the high sensitivity areas will be upgraded and is acceptable. The medium sensitivity should be avoided where possible, or in the case of the new service tracks and underground cables, adequately mitigated as stipulated in this report.</p> <p>Therefore, no development, with the exception of limited underground cables and new access tracks, will occur within the medium sensitivity areas and this has been assessed and found acceptable by the specialist. Should development occur within these areas, specific mitigation measures will have to be applied.</p>	<p>Table 7-18 and Table 7-19 of each FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>aquatic buffer areas must be demarcated with the necessary signage.</p>		
	<p>The Aquatic Report stated Riverine Rabbit may potentially occur in the area/ landscape associated with the watercourse while the Terrestrial Report stated the habitat is not suitable for the species. CapeNature requires clarity whether the proposed Mura area has habit that supports the Riverine Rabbit.</p> <p>CapeNature acknowledges that the relevant plant permit for endangered species or protected species listed in Schedules 3 and 4 respectively, in terms of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Laws Amendment Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000) will be obtained from CapeNature.</p>	<p>It is noted that the Aquatic Report states that there is potential Riverine Rabbit habitat within the area, this is based on the wider area where there are records from the Krom River and some of the larger tributaries of the Riverine Rabbit being presented in the area.</p> <p>A stand-alone Animal Species Compliance Statements were compiled for the Projects- this assessment was based on the outcomes of two site visits as well as camera trapping. Based on the Animal Species Statement, in terms of the Riverine Rabbit, there is no suitable habitat for the species within the development footprints. The Riverine Rabbit is associated with well-vegetated alluvial floodplains of the ephemeral rivers of the central and upper Karoo and in the Upper Karoo at least, do not tend to stray far from this habitat. Since there is no alluvial floodplain habitat within the site, it can be confirmed that the site can considered low sensitivity for this species. Although there is a dam within the Mura 2 study area, the drainage leading into the dam is not well-developed and there is no riparian vegetation or actual clearly defined channel.</p>	<p>Section 6.4.2 of the FSR</p>
	<p>The compilation of Alien Control Plan, Rehabilitation and Monitoring Plans are supported.</p> <p>However, not all these plans can be developed post-authorisation as alien clearing can be implemented from the onset of the proposed development and must be on-going for the duration of this project and continue beyond the operational phase. Furthermore,</p>	<p>The Alien Control Plan, Rehabilitation Plan, Monitoring Plan and Soil Erosion Management Plan will be compiled and included in the EMPr to be submitted with the Draft EIA.</p> <p>The EMPr will include requirements for the Environmental Control Officer to ensure that mitigation measures and recommendations are being implemented.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>the Soil Erosion Management plan must be included in the EMPr as to mitigate for erosion during this project. To reiterate these plans must not be a condition of authorisation and compiled after EA is granted but compiled before the development commences.</p> <p>Flooding events can change watercourses within a short period, and it must be mitigated in the EMPr.</p> <p>The Ecological Control Officer must ensure that the mitigation measures and recommendations proposed by the specialists are implemented to protect the remaining ecological services and connectivity. The Aquatic buffers and Riverine Rabbit habitat buffers must be protected and not impacted.</p>		
	<p>CapeNature supports the development of renewable energy facilities however we remain concerned that the cumulative impacts of energy facilities, if not properly considered and planned for, could be quite significant. There are a few renewable energy developments planned in the broader region of which some were issued with Environmental Authorisation and other applications are still in progress. It is therefore essential to take a precautionary approach and to ensure that the infrastructure (i.e., roads, power lines, substations, etc.) be positioned outside ecologically sensitive areas. On-going monitoring throughout the various phases of this project is important to assess the impacts of these developments on different species biodiversity and the impact these facilities will have on habitat fragmentation and associated ecological corridors. It</p>	<p>A cumulative impact assessment has been undertaken and is included in Section 9 of the FSR for each facility. The cumulative impact assessment considers renewable energy projects within 30km of the proposed development. The cumulative impact assessment will be further investigated during the EIA Phase.</p> <p>In addition to the above, being cognisant of the potential cumulative impact and the required monitoring that has to be undertaken in the area, the ecological specialist recommended the following:</p> <p>The Mura series of projects would potentially generate some negative cumulative impacts on fauna, particularly as a result of the increased levels of traffic into the area. As the Mura project is located within an area that has been identified as part of the core habitat for the Riverine Rabbit in the Upper Karoo and forms part of an increasing</p>	<p>Section 9 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>is also vital that a clear monitoring and reporting protocol is established so that lessons learned from newly established facilities can be shared with the wider community.</p> <p>CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, Megan Simons For: Manager (Landscape Conservation Intelligence)</p>	<p>pressure from renewable energy development on this species, a contribution of the project towards the Riverine Rabbit conservation initiatives happening in the area is recommended. The following contribution from the project is recommended towards conservation initiatives or Riverine Rabbit monitoring being undertaken in the area:</p> <p>R100 000 per year based on 2022 value must be made available for two years once construction has commenced. The way in which the funding is structured should be flexible, however, it is recommended that if Riverine Rabbit monitoring is still being undertaken on the Nuweveld Wind Farms and/or Hoogland Wind Farms, the project funding should prioritise contributing to these associated monitoring programmes or alternatively, contribute to the broader conservation initiative by any wind farms in the broader area.</p>	
SAHRA			
<p>Natasha Higgitt 06 April 2023 Email</p>	<p>Good afternoon</p> <p>SAHRIS Case ID 20670, 20671 and 20673 are located in the Western Cape Province. SAHRA does not have jurisdiction to provide comments on development applications located in the Western Cape. Comments must be sought from Heritage Western Cape in this regard.</p> <p>I further note that PoP were uploaded to Case ID 20671 and 20673. @Dumisani Bhambatha, please proceed with the refund process for these two cases, as they should have been for HWC and not SAHRA.</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP takes note of this clarification. Comment from Heritage Western Cape has been sought and included in the Comments and Responses Table.</p>	<p>Appendix D1 of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Megan, please confirm if payment was made in terms of Case ID 20670 and upload the PoP so that the refund may be made.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>		
Heritage Western Cape			
<p>Sneha Jhupsee 17 April 2023 Formal Letter</p>	<p>HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED MURA 1-4 PV FACILITIES, BEAUFORT WEST MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, WESTERN CAPE, SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(1) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)</p> <p>The matter above has reference.</p> <p>This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officer Committee (HOMs) held on 11 April 2023.</p> <p>FINAL COMMENT</p> <p>The Committee resolved to endorse the HIA prepared by ASHA Consulting dated 15 December 2022 as meeting the requirements of Section 38 (3) of the NHRA and the following recommendations on page 60;</p> <p>Mura 1 (Western Cape):</p> <p>It is recommended that the proposed Mura 1 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges the recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation from Heritage Western Cape. These recommendations will be included in the Draft and Final EIAs.</p>	<p>Appendix D.1 of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr; • No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and • If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution. <p>Mura 2 (Western Cape):</p> <p>It is recommended that the proposed Mura 2 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr; • No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and • If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such 		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.</p> <p>Mura 4 (Western Cape):</p> <p>It is recommended that the proposed Mura 4 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr; • The site at waypoint 1399 should be avoided if possible but this is not required (if avoided and protected then the buffer can be reduced to 25 m); and • Any realignment of the DR02317 within 400 m of waypoint 2000 must be checked in the field and approved by an archaeologist; • No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and • If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution. <p>HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.</p>		



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.</p> <p>Sneha Jhupsee Acting Assistant Director: Professional Service</p>		



Comments Received During Final Scoping Phase for all the Mura Projects are incorporate in **Table 3-2** below and have been responded to adequately. The original comments have been included in **Appendix D.1**.

Table 3-2 – Comments received during Final Scoping Phase for all Mura Projects

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
Western Cape Government Chief Directorate: Road Planning			
SW Carstens 25 April 2023 Letter via email	1. Your letter 41103930 dated 6 March 2023 refers. 2. This Branch offers no objection to the issuing of an Environmental Authorisation in favour of the proposed Mura Photovoltaic Facilities, provided that this Branch is offered the opportunity to comment on the land use application, at which stage this Branch will issue its approvals in terms of Act 21 of 1940 (building restrictions, if applicable) and Roads Ordinance 19 of 1976 (accesses and construction activities within the road reserves and adjacent building lines).	WSP response: WSP acknowledges the departments on objection. An application for Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act (SALA) Consent / Change of Land Use (re-zoning) will be submitted and the department will be offered the opportunity to comment.	Section 6.6 of the Draft EIR
	3. The proposed facility affects Trunk Road 58, Section 1 (R381), Divisional Road 2317, and Minor Road 8881 of which this Branch is the Road Authority.(Other roads may be affected as well, depending on the final routes taken and accesses used, and the plans will need to be adapted to take this into account).	All remedial work or modifications to any of the public roads shall be done in consultation with and have the approval of the local road’s authority (as is standard practice, this will be finalised during and be a requirement of the municipal planning approval process)	-
	4. All the abovementioned Provincial Roads’ Public accessibility must be retained (if not closed / de-proclaimed to become private or servitude roads) and they must be evaluated for the purposes of construction, operation, and decommissioning.		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>5. This Branch, for now, will ultimately require the following:</p> <p>a. A geotechnical and geometric design report, including improvement proposals, must be compiled to ensure that all the roads that will be affected by these developments during the construction phase are adequately improved and maintained before any other construction activity may commence on any of the farm portions. This is to ensure that no more than normal deterioration and additional maintenance costs are experienced by the Road Authority during the construction and operating phases. It will be required that any design affecting any Proclaimed Provincial Road must carry this Branch's Chief Directorate Road Design's (Ms M Hofmeyr – tel: 2721-4833999) approval before implementation thereof may commence.</p>	<p>A Traffic Impact Assessment has been included in Appendix H10 of the Draft EIR that assess the impact the proposed project will have on the roads. A geotechnical and geometric design report will only be undertaken during the detailed design phase of the project.</p>	<p>Appendix H-10</p>
	<p>b. Confirmation that a similar geotechnical proposal (as per paragraph 5.a) will be compiled, and approval obtained prior to commencing with any major upgrade or decommissioning phase; whenever that may be.</p>	<p>A geotechnical design report will only be undertaken during the detailed design phase of the project.</p>	
	<p>c. Indication of all the access(es) to each respective farm portion, ownership thereof and application for any changed access to the provincial road network - in line with this Branch's Access Management Guidelines, 2020. It will be required to clearly state which access will serve what purpose (e.g., energy and / or farming).</p>	<p>Access to the facilities will be via existing local roads and the existing road network will be utilised.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	d. Construction applications, including wayleaves for third party services, when building restrictions, building lines and road reserves are affected.	Construction applications, including wayleaves for third party services, when building restrictions, building lines and road reserves are affected will be applied for.	
	e. Abnormal load transportation implications, which will require a route clearance report and prior application for any geometric and materials designs for approval before construction. It is recommended to commence with planning in this regard once detail of energy infrastructure and transportation equipment are known.	All construction material (i.e. PV support structure materials), machinery and equipment (i.e. graders, excavators, trucks, cement mixers etc.) will be transported to site utilising the national, regional and local road network. Large components (such as substation transformers) may be defined as abnormal loads in terms of the Road Traffic Act (No. 29 of 1989). In such cases a permit will be applied for the transportation of these loads on public roads.	-
	f. If any accesses are to be upgraded, it must be submitted to this Branch's Chief Directorate Road Design's approval before implementation thereof may commence. Yours Sincerely SW CARSTENS	All upgrades will be submitted to the Department for approval before implementation.	-



3.1.2 COMMENTS RECEIVED FOR MURA 2 SOLAR PV FACILITY

Comments Received During Draft Scoping Phase for Mura 2 Solar PV Facility are incorporate in **Table 3-3** below and have been responded to adequately. The original comments have been included in **Appendix D.2**.

Table 3-3 – Comments received during Draft Scoping Phase for Mura 2 Solar PV Facility

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
DFFE			
<p>Salome Mambane 06 March 2023 Via Email</p>	<p>Dear Ashlea 14/12/16/3/3/2/2323</p> <p>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MURA 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 400 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.</p> <p>The Department confirms having received the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 03 March 2023. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP confirms that the I&APs were provided with an opportunity to comment on the DSR from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.</p> <p>WSP notes that the application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations.</p> <p>WSP and the Applicant take note that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.</p>	<p>Appendix D.2 of the PPP Report.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>referred to Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.</p> <p>EIA Applications Integrated Environmental Authorisations</p>		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment		
<p>Milicent Solomons 27 March 2023 Letter (Via Email)</p>	<p>Dear Ms Strong</p> <p>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED MURA 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 400 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.</p> <p>The application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2023 and received by the Department on 03 March 2023, refer.</p> <p>This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final SR:</p> <p>1. Application form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindly clarify the reason why this Department is the Competent Authority (CA) in terms of Section 24C of NEMA. State clearly if the applicant intends to bid the project in terms of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP). 	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>The Project is intended to be submitted as part of the REIPPPP in support of the IRP as indicated in Section 1.3.2 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Section 1.3.2 of the FSR.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note that the Minister is the competent authority for applications for facilities or infrastructure, that will form part of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Programmes for technologies whose procurement processes have been determined under the Electricity Regulation Act, 2006 and / or the Electricity Regulations on New Generation Capacity. If the applicant will not, or does not intend to, 	<p>WSP confirms that that the proposed Mura 2 Solar PV Development is related to the IRP. The Application Form has been updated to clearly state this and was submitted with the FSR.</p>	<p>Section 1.3.2 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>participate in any of the IRP programmes, the competent authority will be the MEC responsible for environmental affairs in the respective province. Be advised that this this information must be clearly presented in Section 1 –Competent Authority in the application form.</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflecting the above, the reasons provided in Section 1 of the application form for this Department being the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA are incomplete. This must be rectified and expanded on in the application form as well as the report. Please refer to GN 779. 	<p>The Application Form has been updated to clearly state that the DFFE is the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA. The amended Application Form will be submitted with the FSR. Section 1.3.2 of the FSR states that confirms that the DFFE is the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA</p>	<p>Section 1.3.2 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the SG codes, all farm names, and numbers and the EAP’s contact details are correct. The farm names and SG codes must be clearly differentiated for the grid infrastructure and the PV facility infrastructure. 	<p>WSP confirms that the SG codes, all farm names, and numbers and the EAP’s contact details included in the Application Form and FSR are correct. The Grid Infrastructure is included in a separate application (Mura EGI Corridor).</p>	<p>Section 1.3.4 and Section 3.1 of the FSR.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include the GPS Coordinates for the onsite substation and battery energy storage system (BESS) facility. 	<p>WSP confirms that the coordinates for the BESS substation, onsite substations and switching stations have been included in the Application Form and Section 3.1 of the FSR. The BESS will be located within the project area, adjacent to or slightly removed from the substations. The substations and BESS will be placed within the Development Footprint, as assessed by the specialists and avoid all No-Go areas as indicated in Figure 7-18 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Section 3.1 of the FSR. Figure 7-18 of the FSR</p>
	<p>2. Listed Activities</p>	<p>WSP confirms that this statement is correct.</p>	<p>Section 1.2 of the FSR.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is noted that the proposed solar facility does not fall within any renewable energy development zones. Although the application form indicates that part of the project is within the Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) as per GN 113, it is noted that the proposed solar facility does not fall within any renewable energy development zones, as such this application will be considered as a normal EIA application. 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed. 	<p>WSP can confirm that all relevant listed activities have been applied for. Furthermore, the descriptions of applicability in the Application Form and Table 5-1 of the FSR are specific and have been linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.</p>	<p>Table 5-1 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are required to confirm whether systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans are adopted by the competent authority. There are certain activities in Listing Notice 3 that requires that Bioregional Plans to be adopted. 	<p>As confirmed by Western Cape DEADP there are no systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans for the Western Cape Province that have been adopted by the Department. The application form and Table 5-1 has been amended to remove Activity 12, Activity 14 and Activity 23 of Listing Notice 3, as requested by Western Cape DEADP. However, the assessment does consider the impact to CBAs and ESAs as part of the terrestrial and aquatic impact assessment.</p>	<p>Table 5-1 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the environmental impact assessment process, as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of Listing Notice 3 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from 	<p>WSP confirms that all relevant authorities have been consulted and will continue to be consulted throughout the environmental impact assessment process.</p>	<p>Appendix A of the PPP Report Appendix B of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>the relevant authorities (or proof of consultation if no comments were received) 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 final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms. 	<p>WSP can confirm that an amended application form has been submitted to include coordinates of the on-site substations and amended listed activities. Furthermore, the most recent application form template has been utilised.</p>	<p>Table 5-1 of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>3. Layout & Sensitivity Maps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide a layout map which indicates the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proposed location of the PV array and associated infrastructure of the proposed 400MW Mura 2 Solar Photovoltaic Facility - The proposed grid infrastructure connecting the PV facility to the existing substation, overlain by the sensitivity map; - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed); fence, office buildings, and etc. 	<p>A layout map of the development is included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR.</p> <p>A combined No-Go Sensitivity Map and Proposed Development Envelope for Mura 2 PV Facility is included as Figure 7-18 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1 and Figure 7-18 of the FSR.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected; - Buffer areas; and - All “no-go” areas. 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure, as well as the neighbouring PV Solar Clusters. 	<p>A Sensitivity Map for Mura 2 PV Facility has been included as Figure 7-19 of the FSR.</p> <p>A Cumulative map showing Renewable Energy Projects with 30km of the Mura Solar Development has been included as Figure 9-1 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Figure 7-19 and Figure 9-1 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes. 	<p>No Google maps have been used.</p>	<p>Appendix E of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>4. Public Participation Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received on the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department’s Biodiversity Section: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za, the provincial authority and the local municipality) 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 must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. 	<p>WSP can confirm that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state have been included in the PPP Report and adequately addressed and responded to.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that comments from the Biodiversity Directorate of the DFFE were received and are included in the PPP Report.</p>	<p>Appendix D of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of the approved public participation plan and Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Take note of the timeframes required for adequate public participation. 	<p>WSP confirm that the Public Participation Process is being conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments (pre and post submission of the draft SR) 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 which reflects the details of the I&APs and date of comments received, actual comments received, and response provided. Please ensure that comments made by I&APs are comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as “Noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments. 	<p>WSP can confirm that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state have been included in a comment of response report included in Section 3 of the PPP Report.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the PPP Report is also being submitted as a separate report.</p> <p>WSP confirm that all comments from I&APs have been copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Furthermore the response “Noted” has not been utilised.</p>	<p>Appendix D of the PPP Report</p> <p>Section 3 of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>5. Specialist Assessments to be conducted in the EIA Phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of PV arrays, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations. 	<p>WSP can confirm that the specialist studies to be undertaken in the EIA phase will be undertaken in line with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, or as required under the gazetted specialist protocols (GNR 320 of 20 March 2020 and GNR 1150 of 30 October 2020). Therefore, the requested information will be included.</p>	<p>Section 7 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>All relevant specialist assumptions and limitations have been included Section 2.7 of the FSR. These will be updated as required during the EIA Phase.</p>	<p>Section 2.7 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and were necessary, include further expertise advice. 	<p>WSP can confirm that to date no contradictory recommendations have been received.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are further required to ensure that all required specialist studies are recommended and assessed for the proposed 400MW Mura 2 Solar Photovoltaic Facility. 	<p>Section 2.2 of the FSR contains the results of the DFFE Screening Tool and notes the specialist studies commissioned.</p>	<p>Section 2.2 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Please note further that the protocols require the specialists’ to be registered with SACNASP in their respective field. 	<p>WSP can confirm that the specialist studies to be undertaken in the EIA phase will be undertaken in line with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, or as required under the gazetted specialist protocols (GNR 320 of 20 March 2020 and GNR 1150 of 30 October 2020).</p>	<p>Section 7 of the FSR</p>



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please include a table in the report, summarising the specialist studies required by the Department's Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted. Please note that if any of the specialists' studies and requirements/protocols recommended in the Department's Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation for such must be provided in the report per the requirements of the Protocols.	Table 2-2 of the FSR contains a summary of the specialist studies required by the DFFE Screening Tool including motivation for specialist studies not commissioned.	Table 2-2 of the FSR

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>6. Cumulative Assessment to be conducted in the EIA Phase</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<p>Section 9 of the FSR includes Renewable Energy Projects with 30km of the Mura Solar Development. The cumulative impact significance has been preliminary identified in Section 9 of the FSR. The cumulative impact will be further investigated in the EIA Phase.</p>	<p>Section 9 of the FSR.</p>
	<p>7. Environmental Management Programme</p> <p>The EMPr must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is drawn to your attention that for the substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 	<p>This information will be included in the EMPrs to be compiled in the EIA Phase.</p>	<p>-</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>or 47 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the generic Environmental Management Programme (GEMPr), must be used and submitted with the final report over and above the EMPr for the facility. This means that a GEMPr must be included for the substation and the powerline. In total, 3 EMPs should accompany the final report.</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further to the above, you are required to comply with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended. 	<p>WSP confirm that the EMPs to be submitted in the EIA phase, will comply with the requirements of Appendix 4 in the EIA Regulation, as amended</p>	-
	<p>General</p> <p>Please refrain from creating compounded folders and file names that are too long. This affects the download and saving of documents for review.</p>	<p>WSP takes note of this request.</p>	-
	<p>You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:</p> <p>“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 SR 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”.</p>	<p>WSP confirms that the FSR will be submitted to the DFFE within the required timeframe of the regulations. Please note that due to the public holidays occurring during the prescribed timeframes. the FSR will be submitted to the DFFE in line with Section 3(5) of Chapter 2 of the EIA Regulations which states “<i>Where a prescribed timeframe is affected by one or more public holidays, the timeframe must be extended by the number of public holiday days falling within that timeframe</i>”.</p>	-

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>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 SRs in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>WSP confirm that the FSR complies with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping report in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Please refer to Table 1-5 of the final Scoping Report for the checklist against the regulatory requirements.</p>	<p>Table 1-5 of the FSR</p>
	<p>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).</p>	<p>WSP notes that the application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations.</p>	
	<p>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.</p> <p>Yours sincerely Ms Milicent Solomons Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Letter signed by: Mr Wayne Hector</p>	<p>WSP and the Applicant take note of this reminder.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
Western Cape DEADP			
Thea Jordan 11 April 2023 Via Email	Dear EAP, Your request for comment refers. Please find attached this Department's comment in the above regard. Yours faithfully Thea Jordan	WSP Response: WSP confirms receipt of the comments from the WC DEADP.	Appendix D.2
Thea Jordan 11 April 2023 Letter (Via Email)	Dear Madam COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND PLAN OF STUDY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 400MW MURA 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AND STRUCTURES (INCLUDING, INTER ALIA, A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM AND SUBSTATION, 2 ON-SITE SOLAR FARM SUBSTATIONS, ACCESS ROADS, SITE CAMPS, CABLING, BUILDINGS, ETC.) ON FARM LEEUWKLOOF NO. 43, PORTION 4 OF FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO. 45, AND FARM BULTFONTEIN NO. 13, BEAUFORT WEST 1. The email correspondence of 06 March 2023, informing interested and affected parties of the release of Draft Scoping Report (“DSR”) for comments, the email received on the same day, providing an additional link to download the DSR and appendices, and the Department’s email of 05 April	WSP Response: The total project area is 506 ha and should be assumed to be wholly transformed. The total development envelope for the project PV installation is approximately 484 ha to allow for the construction of a PV facility, on-site substations, switching stations, BESS, underground cables, internal gravel roads, fencing, construction site camps and other infrastructure but does not consider the access road to the PV facility nor the two site camps within the road corridor The footprints for each of infrastructure forming part of the project are also outlined within the Table at the beginning of the Assessment Report under “General Site Information”.	Section 3.1 and Section 3.4 of the FSR

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>2023, informing the environmental assessment practitioner (“EAP”) that the Department is unable to meet the deadline of 06 April 2023, refer.</p> <p>2. The Department extends its appreciation to the EAP for extending the deadline for comments on the DSR. Please find consolidated comments from various directorates within the Department on the DSR and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (“EIA”) dated March 2023 that was available for download from various online platforms provided by the EAP.</p> <p>3. Directorate: Development Facilitation – Ms Adri La Meyer (Email: Adri.Lameyer@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 2887):</p> <p>3.1. This Directorate requires clarity on the extent of the development footprint and that of the proposed site (indicated as Farm Leeuwkloof No. 43, Portion 4 of Farm Duiker Kranse No. 45, and Farm Bultfontein No. 13). The DSR interchangeably refers to the total project area as 506 ha and 484 ha. On page 26 of the DSR it is indicated that “The proposed Mura 2 Facility will be developed within a project area of approximately 484 hectares (ha), excluding the access road corridor”, whereas on page 38 it is indicated that “The total project area is 506 ha” and that “The total development envelope for project installation is approximately 484 ha”. Assuming that the proposed 400MW solar field will be constructed on 484 ha; the proposed battery energy storage system (“BESS”) and BESS substation will be developed on ~ 4 ha; internal gravel access roads</p>		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>will have a development footprint of 17 ha; and up to two 2.2 ha site camps / laydown areas (i.e., 4.4 ha in total) will be developed, then more than 509 ha is required for the proposed Mura 2 solar photovoltaic (“PV”) facility and associated structures and infrastructure. The development footprint of the associated buildings (offices, ablution facilities, operational and maintenance centre, etc.) and the two on-site solar substations were not indicated. Please ensure that the Final Scoping Report (“FSR”) and the forthcoming Draft EIA Report clearly describe the size of the proposed site, the development footprint, and the individual components of the proposed solar PV development.</p>		
	<p>3.2. Further to the above, section 4.1.1 of the DSR deals with the site selection process. It is noted that the original five potential Mura PV development areas were further reduced to two areas (Areas 2 and 5) that were considered suitable for the Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 solar PV developments. Area 2 consist of two sites of 176 ha and 484 ha, respectively. The 484-ha area corresponds with the project area for the proposed Mura 2 solar PV facility. It is again reiterated that the 484 ha appears to only be sufficient for the proposed solar field, based on the information provided in the DSR. The FSR and the Draft EIA Report must indicate the size of the development footprint against the size of the proposed site.</p>	<p>The total development envelope for PV project installation is approximately 484 ha to allow for the construction of a PV facility, on-site substations, switching stations, BESS, underground cables, internal gravel roads, fencing, construction site camps and other infrastructure but <i>excludes</i> the footprint associated with the access road and site camps. The total footprint of the whole project is 506 ha for whole Project.</p>	<p>Section 3.1 and Section 3.4 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>3.3. It is noted that Activities 12, 14 and 23 of Listing Notice (“LN”) 3 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (“NEMA”) EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are applied for. Please be advised that no systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans for the Western Cape Province have been adopted by this Department. As such, Activity 12.i.ii, Activity 14(ii)(a) and (c) i.i.(ff) and Activity 23(ii)(a) i.i.(ff) of LN 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are not applicable to the application for environmental authorisation.</p>	<p>Activities 12, 14 and 23 of Listing Notice 3 have been removed. An amended Application Form was submitted to the DFFE with the FSR.</p>	<p>Table 5-1 of the FSR.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>3.4. Appendix F and Table 2-1 of the DSR list the specialist studies identified by the Screening Tool, that should be undertaken in the environmental impact reporting (“EIR”) phase. The EAP has provided motivation for undertaking or not undertaking the recommended Screening Tool specialist studies, as well as the undertaking of additional specialist studies not identified by the Screening Tool. The Plan of Study for EIA (Section 10.5) lists the specialist studies that have been commissioned for the EIR phase, which are mostly aligned to section 2.2.1 of the DSR. It is however noted that the Plan of Study for EIA does not include the undertaking of a Radio Frequency Interference (“RFI”) Assessment. Section 2.2.1 of the DSR notes that “An RFI Study will not be undertaken... As this theme has been identified as high, a compliance statement will be prepared by the EAP and included in the EIA Report.” Please indicate the following:</p> <p>3.4.1. Whether a RFI Compliance Statement will be undertaken by the EAP in the EIR phase. If so, the Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include the RFI Compliance Statement.</p> <p>3.4.2. The Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include an Archaeological Impact Assessment as part of the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment</p>	<p>WSP confirms that and RFI Compliance Statement will be undertaken in the EIA Phase. Section 10 of the FSR has been updated to include this.</p> <p>The plan of study for the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment during the EIA Phase will include the assessment of archaeological resources. Section 10 of the FSR has been updated to include this.</p>	<p>Section 10 of the FSR</p>
	<p>3.5. Please ensure that the specialist assessments include a cumulative assessment of the same renewable energy projects within a 30km radius of the proposed site. It is noted that the Terrestrial</p>	<p>WSP takes note of the authorised applications. The cumulative impacts will be revised in the EIA phase.</p>	<p>Section 9 of the FSR.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Biodiversity Compliance Statement compiled by 3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions dated November 2022 only refers to the “three Nuweveld WEFs adjacent to the site have been authorised and there is also the Hoogland 1 and Hoogland 2 WEFs which have not yet been authorised and lie adjacent and to the north and west of the Nuweveld WEF site”. Please note that the Hoogland 1 and 2 wind energy facilities (“WEFs”) have received environmental authorisations. The Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Report compiled by Independent Economic Researchers dated January 2023 refers to the “Assessment of cumulative impacts considered Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 SEFs; Hoogland 1, 2, 3 and 4 WEFs; Nuweveld North, East and West WEFs, Taaibos WEFs, Soutrivier WEFs, as well as the Mura, Hoogland, Nuweveld and Gamma Grid Corridors.” Other scoping phase specialist assessments also include reference to the Taaibos and Soutrivier WEFs. If within a 30km radius of the proposed site, these WEFs must be included in all the specialist assessments and referenced in the FSR and Draft EIA Report.</p>		
	<p>3.6. Please include reference to the Western Cape Noise Control Regulations promulgated in Provincial Notice 200/2013 of 20 June 2013 in the section dealing with provincial and municipal legal and regulatory framework in the Draft EIA Report.</p>	<p>WSP confirms that reference to the Western Cape Noise Control Regulations will be included in the Draft EIA Report.</p>	<p>-</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>4. Directorate: Waste Management – Mr Waleed Galvaan (Email: Waleed.Galvaan@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 8788):</p> <p>4.1. This Directorate notes that the proposed project will not require a waste management licence, as stated on page 56 of the DSR, and that the quantity of construction and municipal waste generated by the project is not likely to contribute materially towards the greenhouse gas footprint of the project during the operational phase, as stated on page 20.</p>	<p>WSP confirms that the proposed project will not require a waste management licence.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>4.2. The forthcoming Draft EIA Report must address the management of battery waste during the operational phase. Kindly be mindful that the management of waste must under all circumstances, be done in accordance with section 16 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (“NEM: WA”) (general duty in respect of waste management). Section 16(1)(d) of the NEM: WA requires that “A holder of waste must, within the holder’s power, take all reasonable measures to manage waste in such a manner that it does not endanger health or the environment or cause a nuisance through noise, odour or visual impacts”.</p>	<p>WSP confirms that the Draft EIA will address the management of battery waste during the operational phase. However, as stated within the Report, “When the battery cells reach end of life they will be returned to a battery provider for recycling or disposal in accordance with the legal practices. Currently there are no Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling facilities in South Africa but EWASA are lobbying for one (Dataweek, 2019). Due to the value of these materials making up the batteries it is unlikely they will end up in landfill, and more likely be recycled by a future bespoke facility in South Africa or exported for recycling. In terms of air emissions from the battery facility during operations, this is not considered to be an issue and does not pose a risk during operation to the environment or staff.”</p>	<p>Section 6.4 of the FSR</p>
	<p>4.3. The DSR indicates that the project will affect about 484 ha, excluding the access road areas. This is a substantial size of area that will be covered by solar PV panels. In a rainfall event, the panels will</p>	<p>The total development envelope for project installation is approximately 484 ha to allow for the construction of a PV facility, on-site substations, switching stations, BESS,</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>reduce the impact of the rainwater on the ground, causing less infiltration into the ground and more stormwater runoff in the area. This may also lead to more stormwater ponding in the area. However, there may be site specific conditions that will cause the speed of the stormwater to slow down and be absorbed by the ground and vegetation in the area. This impact must be considered and reported in the Draft EIA Report due to the large area that will be impacted on by the proposed development.</p>	<p>underground cables, internal gravel roads, fencing, construction site camps and other infrastructure.</p> <p>The Stormwater Management Plan will be developed for the Project.</p>	
	<p>5. Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management – Ms Shehaam Brinkhuis (Email: Shehaam.Brinkhuis@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 8309):</p> <p>5.1. This Directorate has no comments on the DSR and Plan of Study for EIA and awaits the Draft EIA Report (and accompanying Environmental Management Programme) to provide comment on potential pollution impacts and mitigation measures.</p> <p>The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any or new information received.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>Letter signed by: Thea Jordan</p>	<p>WSP acknowledges the Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management’s statement of no comment.</p>	<p>-</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
I&AP: Anthony Jeffathon			
Anthony Jeffathon 07 April 2023 Letter (Via Email)	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>The DSR omitted to include at least one comprehensive site layout plan illustrating all proposed onsite and off-site infrastructures.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested an updated SR or the EIR to include such a layout plan at an appropriate scale.</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP confirms that a site layout map has been included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR. The layout map will be refined during the EIA Phase, if required.</p>	Figure 3-1 of the FSR
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.1, indicates that solar Modules will be located on either single axis tracking structures or fixed tilt mounting structures or similar.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that an updated SR or the EIR indicate the exact mounting structure technology that will be used to mount the solar PV modules. This is to ensure transparency from the outset to prevent possible 11th hour substandard technology for the Central Karoo.</p>	<p>The mounting structure technology cannot be confirmed at this stage during the EIA Process however, the type of mounting system will have no environmental impact as the worst case in terms of height and area to be transformed was assessed. In addition, it is highly unlikely that a substandard mounting system will be used, given that this project will need to be competitive to be selected as a preferred bidder in REIPPP and the investment that goes into such a project. The mounting system to be used will be determined at detailed design stage.</p>	-

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.3, states that “The BESS will be Lithium-ion or similar solid-state technology.”</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that an updated SR alternatively the EIR indicate the exact BESS technology. This is to ensure transparency of potential health & safety risk and to prevent 11th hour substandard technology be dumped upon the Central Karoo.</p>	<p>The specific type of BESS will only be determined at detailed design stage. A high level risk assessment for this type of BESS has been included in the SR.</p>	<p>Section 6.4 of the FSR</p>
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>PV & MOUNTING SYSTEM:</p> <p>Considering the CKDM is the poorest region in the Western Cape Province and its communities are the most vulnerable in the province; but its electricity rates are higher than many if not all areas within the Cape Metro. Further, section 3.2.1, states that this Mura 2 Solar PV Facility is a large-scale system supplying power into the commercial electricity grid and not to local users. Hence, how will this proposed project impact the CKDM communities passively in a direct manner with significant reduced electricity prices? If, any direct positive impact of reduced power prices at community level, what will the expected timeline be from the time of operation?</p>	<p>The Applicant, Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd, is a private company and not linked to Eskom. The Applicant therefore has no power to obligate Eskom to subsidise and reduce the electricity prices of the municipality.</p>	<p>-</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Suggestion:</p> <p>the municipality be subsidised by Eskom to allow it to reduce its electricity prices to communities whilst still being able to make a marginal income profit.</p>		
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.2.1,only made reference to sunlight as a source whilst excluding geothermal as a potential source. Hence the two considered mounting systems is limited to single axis tracking and fixed axis mounting structures.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that the economic viability of geothermal heat/ power be investigated. If, it is viable, then an additional mounting technology be considered such as bifacial axis mounting structures be considered. It is assumed that the last mentioned structure would be be cost effective oppose to the current two considered mounting structures.</p>	<p>South Africa does not have large scale geothermal resources to generate electricity or use for direct heat. Only heat pump technology can be viably used depending on location and demand for heating and cooling.</p> <p>The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP), which does not include geothermal heat/power.</p>	<p>Section 3.6 of the FSR</p>
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.3, omitted to consider potential geothermal heat radiation that can be a viable energy source during non-sunshine days/evening periods.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p>	<p>South Africa does not have large scale geothermal resources to generate electricity or use for direct heat. Only heat pump technology can be viably used depending on location and demand for heating and cooling.</p> <p>The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP), which does not include geothermal heat/power.</p>	<p>Section 3.6 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>It is suggested the following sentences be changed as follows,</p> <p>” Since solar and wind technology depend largely on whether the sun is shining or the wind is blowing, respectively, these technologies are more efficient when these sources are available.”</p>		
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.3.2, only indicates that, “The battery facilities...will not have any additional office/operation/maintenance infrastructure as those of the substation.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that the EMPr indicates specific scheduled mechanical safety maintenance operations that should be conducted in terms of all applicable SA Health & Safety requiremts i.e. the OSHAct and Mechanical and Ventilation Regulations; and other applicable regulatory tools as cited under section 3.3.3, of the DSR.</p>	<p>The EMPr will include requirements of the various legislation including the National Occupational Health and Safety Act (No. 85 of 1993) (OHSA).</p>	
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Location Map:</p> <p>Section 3.1, page 26-32 read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps). These sections basically addressed only the GPS co-ordinates; alternative sites particulars are scattered around in figures with no scales at times; and no</p>	<p>A locality map of the proposed project has been included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR. This locality map meets the requirements of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, including district and access roads, a north arrow and scale. The Alternative Site Selection process is discussed in Section 4.1 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1, Figure 7-18 and Figure 3-19 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>credible topographical map but more of a kind of thematic map has been provided.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that the following being addressed in an updated scoping report or the EIA report: Provide a colour location map at a larger scale of at least 1:50 000. The scale must be indicated on the map. The map must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an accurate indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any; • road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s) • a north arrow; • a legend to represent physical/natural landscapes, water features, vegetation features, constructed/cultural/man-made landscape, and transport and administration features on the map. Towns cited under section 6.3.5 should be depicted on the map.; • the prevailing wind direction (during November to April and during May to October); • Date map was printed; and • the already provided GPS Hartbeesthoek 94/WG584 co-ordinate system information. 	<p>A Combined No-Go Sensitivity Map overlain with the proposed Development Envelope has been included as Figure 7-18 and a Sensitivity Map has been included as Figure 7-19, which includes environmental features and sensitivities.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Site Plan:</p> <p>Section 3.1, read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps) should provide an amended Site Plan for the preferred Mura Solar 2 project as well as each alternatives considered. These site plans should conform to the following:</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>Detailed site plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity and provided in an updated SR or EIAR/EIR. The site plan must contain or conform to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The detailed site plan must be at a scale preferably at a scale of 1:500 or at an appropriate scale. The scale must be indicated on the plan. • The property boundaries and numbers of all the properties within 50m of the site must be indicated on the site plan. • The current land use (not zoning) as well as the land use zoning of each of the adjoining properties must be indicated on the site plan. • The position of each element of the application as well as any other structures on the site must be indicated on the site plan. 	<p>A locality map of the proposed project has been included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR. This locality map meets the requirements of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, including the property boundaries.</p> <p>A Combined No-Go Sensitivity Map overlain with the proposed Development Envelope has been included as Figure 7-18 and a Sensitivity Map has been included as Figure 7-19, which includes environmental features and sensitivities.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1, Figure 7-18 and Figure 3-19 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services, including electricity supply cables (indicate above or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and access roads that will form part of the development must be indicated on the site plan. • Servitudes indicating the purpose of the servitude must be indicated on the site plan. • Sensitive environmental elements within 100m of the site must be included on the site plan, including (but not limited to): • Watercourses/Rivers/Wetlands (including non-perennial features). • Flood lines (i.e. 1:10 year, 1:50 year, and 1:100 year where applicable; • Ridges. • Cultural and historical features. • Areas with indigenous vegetation (even if it is degraded or infested with alien species). • Whenever the slope of the site exceeds 1:10, then a contour map of the site must be submitted. 		
	<p>Comment: Schematic Process/Project Drawing</p>	<p>A locality map of the proposed project has been included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR. A Combined No-Go Sensitivity Map overlain with the proposed Development Envelope has been included as Figure 7-18. The proposed project</p>	<p>Figure 3-1 and Figure 7-18 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested a holistic schematic process drawing (project layout) of the entire solar Mura 2 project be provided. This drawing should include all the different stages with its main technology/infrastructure in a input-process-output manner.</p>	<p>will be developed within the Development Envelope, avoiding the No-Go areas as indicated in Figure 7-18.</p>	
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Photographs:</p> <p>Section 2.4 read together with section 2.7, states that descriptions of environmental attributes were by means of combination of desktop reviews i.e. aerial imagery and site investigations done between March and October 2022, to identify sensitive features on site. It further states that "...the latest available aerial imagery for the site."</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>However a number of important information has been left out and need to be provided in an updated SR or during the EIA phase document as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Colour photographs of the site and its surroundings (taken of the site and from the site) with a description of each photograph. The vantage points from which the photographs were taken must be indicated on the site plan; 2. Recent aerial photograph or at least dates of those aerial photographs (attach as an Appendix). The 	<p>Colour Photographs have been included in the various specialist studies, most notably in the Heritage Impact Assessment compiled by ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd and included as Appendix G.8 of the FSR, and the Visual Impact Assessment compiled by Quinton Lawson and Bernard Oberholzer and included as Appendix G.11 of the FSR. Extracts from the reports have been included in Sections 6.3.1 and 6.3.4 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Appendix G.8 of the FSR</p> <p>Appendix G.11 of the FSR</p> <p>Sections 6.3.1 and 6.3.4 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Appendix should be supplemented with additional dated onsite-photos taken of relevant features during your stated field trips as cited under section 7.2 of the DSR. Kindly note, the aforementioned requirements must be duplicated for all alternative sites.</p> <p>Comment: Land use character of surrounding area</p> <p>Section 6.3.5.1 read together with section 6.3.4.3 failed to adequately describe the current land uses on the proposed project site and its immediate surrounding areas. The aforementioned sections also failed to adequately describe the prominent features that occurs in the immediate surrounds from the proposed project area.</p> <p>Suggestion: It is suggested a larger A3 size map as an Appendix be provided under section 6.1.3 (geology). Hence it is suggested either an updated scoping report or the EIA provides a proper description of the current land uses and/or prominent features that occur within +/- 500m radius of the proposed project area and neighbouring properties if these are located beyond 500m of the site from all directions. Further, a description of any potential impacts the proposed project may pose on the highlighted land uses or features.</p>	<p>Section 6.3.5.1 of the FSR includes a description of the current land uses in the area.</p> <p>A Combined No-Go Sensitivity Map overlain with the proposed Development Envelope has been included as Figure 7-18 and a Sensitivity Map has been included as Figure 7-19, which includes environmental features and sensitivities.</p> <p>The main land use in the area is agriculture, which is addressed in the Agricultural Compliance Statement, found in Appendix G.2 of the FSR. The Agricultural Compliance Statement found that The site has low agricultural potential and no dryland cropping potential predominantly because of aridity constraints but also because of soil constraints. As a result of the constraints, agricultural production is limited to low density grazing. The land across the site is verified in this assessment as being of low agricultural sensitivity.</p>	<p>Section 6.3.5.1 of the FSR</p> <p>Figure 7-18 and Figure 7-19 of the FSR</p> <p>Appendix G.2 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Socio-Economic:</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that the Mitigation and Management Measures under section 6.3.5 relating to regional employment and contracts be included in an updated scoping report or be addressed within the EIA as follows:</p> <p>specifications/requirements/targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% unskilled workers must be local; • 90% semi-skilled workers from local; and • 70% skilled workers must be from local/indigent. • That the concept “local/indigent” shall mean having been born in the CKDM and having lived in the CKDM area for at least more than 10 years and having attended at least either and/or a primary or high school in the CKDM area irrespective whether the candidate is currently residing in the CKDM area or not. If not born in the CKDM area than at least one parent borned in the region but both parents must have lived in the area for more than 20 years; • That a CKDM professionals body shall be consulted for particulars of local/indigent professionals to be considered for skilled jobs 	<p>The Socio-Economic Assessment includes the following mitigations as indicated in Section 8.1 of the FSR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The project must comply with the requirements of the REIPPPP bidding process which will have stringent requirements with regard to socio-economic development, enterprise development, BBEEE shareholding etc. ■ The applicant must establish a communications committee early on in the project to ensure inclusive planning and regular feedback from stakeholders. ■ Community development should be guided by a community needs analysis, drawn up by a third party and based on local socio-economic conditions, a review of planning documents such as the IDP, and discussions with local government and community representatives. Interventions should be planned in collaboration with other energy developers in the area where relevant. ■ Close liaison with local municipal managers, local councillors and other stakeholders involved in socio-economic development is required to ensure that any projects are integrated into wider socio-economic development strategies and plans. ■ A ‘locals first’ policy with regard to construction and operational labour needs. ■ The community should be able to contact the site manager or his/her representative to report any issues which they may have. The site manager and his/her representative should be stationed within the area and should therefore be available on hand to deal with and address any concerns which may be raised. 	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>and/or be willing to undergo rapid skills upgrading to occupy skilled jobs;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That CKDM Professionals Body shall have representation in all committees/forums established under this proposed project; • That local sub-contractors who did not gain from tenders in the past locally will receive preferential treatment in terms of the equity principle and a skills transfer programme be adopted by the main contractors; • That sub-contractors who previously gained tenders locally equally compete with external contractors to be main contractors; • That the income/wealth status of sub-contractors and skilled workers for all Black contenders / candidates will also be included in the specifications in addition to the standard “black” requirement under the BBBEE and EEA redress umbrella to ensure wealth does not circulate consistently amongst a few individuals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A complaints register should be available on site to any individual who may have a particular complaint with regards to the construction or operations processes. ■ The applicant and the contractors should develop a Code of Conduct for the project. The code should identify what types of behaviour and activities by workers are not permitted in agreement with surrounding landowners and land managers. For example, access to land that is not part of the development will not be allowed. ■ The applicant and the contractor should implement a Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS awareness programme for all construction workers at the outset of the construction phase. ■ Arrangements must be made to enable workers from outside the area to return home over the weekends or at regular intervals. This would reduce the risk posed by non-local construction workers to local family structures and social networks. ■ Condoms should be freely available to employees and all contractor workers. ■ Introduce alcohol testing on a weekly basis for construction workers. ■ The contractor should make the necessary arrangements for ensuring that all non-local construction workers are transported back to their place of residence once the construction phase is completed. ■ Close coordination with the municipality is required, including regular meetings. <p>The mitigation measures are deemed to be sufficient.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.6 “ NEED AND DESIRABILITY” have very little to zero direct and possibly indirect relevance to the Central Karoo District Municipal Area. Yes it is a common fact that the district is in dire need of urgent economic development.</p> <p>Section 3.6, states that South Africa is the seventh highest coal producer in the world, with approximately 77% of the country’s electricity generated from coal.</p> <p>Section 3.6, states also that the SA’s large dependence on coal and its use also resulted in a variety of negative impacts on the environment, including the contribution to climate change. SA is also the highest emitter of GHGs in Africa; attributed to the country’s energy-intensive economy that largely relies on coal-based electricity generation.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested a comparable spreadsheet of the aforementioned seven countries and energy mix usages be provided.</p> <p>It is suggested a western cape regional spreadsheet show casing coal dependence amongst WC district and metro municipalities. Also to include comparative WC district municipalities and metro municipality drivers and associated environmental impacts (GHG emissions, Climate Change, Health Impacts, etc.) as a result of direct/indirect coal usages. Also to include</p>	<p>The Need and Desirability of the project has been developed in reference to meeting international and national targets of reducing reliance on fossil fuels, such as coal, by the use of generating energy from solar resources. Section 5.3 of the FSR provides the provincial and municipal legal and regulatory framework taken into consideration.</p> <p>The request for a comparable spreadsheet and coal dependences for the Western Cape has been noted, however it is considered that the additional information will not add value to the assessment. Potentially, this may be more suited for a Strategic Environmental Assessment to determine the best energy mix for the country/province/municipality, which is not the purpose of this assessment.</p> <p>While the Frankfort Pilot Study is noted, the purpose of that specific project was to provide sufficient electricity to the town to reduce/remove its reliance on Eskom. This is not the purpose of the proposed project. The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and REIPPP. The electricity generated will be evacuated into the national grid for use and management by Eskom.</p>	<p>Section 3.6 of the FSR</p> <p>Section 5.3 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>comparative data to showcase the status of energy-intensive economies that relies on coal-based electricity generation amongst the WC district municipalities and metro municipality.</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.6 NEED AND DESIRABILITY also omits to include a dedicated subsection of WESTERN CAPE PERSPECTIVE and REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which would have outlined the energy mix in response to the growing electricity demand and the promotion of clean sources of energy within the CKDM in comparison to the province; • it would have outlined the reduction and elimination of poverty in the CKDM is more dire oppose to other regions within the province; • it would also have outlined that power shortages are most probably the worse in the CKDM oppose to other regions in the province, esp the metro; • it would have outlined the socio-economic benefits available to the local communities and businesses in the CKDM area from this proposed project; and • that the project will And this premise will promote the reaching one of the National Development Plan’s aims which is to reduce 		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>and eliminate poverty in South Africa by 2030 (see section 3.6.2, page 40 of the dBAR).</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>Hence it is strongly suggested that mention be made about the poorest socio-economic status of the region in comparison to the rest of the province.</p> <p>Further it is strongly suggested that factual comparative analysed data and an objective interpretation of electricity prices communities and businesses are subjected to amongst the districts and one metro municipality in the western cape be provided.</p> <p>Further it is strongly suggested the case study of the Frankfort Municipality and Surrounding Towns Pilot/Case Study that uses four (4) Solar Energy Farms operated by Rural Maintenance (a private IPPP) that benefits specifically the local communities and businesses be used and cited.</p> <p>This is to empower people of the Central Karoo to negotiate with all IPPP'S and Eskom in the region for electricity price reductions of up to 30% (considering the region might have more than four solar and wind energy farms) and many more other benefits. Benefits to the local communities and businesses of Frankford gains from that pilot study are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity demand from the Eskom grid are reduced whilst the local communities and business still have access to electricity; 		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The local community and businesses saves a reduced electricity cost of 15% pricing to what they would have paid to Eskom. Water and Sanitation Facilities operates 24/7 due to electricity flow, even though it is loadshedding; Cable theft reduced because the local grid remained alive; Small Power Users like residence and business are exposed to power outages in smaller durations as per their requests; The Large Power Users are exposed to power outages of a longer duration as per their request; Low voltages has been reduced resulting in local communities using their equipment more optimally; and In the event of loadshedding, locals receives more reliable weekly schedules of specific reduced periods of loadshedding. 		
	<p>Comment: Alternatives (Location): Section 4.1.1 only referenced that areas were assessed from a technical perspective by considering slope, aspect, undulation, and access, and more detailed environmental perspective.</p>	<p>The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and REIPPP. An application for Section 53 Approval, in terms of Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (No. 28 of 2002) will be submitted during or following the conclusion of the EIA process.</p>	<p>Section 5.6 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Resulting in the consideration of high level solar design. No consideration was given to geothermal heat reflection capacity from the landscape such as geological structures and soil characteristics. This could have resulted in the consideration of alternative technologies such as the addition of bi-facial panels and the reconsideration of methods of elevating those bi-facial panels. Hence it is suggested the Amended dBAR or FBAR include descriptions, maps and geothermal heat radiation capacities during non-sunshining days/periods.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested the scoping report be updated or the EIA address all current land uses in the proposed project region, including depicting within the topographical map and a separate thematic map layers of potential future economic development resources such as geological minerals and gas.</p>		
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Alternatives (Technology)</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested section 4.2.1 provide a detailed consideration of bi-facial solar panels in relation to both sun radiation/heat and geothermal heat.</p>	<p>South Africa does not have large scale geothermal resources to generate electricity or use for direct heat. Only heat pump technology can be viably used depending on location and demand for heating and cooling.</p> <p>The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and REIPPPP.</p>	-

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Alternatives (Operational):</p> <p>Section 4, made no provision for the consideration of Operational Aspect Alternatives.</p> <p>A detailed objective review and assessment of the suggested factors for consideration will equip the people of the Central Karoo as to whether their genuine socio-economic upliftment is equally a priority as the rest of the province, but not limited to it.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>Hence it is strongly suggested that the updated scoping report or the EIA provide a detailed consideration of this aspect by considering the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments made in this Letter of Comments under the section that dealt with the Frankfort Solar Energy Pilot Study; • Operational and technology aspects used in the aforementioned pilot study; • Electricity costs savings Frankfort Pilot Study local community, businesses and agriculture gained as a result of not having used the Eskom grid; and incorporate objective information of other current and/or proposed/intent renewable energy projects the western cape government 	<p>While the Frankfort Pilot Study is noted, the purpose of that specific project was to provide sufficient electricity to the town to reduce/remove its reliance on Eskom. This is not the purpose of the proposed project. The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and REIPPP. The electricity generated will be evacuated into the national grid for use and management by Eskom</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	recently announced to take all provincial municipalities off the Eskom national grid.		
Heritage Western Cape			
Stephanie-Anne Barnardt-Delport 14 April 2023 Via Email	<p>Good day Ms Govender</p> <p>That is correct, the consultation for the HIA only ended 6 April and the matter was heard at the following HOMs meeting on the 11 April.</p> <p>The committee endorsed and the final comment has been uploaded for signature, the final comment should be out today or Monday morning.</p> <p>Apologies for the delay.</p> <p>However in the meantime, please see the extract from the minutes:</p> <p>Mura 2 (Western Cape):</p> <p>It is recommended that the proposed Mura 2 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr; • No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and • If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would 	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges the recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation from Heritage Western Cape. These recommendations will be included in the Draft and Final EIAs.</p>	Appendix D.2 of the PPP Report

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.</p> <p>Warm regards,</p> <p>Kindly note: Due to volume of queries I receive I may not be able to respond to you immediately, if you have not received a reply from within ten working days, please resend your query</p> <p>Any urgent Heritage Western Cape matters, please contact one of the officials:</p> <p>HWC staff contact details</p> <p>Stephanie-Anne Barnardt-Delport</p> <p>Acting Collection Management Officer, Museological Service</p> <p>Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport</p> <p>Western Cape Government</p>		



Comments Received During Final Scoping Phase for Mura 2 Solar PV Facility are incorporate in **Table 3-4** below and have been responded to adequately. The original comments have been included in **Appendix D.2**.

Table 3-4 – Comments received during Final Scoping Phase for Mura 2 Solar PV Facility

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
DFFE			
<p>Mr Sabelo Malaza 12 May 2023 Letter via email</p>	<p>Dear Ms Strong</p> <p>ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF MURA 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 400 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.</p> <p>The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated April 2023 and received by the Department on 18 April 2023, refer.</p> <p>The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the PoSEIA dated April 2023 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges the DFFE acceptance of the Scoping Report. Specific requests have been responded to below.</p>	<p>Appendix D.2 of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.		
	<p>Please ensure that the following information forms part of the next report:</p> <p>1. Listed Activities</p> <p>a) The EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.</p>	An environmental impact assessment is included in Section 9 of the Draft EIR that considers the listed activities applied for under Section 6. Each impact contains mitigation measures where applicable.	Section 6 and Section 9 of the Draft EIR
	b) Please continue to ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.	<p>All relevant listed activities that have been applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description in Section 4 of the Draft EIR. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development have been applied for and assessed.</p> <p>The listed activities and sub listed activities are included in Table 6-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	Table 6-1 of the Draft EIR
	c) The listed activities represented in the EIAR and the application form must be the same and correct.	The listed activities represented in the Draft EIR and application form are the same and correct.	Section 6 of the Draft EIR
	d) The EIAR must assess the correct sub listed activity for each listed activity applied for.	The listed activities and sub listed activities are included in Table 6-1 of the Draft EIR.	Table 6-1 of the Draft EIR
	<p>2. Public Participation</p> <p>a) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR.</p>	WSP confirms that comments from all relevant stakeholders as indicated in the Stakeholder Database (Appendix A of the PPP Report) that have been received to date, have been included in the PPP Report.	<p>Appendix A of the PPP Report</p> <p>Appendix D of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>b) 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 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.</p>	<p>WSP can confirm that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the DSR and draft EIR, as well as those received on the FSR, from registered I&APs and organs of state have been and will be included in the final EIR and adequately addressed and responded to.</p>	<p>Appendix D of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>c) 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 Annexure 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.</p>	<p>WSP can confirm that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state have been included in a comment of response table in Section 3 of the PPP Report. All comments received from the circulation of the Draft EIR will be included in the PPP Report and responded do accordingly.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the PPP Report will also be submitted as a separate report</p>	<p>Section 3 of the PPP Report Appendix D of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>d) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.</p>	<p>All comments from I&APs have been included in chronological order in Section 3 of the PPP Report. All comments have been responded to individually.</p>	<p>Section 3 of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>e) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>WSP confirm that the Public Participation Process is being conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>-</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	f) 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.	WSP will contact the Department to make the necessary arrangements to conduct a site inspection during the Draft EIR public review phase and prior to the submission of the final EIAR	-
	<p>3. Alternatives</p> <p>The EAP is required to provide clear assessment for each identified alternative and further provide clear motivation and reasons as to why the preferred alternative proves to be the preferred compared to other alternatives.</p> <p>These alternatives includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location / Site Alternatives. • Technology Alternatives. • Design and Layout Alternatives. • BESS technology alternatives. • No-go alternative. 	The project alternatives are discussed in Section 5 of the Draft EIR.	Section 5 of the Draft EIR.
	<p>4. The layout map must indicate the following:</p> <p>All supporting onsite infrastructure such as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All supporting onsite infrastructure that will support the proposed 400MW photovoltaic solar facility e.g., roads (existing and proposed, fencing, BESS area, etc.). 	<p>The development envelope of the project is included as Figure 4-1 of the Draft EIR. The components forming part of the Solar PV project (including all supporting infrastructure) will occur within the development envelope.</p> <p>A combined No-Go Sensitivity Map and Proposed Development Envelope is included as Figure 11-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	Figure 4-1 and Figure 11-1 of the Draft EIR

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network; and - All existing infrastructure on the site, including neighbouring villages (if any), etc. - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected; - Buffer areas; and - All “no-go” areas. 		
	<p>5. Specialist assessments</p> <p>Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of Substation, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.</p>	<p>All specialist studies have been undertaken in line with Appendix 6 of the 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended, or, where relevant, in line with the gazetted specialist protocols of GNR 320 and GNR 1150. All specialist studies include a detailed description of the methodologies, project infrastructure descriptions and locations and recommendations for authorisations.</p>	<p>Section 8 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>a) 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.</p>	<p>All specialist assessments include applicable limitations to the studies, as well as the timing/season of the field survey, where applicable, and relevance thereof to the studies/assessments. Section 3.6 of the Draft EIR contains all assumptions and limitations put forward by the specialists.</p>	<p>Section 3.6 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>b) 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</p>	<p>WSP acknowledge the DFFE’s definition of ‘No-go’ areas. The relevant specialist assessments have indicated ‘No-go’ areas, as well as areas where it is suitable for limited linear infrastructure (water pipelines, roads, cables</p>	<p>Figure 11-1 of the Draft EIR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>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.</p>	<p>infrastructure etc.) to traverse a no-go area where required.</p> <p>A combined No-Go Sensitivity Map and Proposed Development Envelope is included as Figure 11-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	
	<p>c) 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.</p>	<p>All specialist studies conducted have been included in Appendix H of the EIR. The Specialist studies include detailed mitigation measures to prevent or avoid adverse impacts on the receiving environment, which have been incorporated into the EIR and EMPr. The Specialist recommendations and conclusions are included in Section 11.2 of the Draft EIR. There are no recommendations or requirements from the Specialists to conduct further studies post EA.</p>	<p>Appendix H of the Draft EIR</p> <p>Section 11.2 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>d) 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.</p>	<p>Specialist assessments have been undertaken to comply with 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.</p> <p>Section 8 of the Draft EIR contains the Assessment Protocols used by the specialists.</p>	<p>Section 8 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>e) The screening tool output:</p>	<p>Specialist Studies identified by the DFFE Screening Tool that have been undertaken are included Table 3-2 of the</p>	<p>Table 3-2 of the Draft EIR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>- The screening tool and the gazetted protocols (GN R320 of 20 March 2020 and GN R 1150 of 30 October 2020) require a site sensitivity verification to be completed to either confirm or dispute the findings and sensitivity ratings of the screening tool.</p> <p>- It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm the list of specialist assessments and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist studies including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and attached.</p>	<p>Draft EIR and includes motivation for specialist studies not undertaken. A summary of the site sensitivity confirmed by specialists are included in Table 8-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Table 8-1 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>f) 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 expert advice.</p>	<p>The specialists have not specified contradicting recommendations. All recommendations are aligned and are considered practical and able to be implemented.</p>	<p>Section 11.3 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>g) Please include a table that shows the proposed studies and the relevant specialists carrying out the study. In addition, a summary should be included of the specialist's recommendations in terms of the alternatives that are preferred based on the findings of their study.</p>	<p>Specialist Studies identified by the DFFE Screening Tool that have been undertaken are included Table 3-2 of the Draft EIR. A summary of the site sensitivity confirmed by specialists are included in Table 8-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Table 3-2 of the Draft EIR Table 8-1 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>General Details of the future plans for the site and infrastructure after decommissioning in 20-30 years and the possibility of upgrading the proposed</p>	<p>Should the project's lifetime not be extended, the project will be decommissioned. During decommissioning the infrastructure will be removed from site and disposed of at a registered waste facility. The site will be rehabilitated and returned to its original condition where possible.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	infrastructure to more advanced technologies must be indicated.		
	Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.	An application will be submitted during or following the conclusion of the EIA process.	Section 6.6 of the Draft EIR
	A construction and operational phase EMPr that includes mitigation and monitoring measures must be submitted with the final EIAR.	An EMPr has been included in Appendix I of the Draft EIR.	Appendix I of the Draft EIR
	The comments issued by this Department on 27/03/2023, during the draft scoping report are still valid and must be all addressed throughout the EIA process.	The comments issued by this Department during the draft scoping phase have been included in Section 3 of the PPP Report and responded to accordingly.	in Section 3 of the PPP Report
	Should you use coordinates, please ensure that it is in the format as prescribed in the 2014 EIA NEMA Regulations, as amended.	Coordinates included in the Draft EIR, EMPr and Application Form have been prescribed in degrees, minutes and seconds using the Hartebeesthoek 94 datum as required in the 2014 EIA NEMA Regulations.	-
	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.	The reminder to meet timeframes stipulated Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amended, is noted. The final EIR is due to the DFFE by 28 August 2023.	-
	<p>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.</p> <p>Yours faithfully</p>	WSP and the Applicant take note of this reminder.	-

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Mr Sabelo Malaza Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment</p>		
Western Cape Government: Land Use Management			
<p>CJ Van Der Walt 12 May 2023 Letter (via Email)</p>	<p>Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd proposes the construction and operation of a 400 MW solar photovoltaic energy facility.</p> <p>The proposed development will have a foot print of approximately 506ha for the solar facility and associated infrastructure.</p> <p>The Western Cape Department of Agriculture: Land Use Management (WCDoA: LUM) has reviewed the report and has no objection to the proposed application on condition that the proposed mitigation measures mentioned in the EMPr are implemented to prevent erosion and manage storm water during the construction and operational phases.</p> <p>In order to accommodate the proposed application must be made to the WCDoA: LUM as well as the Beaufort West municipality for a change in land use, the required registering of a servitude for access roads, entrance routes and power lines as well as to register a lease agreement.</p> <p>Please note:</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges the departments no objection to the project. All mitigation measures proposed in the EMPr will be monitored by the ECO for implementation.</p> <p>An application for the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act (SALA) Consent / Change of Land Use (re-zoning) will be submitted.</p>	<p>-</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That this is comment to the relevant deciding authorities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act no.107 of 1998. - That this is comment to the relevant deciding authorities in terms of the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act 70 of 1970. - Kindly quote the above—mentioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application. - The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received. <p>Yours sincerely Mr CJ Van Der Walt</p>		

3.1.3 COMMENTS RECEIVED FOR MURA 3 SOLAR PV FACILITY

Comments Received During Draft Scoping Phase for Mura 3 Solar PV Facility are incorporate in **Table 3-5** below and have been responded to adequately. The original comments have been included in **Appendix D.3**.

Table 3-5 – Comments received during Draft Scoping Phase for Mura 3 Solar PV Facility

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
DFFE			
<p>Ephron Maradwa 14 March 2023 Via Email</p>	<p>Dear Megan 14/12/16/3/3/2/2324</p> <p>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 320 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES.</p> <p>The Department confirms having received the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 03 March 2023. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>Kindly note that your application for Environ4ental 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</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP confirms that the I&APs were provided with an opportunity to comment on the DSR from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.</p> <p>WSP notes that the application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations.</p> <p>WSP and the Applicant take note that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.</p>	<p>Appendix D.3 of the PPP Report.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>referred to Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.</p> <p>EIA Applications Integrated Environmental Authorisations</p>		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment		
<p>Milicent Solomons 29 March 2023 Letter (Via Email)</p>	<p>Dear Ms Strong.</p> <p>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF UP TO 320 MW MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES.</p> <p>The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2023 and received by the Department on 03 March 2023, refer.</p> <p>This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final SR:</p> <p>1. Application form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicant represented by Mr Lance Blaine, did not sign the application form. Please note that a signed application form must be submitted. 	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>The application form has been signed by the Applicant and the amended application form will be submitted with the FSR.</p>	-
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kindly clarify the reason why this Department is the Competent Authority (CA) in terms of Section 24C of NEMA. State clearly if the applicant intends to bid the project in terms of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP). 	<p>The Project is intended to be submitted as part of the REIPPPP in support of the IRP as indicated in Section 1.3.2 of the FSR</p>	<p>Section 1.3.2 of the FSR.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please note that the Minister is the competent authority for applications for facilities or infrastructure, that will form part of the Integrated Resource Plan 	<p>WSP confirms that that the proposed Mura 3 Solar PV Development is related to the IRP. The Application Form</p>	<p>Section 1.3.2 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>(IRP) Programmes for technologies whose procurement processes have been determined under the Electricity Regulation Act, 2006 and / or the Electricity Regulations on New Generation Capacity. If the applicant will not, or does not intend to, participate in any of the IRP programmes, the competent authority will be the MEC responsible for environmental affairs in the respective province. Be advised that this this information must be clearly presented in Section 1 –Competent Authority in the application form.</p>	<p>has been updated to clearly state this and was submitted with the FSR.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflecting the above, the reasons provided in Section 1 of the application form for this Department being the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA are incomplete. This must be rectified and expanded on in the application form as well as the report. Please refer to GN 779. 	<p>The Application Form has been updated to clearly state that the DFFE is the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA. The amended Application Form will be submitted with the FSR. Section 1.3.2 of the FSR states that confirms that the DFFE is the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA</p>	<p>Section 1.3.2 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please ensure that the application form is fully completed and correct. The SG codes, all farm names, and the EAP’s contact details are correct. 	<p>WSP confirms that the SG codes, all farm names, and numbers and the EAP’s contact details included in the Application Form and FSR are correct. The Grid Infrastructure is included in a separate application (Mura EGI Corridor).</p>	<p>Section 1.3.4 and Section 3.1 of the FSR.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please include the GPS coordinates for the onsite substation and the battery energy storage system (BESS) facility. 	<p>WSP confirms that the coordinates for the BESS substation, onsite substations and switching stations have been included in the Application Form and Section 3.1 of the FSR. The BESS will be located within the project area, adjacent to or slightly removed from the substations. The substations and BESS will be placed within the Development Footprint, as assessed by the specialists</p>	<p>Section 3.1 of the FSR. Figure 7-18 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
		and avoid all No-Go areas as indicated in Figure 7-18 of the FSR.	
	<p>2. Listed Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is noted that the proposed solar facility does not fall within any renewable energy development zones. Although the application form indicates that part of the project is within the Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) as per GN 113, it is noted that the proposed solar facility does not fall within any renewable energy development zones, as such this application will be considered as a normal EIA application. 	WSP confirms that this statement is correct.	Section 1.2 of the FSR.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed. 	WSP can confirm that all relevant listed activities have been applied for. Furthermore, the descriptions of applicability in the Application Form and Table 5-1 of the FSR are specific and have been linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.	Table 5-1 of the FSR
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are required to confirm whether systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans are adopted by the competent authority. There are certain activities in Listing Notice 3 that requires that Bioregional Plans to be adopted. 	As confirmed by Western Cape DEADP there are no systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans for the Western Cape Province that have been adopted by the Department. The application form and Table 5-1 has been amended to remove Activity 12, Activity 14 and Activity 23 of Listing Notice 3, as requested by Western Cape DEADP. However, the assessment does consider the impact to CBAs and ESAs as part of the terrestrial and aquatic impact assessment.	Table 5-1 of the FSR

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the environmental impact assessment process, as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of Listing Notice 3 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities (or proof of consultation if no comments were received) 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 final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). 	<p>WSP confirms that all relevant authorities have been consulted and will continue to be consulted throughout the environmental impact assessment process.</p>	<p>Appendix A of the PPP Report Appendix B of the PPP Report</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms. 	<p>WSP can confirm that an amended application form has been submitted to include coordinates of the on-site substations and amended listed activities. Furthermore, the most recent application form template has been utilised.</p>	<p>Table 5-1 of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>3. Layout & Sensitivity Maps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide a layout map which indicates the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed location of the PV array and associated infrastructure of the proposed up to 320MW Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility 	<p>A layout map of the development is included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR.</p> <p>A combined No-Go Sensitivity Map and Proposed Development Envelope for Mura 3 PV Facility is included as Figure 7-18 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1 and Figure 7-18 of the FSR.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proposed grid infrastructure connecting the PV facility to the existing substation, overlain by the sensitivity map; - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed); fence, office buildings, and etc. - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected; - Buffer areas; and - All “no-go” areas. 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure, as well as the neighbouring PV Solar Clusters. 	<p>A Sensitivity Map for Mura 2 PV Facility has been included as Figure 7-19 of the FSR.</p> <p>A Cumulative map showing Renewable Energy Projects with 30km of the Mura Solar Development has been included as Figure 9-1 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Figure 7-19 and Figure 9-1 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes. 	<p>No Google maps have been used.</p>	<p>Appendix E of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>4. Public Participation Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received on the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department’s Biodiversity Section: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za, the provincial authority and the local municipality) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final SR. 	<p>WSP can confirm that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state have been included in the PPP Report and adequately addressed and responded to.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that comments from the Biodiversity Directorate of the DFFE were received and are included in the PPP Report.</p>	<p>Appendix D of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of the approved public participation plan and Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Take note of the timeframes required for adequate public participation. 	<p>WSP confirm that the Public Participation Process is being conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments (pre and post submission of the draft SR) 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 which reflects the details of the I&APs and date of comments received, actual comments received, and response provided. Please ensure that comments made by I&APs are comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as “Noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments. 	<p>WSP can confirm that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state have been included in a comment of response report included in Section 3 of the PPP Report.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the PPP Report is also being submitted as a separate report.</p> <p>WSP confirm that all comments from I&APs have been copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Furthermore the response “Noted” has not been utilised.</p>	<p>Appendix D of the PPP Report</p> <p>Section 3 of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>5. Specialist Assessments to be conducted in the EIA Phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as 	<p>WSP can confirm that the specialist studies to be undertaken in the EIA phase will be undertaken in line with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, or as required under the gazetted specialist protocols (GNR 320 of 20 March 2020 and GNR 1150 of</p>	<p>Section 7 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>indicate the locations and descriptions of PV arrays, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.</p>	<p>30 October 2020). Therefore, the requested information will be included.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>All relevant specialist assumptions and limitations have been included Section 2.7 of the FSR. These will be updated as required during the EIA Phase.</p>	<p>Section 2.7 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and were necessary, include further expertise advice. 	<p>To date no contradictory recommendations have been received.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are further required to ensure that all required specialist studies are recommended and assessed for the proposed up to 320MW Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility. 	<p>Section 2.2 of the FSR contains the results of the DFFE Screening Tool and notes the specialist studies commissioned.</p>	<p>Section 2.2 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<p>WSP can confirm that the specialist studies to be undertaken in the EIA phase will be undertaken in line with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, or as required under the gazetted specialist protocols (GNR 320 of 20 March 2020 and GNR 1150 of 30 October 2020).</p>	<p>Section 7 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols. Please note further that the protocols require the specialists' to be registered with SACNASP in their respective field.</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please include a table in the report, summarising the specialist studies required by the Department's Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted. Please note that if any of the specialists' studies and requirements/protocols recommended in the Department's Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation for such must be provided in the report per the requirements of the Protocols. 	<p>Table 2-2 of the FSR contains a summary of the specialist studies required by the DFFE Screening Tool including motivation for specialist studies not commissioned.</p>	<p>Table 2-2 of the FSR</p>
	<p>6. Cumulative Assessment to be conducted in the EIA Phase</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<p>Section 9 of the FSR includes Renewable Energy Projects with 30km of the Mura Solar Development. The cumulative impact significance has been preliminary identified in Section 9 of the FSR. The cumulative impact will be further investigated in the EIA Phase.</p>	<p>Section 9 of the FSR.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 		
	<p>7. Environmental Management Programme</p> <p>The EMPr must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is drawn to your attention that for substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the Generic Environmental Management Programme, must be used and submitted with the final report over and above the EMPr for the facility. This means that a generic EMPR must be included for the substation. In total, 2 EMPrs should accompany the final report. 	<p>This information will be included in the EMPr to be compiled in the EIA Phase.</p>	-
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further to the above, you are required to comply with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended. 	<p>WSP confirm that the EMPrs to be submitted in the EIA phase, will comply with the requirements of Appendix 4 in the EIA Regulation, as amended</p>	-
	<p>General</p>	<p>WSP confirms that the FSR will be submitted to the DFFE within the required timeframe of the regulations. Please</p>	-

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:</p> <p>“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 SR 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”.</p>	<p>note that due to the public holidays occurring during the prescribed timeframes. the FSR will be submitted to the DFFE in line with Section 3(5) of Chapter 2 of the EIA Regulations which states “<i>Where a prescribed timeframe is affected by one or more public holidays, the timeframe must be extended by the number of public holiday days falling within that timeframe</i>”.</p>	
	<p>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 SRs in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>WSP confirm that the FSR complies with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping report in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Please refer to Table 1-5 of the final Scoping Report for the checklist against the regulatory requirements.</p>	-
	<p>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).</p>	<p>WSP notes that the application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations.</p>	
	<p>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.</p>	<p>WSP and the Applicant take note of this reminder.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Yours sincerely Ms Milicent Solomons Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Letter signed by: Mr Wayne Hector</p>		
SAHRA			
<p>Natasha Higgitt 31 March 2023 Letter Via SAHRIS</p>	<p>Interim Comment In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) Attention: Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (up to 320 MW) between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces WSP has been appointed by Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation Application for a proposed Solar Photovoltaic Facility, near Loxton, Northern Cape Province. A Draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include solar panels, substations, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), offices,</p>	<p>WSP Response: Fossil material collected from the Abrahamskraal Formation / lower Teekloof Formation (Poortjie Member) during the initial site visit to the Mura solar project area near Loxton (July 2022) has already been evaluated by Professor Bruce Rubidge of Wits University who has a Fossil Collection Permit and whose research team is currently involved with a long-standing research project on the fossil record of this stratigraphic interval in the Main Karoo Basin. Specimens considered to be of palaeontological research value by Professor Rubidge are curated, together with stratigraphic / locality data, in the collections of the Evolutionary Studies Institute, Johannesburg. A couple of additional specimens from Locs. 408 and 083 from the second site visit in September 2022 have yet to be evaluated by Professor Rubidge.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>operational and maintenance buildings, warehouse/workshop, ablution facilities, converter/invertor stations, underground cablings, internal roads, fencing, storm water management infrastructure, and site camps.</p> <p><i>Almond, J. E. 2022. Combined Desktop & Field-Based Palaeontological Heritage Study: Proposed Mura PV Solar Facilities between Loxton and Beaufort West, Beaufort West Local Municipality (Central Karoo District Municipality), Western Cape and Ubuntu Local Municipality (Pixley Ka Sema District Municipality), Northern Cape</i></p> <p>The report combines the results for five development applications. Only the results pertaining to Mura PV 3 will be discussed below.</p> <p>The proposed development is underlain by the Teekloof Formation. A total of 12 fossil sites were recorded within the proposed development area. These include reworked bone fragments, remains of small tetrapods, reedy plant stem casts and invertebrate trace fossils of Grade IIIC heritage significance, and robust tetrapod remains and sizeable ridged bone fragment of Grade IIIB significance (sampled/collected).</p> <p>No recorded fossil sites of unique scientific or conservation value are likely to be directly impacted by the proposed renewable energy and electrical infrastructure developments and no further palaeontological studies or mitigation is proposed here with regard to these sites. A Chance Fossil Finds Protocol is recommended to be implemented.</p>		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p><i>Orton, J. 2022. Heritage Impact Assessment: Proposed Mura 1-4 PV Facilities, Beaufort West Magisterial District, Western Cape and Victoria West Magisterial District, Northern Cape</i></p> <p>The report combines the results for five development applications. Only the results pertaining to Mura PV 3 will be discussed below.</p> <p>A total of two heritage resources were identified within the Mura PV 3 development area. These include a stone-walled house ruin of medium significance and a mound of rocks of very low heritage significance.</p> <p>Recommendations provided in the report include the following:</p> <p>A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;</p> <p>The site at waypoint 1402 should be avoided if possible with a 50 m buffer or else revisited to record it in detail as well as determining whether any sampling would be required;</p> <p>Any realignment of the DR02317 within 400 m of waypoint 2000 must be checked in the field and approved by an archaeologist;</p> <p>No stones may be removed from any archaeological site;</p>		



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>The road construction camp location must be approved by an archaeologist and subjected to a site inspection if deemed necessary; and</p> <p>If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.</p> <p>Interim Comment</p> <p>SAHRA requests clarity regarding the permit used for the collection of fossil material in the Northern Cape Province. Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the requested clarity and the draft EIA inclusive of appendices.</p> <p>Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.</p> <p>Yours faithfully</p> <p>Natasha Higgitt</p> <p>Manager: Development Applications Unit</p> <p>South African Heritage Resources Agency</p>		
WC DEADP			
Thea Jordan	Dear EAP,	WSP Response:	Appendix D.3

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
<p>11 April 2023 Via Email</p>	<p>Your request for comment refers. Please find attached this Department's comment in the above regard. Yours faithfully Thea Jordan</p>	<p>WSP confirms receipt of the comments from the WC DEADP.</p>	
<p>Thea Jordan 11 April 2023 Letter (Via Email)</p>	<p>Dear Madam</p> <p>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND PLAN OF STUDY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 320MW MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AND STRUCTURES (INCLUDING, INTER ALIA, A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM AND SUBSTATION, 2 ON-SITE SOLAR FARM SUBSTATIONS, ACCESS ROADS, SITE CAMPS, CABLING, BUILDINGS, ETC.) ON FARM LEEUWKLOOF NO. 43, REMAINDER OF FARM ABRAMS KRAAL NO. 206, PORTION 4 AND THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 3 OF FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO. 45, FARM SNEEUWKRAAL NO. 46, AND AANGRENSEND FARM ABRAMSKRAAL NO. 11, BEAUFORT WEST AND UBUNTU LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES</p> <p>1. The email correspondence of 06 March 2023, informing interested and affected parties of the release of Draft Scoping Report (“DSR”) for comments, the email received on the same day, providing an additional link to download the DSR and</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>The total project area is 436 ha and should be assumed to be wholly transformed. The total development envelope for the project PV installation is approximately 395 ha to allow for the construction of a PV facility, on-site substations, switching stations, BESS, underground cables, internal gravel roads, fencing, construction site camps and other infrastructure but does not consider the access road to the PV facility nor the two site camps within the road corridor.</p> <p>The footprints for each of infrastructure forming part of the project are also outlined within the Table at the beginning of the Assessment Report under “General Site Information”.</p>	<p>Section 3.1 and Section 3.4 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>appendices, and the Department’s email of 05 April 2023, informing the environmental assessment practitioner (“EAP”) that the Department is unable to meet the deadline of 06 April 2023, refer.</p> <p>2. The Department extends its appreciation to the EAP for extending the deadline for comments on the DSR. Please find consolidated comments from various directorates within the Department on the DSR and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (“EIA”) dated March 2023 that was available for download from various online platforms provided by the EAP.</p> <p>3. Directorate: Development Facilitation – Ms Adri La Meyer (Email: Adri.Lameyer@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 2887):</p> <p>3.1. This Directorate requires clarity on the extent of the development footprint and that of the proposed site (indicated as Farm Leeuwkloof No. 43, Remainder of Farm Abrams Kraal No. 206, Portion 4 and the Remainder of Portion 3 of Farm Duiker Kranse No. 45, Farm Sneeuwkraal No. 46, and Aangrensend Farm Abramskraal No. 11). The DSR interchangeably refers to the total project area as 436 ha and 395 ha. On page 26 of the DSR it is indicated that “The proposed Mura 3 Facility will be developed within a project area of approximately 395 hectares (ha), excluding the access road corridor”, whereas on page 37 it is indicated that “The total project area is 436 ha” and that “The total development envelope for project installation is approximately 395 ha”. Assuming that the proposed 320MW solar field will</p>		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>be constructed on 395 ha; the proposed battery energy storage system (“BESS”) and BESS substation will be developed on ~ 4 ha; internal gravel access roads will have a development footprint of 36 ha; and up to two 2.2 ha site camps / laydown areas (i.e., 4.4 ha in total) will be developed, then more than 439 ha is required for the proposed solar photovoltaic (“PV”) facility and associated structures and infrastructure. The development footprint of the associated buildings (offices, ablution facilities, operational and maintenance centre, etc.) and the two on-site solar substations were not indicated. Please ensure that the Final Scoping Report (“FSR”) and the forthcoming Draft EIA Report clearly describe the size of the proposed site, the development footprint, and the individual components of the proposed solar PV development.</p>		
	<p>3.2. Further to the above, section 4.1.1 of the DSR deals with the site selection process. It is noted that the original five potential Mura PV development areas were further reduced to two areas (Areas 2 and 5) that were considered suitable for the Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 solar PV developments. Area 5 consist of two sites of 395 ha and 425 ha, respectively. The 395-ha area corresponds with the project area for the proposed Mura 3 solar PV facility. It is again reiterated that the 395 ha appears to only be sufficient for the proposed solar field, based on the information provided in the DSR. The FSR and the Draft EIA Report must indicate the size of the development footprint against the size of the proposed site.</p>	<p>The total development envelope for PV project installation is approximately 395 ha to allow for the construction of a PV facility, on-site substations, switching stations, BESS, underground cables, internal gravel roads, fencing, construction site camps and other infrastructure but <i>excludes</i> the footprint associated with the access road and site camps. The total footprint of the whole project is 506 ha for whole Project.</p>	<p>Section 3.1 and Section 3.4 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>3.3. It is noted that Activities 12, 14 and 23 of Listing Notice (“LN”) 3 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (“NEMA”) EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are applied for. Please be advised that no systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans for the Western Cape Province have been adopted by this Department. As such, Activity 12.i.ii, Activity 14(ii)(a) and (c) i.i.(ff) and Activity 23(ii)(a) i.i.(ff) of LN 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are not applicable to the application for environmental authorisation.</p>	<p>Activities 12, 14 and 23 of Listing Notice 3 have been removed. An amended Application Form was submitted to the DFFE with the FSR.</p>	<p>Table 5-1 of the FSR.</p>
	<p>3.4. Appendix F and Table 2-1 of the DSR list the specialist studies identified by the Screening Tool, that should be undertaken in the environmental impact reporting (“EIR”) phase. The EAP has provided motivation for undertaking or not undertaking the recommended Screening Tool specialist studies, as well as the undertaking of additional specialist studies not identified by the Screening Tool. Section 2.2.1 of the DSR notes that “An RFI Study will not be undertaken... As this theme has been identified as high, a compliance statement will be prepared by the EAP and included in the EIA Report.” Please note that the Screening Tool indicated a medium (and not high) sensitivity for the Radio Frequency Interference (“RFI”) theme. The Plan of Study for EIA (Section 10.5) lists the specialist studies that have been commissioned for the EIR phase, which are aligned to section 2.2.1 of the DSR. The Plan of Study for EIA does not include</p>	<p>WSP confirms that and RFI Compliance Statement will be undertaken in the EIA Phase. Section 10 of the FSR has been updated to include this.</p>	<p>Section 10 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>the undertaking of an RFI Assessment. Please thus indicate whether an RFI Compliance Statement will be undertaken by the EAP in the EIR phase. If so, the Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include the RFI Compliance Statement.</p>		
	<p>3.5. The Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include an Archaeological Impact Assessment as part of the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment.</p>	<p>The plan of study for the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment during the EIA Phase will include the assessment of archaeological resources. Section 10 of the FSR has been updated to include this.</p>	<p>Section 10 of the FSR</p>
	<p>3.6. Please ensure that the specialist assessments include a cumulative assessment of the same renewable energy projects within a 30km radius of the proposed site. It is noted that the Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement compiled by 3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions dated November 2022 refers to the “The three Nuweveld WEFs west of the site have been authorised and there is also the Hoogland 1 and Hoogland 2 WEFs which have not yet been authorised and lie adjacent and to the north and west of the Nuweveld site”. Please note that the Hoogland 1 and 2 wind energy facilities (“WEFs”) have received environmental authorisations. The Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Report compiled by Independent Economic Researchers dated January 2023 refers to the “Assessment of cumulative impacts considered Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 SEFs; Hoogland 1, 2, 3 and 4 WEFs; Nuweveld North, East and West WEFs, Taaibos WEFs, Soutrivier WEFs, as well as the Mura, Hoogland, Nuweveld and Gamma Grid Corridors.” Other scoping phase specialist assessments also include</p>	<p>WSP takes note of the authorised applications. The cumulative impacts will be revised in the EIA phase.</p>	<p>Section 9 of the FSR.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	reference to the Taaibos and Soutrivier WEFs. If within a 30km radius of the proposed site, these WEFs must be included in all the specialist assessments and referenced in the FSR and Draft EIA Report.		
	3.7. The Traffic Impact Assessment (“TIA”) compiled by Athol Schwarz dated 30 November 2022 indicates that access to the proposed site is via the OP 08881 and an existing private road from the DR 02317. It is further noted that a site visit of the area was undertaken by the traffic engineer in September 2019. The TIA notes that “OP 08881 is 36.9 km long, starting at the DR 02317 before ending at the farm Slangfontein. This road will be used to access Mura 3 and Mura 4. This road was not included in the site inspection. Thus, the author cannot comment on the condition or the viability of using this route.” It is crucial that this limitation/ gap in knowledge be determined during the EIR phase to confirm that OP 08881 is acceptable for traffic to and from the proposed site. Comments from the relevant road’s authority on the condition or viability of the road would be acceptable.	Clarification on the condition and viability of OP 08881 will be provided in the EIA Phase.	
	3.8. Please include reference to the Western Cape Noise Control Regulations promulgated in Provincial Notice 200/2013 of 20 June 2013 in the section dealing with provincial and municipal legal and regulatory framework in the Draft EIA Report.	WSP confirms that reference to the Western Cape Noise Control Regulations will be included in the Draft EIA Report.	-

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>4. Directorate: Waste Management – Mr Hassan Parker (Email: Hassan.Parker@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 6877):</p> <p>4.1. It is recommended that the following aspects, among others, be taken into consideration in terms of waste management for the proposed development:</p> <p>4.1.1. Implementation of a solid waste management hierarchy – taking the most environmentally friendly steps to avoid resorting to illegal dumping or disposing of waste to landfill that can diverted.</p> <p>4.1.2. Measures, as far as possible, for the recycling and/or recovering of materials from the solar PV infrastructure in the event of partial or complete replacement when reaching “end-of-life” or undergoing replacement or maintenance repairs.</p> <p>4.2. This Directorate awaits the Draft EIA Report, EIR specialist studies and Environmental Management Programme (“EMPr”) to provide additional comment.</p>	<p>WSP confirms that the Draft EIA and EMPr will address the management waste.</p>	
	<p>5. Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management – Ms Shehaam Brinkhuis (Email: Shehaam.Brinkhuis@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 8309):</p> <p>5.1. This Directorate has no comments on the DSR and Plan of Study for EIA and awaits the Draft EIA Report (and accompanying EMPr) to provide comment on potential pollution impacts and mitigation measures.</p>	<p>WSP acknowledges the Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management’s statement of no comment.</p>	



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any or new information received.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>Letter signed by: Thea Jordan</p>		
I&AP: Anthony Jeffathon			
<p>Anthony Jeffathon</p> <p>07 April 2023</p> <p>Letter (Via Email)</p>	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>The DSR omitted to include at least one comprehensive site layout plan illustrating all proposed onsite and off-site infrastructures.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested an updated SR or the EIR to include such a layout plan at an appropriate scale.</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP confirms that a site layout map has been included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR. The layout map will be refined during the EIA Phase, if required.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1 of the FSR</p>
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.1, indicates that solar Modules will be located on either single axis tracking structures or fixed tilt mounting structures or similar.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p>	<p>The mounting structure technology cannot be confirmed at this stage during the EIA Process however, the type of mounting system will have no environmental impact as the worst case in terms of height and area to be transformed was assessed. In addition, it is highly unlikely that a substandard mounting system will be used, given that this project will need to be competitive to be selected as a preferred bidder in REIPPP and the investment that goes into such a project. The mounting system to be used will be determined at detailed design stage.</p>	<p>-</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>It is suggested that an updated SR or the EIR indicate the exact mounting structure technology that will be used to mount the solar PV modules. This is to ensure transparency from the outset to prevent possible 11th hour substandard technology for the Central Karoo.</p>		
	<p>Comment: Project Infrastructure: Section 3.4.3, states that “The BESS will be Lithium-ion or similar solid-state technology.”</p> <p>Suggestion: It is suggested that an updated SR alternatively the EIR indicate the exact BESS technology. This is to ensure transparency of potential health & safety risk and to prevent 11th hour substandard technology be dumped upon the Central Karoo.</p>	<p>The specific type of BESS will only be determined at detailed design stage. A high level risk assessment for this type of BESS has been included in the SR.</p>	<p>Section 6.4 of the FSR</p>
	<p>Comment: PV & MOUNTING SYSTEM: Considering the CKDM is the poorest region in the Western Cape Province and its communities are the most vulnerable in the province; but its electricity rates are higher than many if not all areas within the Cape Metro. Further, section 3.2.1, states that this Mura 3 Solar PV Facility is a large-scale system supplying power into the commercial electricity grid and not to local users. Hence, how will this proposed</p>	<p>The Applicant, Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd, is a private company and not linked to Eskom. The Applicant therefore has no power to obligate Eskom to subsidise and reduce the electricity prices of the municipality.</p>	<p>-</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>project impact the CKDM communities passively in a direct manner with significant reduced electricity prices? If, any direct positive impact of reduced power prices at community level, what will the expected timeline be from the time of operation?</p> <p>Suggestion: the municipality be subsidised by Eskom to allow it to reduce its electricity prices to communities whilst still being able to make a marginal income profit.</p>		
	<p>Comment: Section 3.2.1, only made reference to sunlight as a source whilst excluding geothermal as a potential source. Hence the two considered mounting systems is limited to single axis tracking and fixed axis mounting structures.</p> <p>Suggestion: It is suggested that the economic viability of geothermal heat/ power be investigated. If, it is viable, then an additional mounting technology be considered such as bifacial axis mounting structures be considered. It is assumed that the last mentioned structure would be be cost effective oppose to the current two considered mounting structures.</p>	<p>South Africa does not have large scale geothermal resources to generate electricity or use for direct heat. Only heat pump technology can be viably used depending on location and demand for heating and cooling.</p> <p>The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP), which does not include geothermal heat/power.</p>	Section 3.6 of the FSR
	<p>Comment:</p>	<p>South Africa does not have large scale geothermal resources to generate electricity or use for direct heat.</p>	Section 3.6 of the FSR

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Section 3.3, omitted to consider potential geothermal heat radiation that can be a viable energy source during non-sunshine days/evening periods.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested the following sentences be changed as follows,</p> <p>” Since solar and wind technology depend largely on whether the sun is shining or the wind is blowing, respectively, these technologies are more efficient when these sources are available.”</p>	<p>Only heat pump technology can be viably used depending on location and demand for heating and cooling.</p> <p>The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP), which does not include geothermal heat/power.</p>	
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.3.2, only indicates that, “The battery facilities...will not have any additional office/operation/maintenance infrastructure as those of the substation.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that the EMPr indicates specific scheduled mechanical safety maintenance operations that should be conducted in terms of all applicable SA Health & Safety requirements i.e. the OSHAct and Mechanical and Ventilation Regulations; and other applicable regulatory tools as cited under section 3.3.3, of the DSR.</p>	<p>The EMPr will include requirements of the various legislation including the National Occupational Health and Safety Act (No. 85 of 1993) (OHSA).</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Location Map:</p> <p>Section 3.1, page 26-32 read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps). These sections basically addressed only the GPS co-ordinates; alternative sites particulars are scattered around in figures with no scales at times; and no credible topographical map but more of a kind of thematic map has been provided.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that the following being addressed in an updated scoping report or the EIA report: Provide a colour location map at a larger scale of at least 1:50 000. The scale must be indicated on the map. The map must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an accurate indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any; • road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s) • a north arrow; • a legend to represent physical/natural landscapes, water features, vegetation features, constructed/cultural/man-made landscape, and transport and administration features on the 	<p>A locality map of the proposed project has been included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR. This locality map meets the requirements of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, including district and access roads, a north arrow and scale. The Alternative Site Selection process is discussed in Section 4.1 of the FSR.</p> <p>A Combined No-Go Sensitivity Map overlain with the proposed Development Envelope has been included as Figure 7-18 and a Sensitivity Map has been included as Figure 7-19, which includes environmental features and sensitivities.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1, Figure 7-18 and Figure 3-19 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>map. Towns cited under section 6.3.5 should be depicted on the map.;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the prevailing wind direction (during November to April and during May to October); Date map was printed; and <p>the already provided GPS Hartbeesthoek 94/WG584 co-ordinate system information.</p>		
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Site Plan:</p> <p>Section 3.1, read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps) should provide an amended Site Plan for the preferred Mura Solar 2 project as well as each alternatives considered. These site plans should conform to the following:</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>Detailed site plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity and provided in an updated SR or EIAR/EIR. The site plan must contain or conform to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The detailed site plan must be at a scale preferably at a scale of 1:500 or at an appropriate scale. The scale must be indicated on the plan. 	<p>A locality map of the proposed project has been included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR. This locality map meets the requirements of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, including the property boundaries.</p> <p>A Combined No-Go Sensitivity Map overlain with the proposed Development Envelope has been included as Figure 7-18 and a Sensitivity Map has been included as Figure 7-19, which includes environmental features and sensitivities.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1, Figure 7-18 and Figure 3-19 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The property boundaries and numbers of all the properties within 50m of the site must be indicated on the site plan. • The current land use (not zoning) as well as the land use zoning of each of the adjoining properties must be indicated on the site plan. • The position of each element of the application as well as any other structures on the site must be indicated on the site plan. • Services, including electricity supply cables (indicate above or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and access roads that will form part of the development must be indicated on the site plan. • Servitudes indicating the purpose of the servitude must be indicated on the site plan. • Sensitive environmental elements within 100m of the site must be included on the site plan, including (but not limited to): • Watercourses/Rivers/Wetlands (including non-perennial features). □ Flood lines (i.e. 1:10 year, 1:50 year, and 1:100 year where applicable; • Ridges. • Cultural and historical features. 		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas with indigenous vegetation (even if it is degraded or infested with alien species). • Whenever the slope of the site exceeds 1:10, then a contour map of the site must be submitted. 		
	<p>Comment: Schematic Process/Project Drawing</p> <p>Suggestion: It is suggested a holistic schematic process drawing (project layout) of the entire solar Mura 2 project be provided. This drawing should include all the different stages with its main technology/infrastructure in a input-process-output manner.</p>	<p>A locality map of the proposed project has been included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR. A Combined No-Go Sensitivity Map overlain with the proposed Development Envelope has been included as Figure 7-18. The proposed project will be developed within the Development Envelope, avoiding the No-Go areas as indicated in Figure 7-18.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1 and Figure 7-18 of the FSR</p>
	<p>Comment: Photgraphs:</p> <p>Section 2.4 read together with section 2.7, states that descriptions of environmental attributes were by means of combination of desktop reviews i.e. aerial imagery and site investigations done between March and October 2022, to identify sensitive features on site. It further states that "...the latest available aerial imagery for the site."</p> <p>Suggestion:</p>	<p>Colour Photographs have been included in the various specialist studies, most notably in the Heritage Impact Assessment compiled by ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd and included as Appendix G.8 of the FSR, and the Visual Impact Assessment compiled by Quinton Lawson and Bernard Oberholzer and included as Appendix G.11 of the FSR. Extracts from the reports have been included in Sections 6.3.1 and 6.3.4 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Appendix G.8 of the FSR</p> <p>Appendix G.11 of the FSR</p> <p>Sections 6.3.1 and 6.3.4 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>However a number of important information has been leftout and need to be provided in an updated SR or during the EIA phase document as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Colour photographs of the site and its surroundings (taken of the site and from the site) with a description of each photograph. The vantage points from which the photographs were taken must be indicated on the site plan; 2. Recent aerial photograph or at least dates of those aerial photograpghs (attach as an Appendix). The Appendix should be supplemented with additional dated onsite-photosgrapghs taken of relevant features during your stated field trips as cited under section 7.2 of the DSR. Kindly note, the aforementioned requirements must be duplicated for all alternative sites. 		
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Land use character of surrounding area</p> <p>Section 6.3.5.1 read together with section 6.3.4.3 failed to adequately otr near adequately describes the current land uses on the proposed project site and its immediate surrounding areas. The aforementioned sections also failed to adequately describes the prominent features that occurs in the immediate surrounds from the proposed project area.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p>	<p>Section 6.3.5.1 of the FSR includes a description of the current land uses in the area.</p> <p>A Combined No-Go Sensitivity Map overlain with the proposed Development Envelope has been included as Figure 7-18 and a Sensitivity Map has been included as Figure 7-19, which includes environmental features and sensitivities.</p> <p>The main land use in the area is agriculture, which is addressed in the Agricultural Compliance Statement, found in Appendix G.2 of the FSR. The Agricultural Compliance Statement found that The site has low agricultural potential and no dryland cropping potential predominantly because of aridity constraints but also</p>	<p>Section 6.3.5.1 of the FSR</p> <p>Figure 7-18 and Figure 7-19 of the FSR</p> <p>Appendix G.2 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>It is suggested a larger A3 size map as an Appendix be provided under section 6.1.3 (geology).</p> <p>Hence it is suggested either an updated scoping report or the EIA provides a proper description of the current land uses and/or prominent features that occur within +/- 500m radius of the proposed project area and neighbouring properties if these are located beyond 500m of the site from all directions. Further, a description of any potential impacts the proposed project may pose on the highlighted land uses or features.</p>	<p>because of soil constraints. As a result of the constraints, agricultural production is limited to low density grazing. The land across the site is verified in this assessment as being of low agricultural sensitivity.</p>	
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Socio-Economic:</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that the Mitigation and Management Measures under section 6.3.5 relating to regional employment and contracts be included in an updated scoping report or be addressed within the EIA as follows:</p> <p>specifications/requirements/targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% unskilled workers must be local; • 90% semi-skilled workers from local; and • 70% skilled workers must be from local/indigent. • That the concept “local/indigent” shall mean having been born in the CKDM and having lived 	<p>The Socio-Economic Assessment includes the following mitigations as indicated in Section 8.1 of the FSR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The project must comply with the requirements of the REIPPPP bidding process which will have stringent requirements with regard to socio-economic development, enterprise development, BBEEE shareholding etc. ■ The applicant must establish a communications committee early on in the project to ensure inclusive planning and regular feedback from stakeholders. ■ Community development should be guided by a community needs analysis, drawn up by a third party and based on local socio-economic conditions, a review of planning documents such as the IDP, and discussions with local government and community representatives. Interventions should be planned in collaboration with other energy developers in the area where relevant. 	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>in the CKDM area for at least more than 10 years and having attended at least either and/or a primary or high school in the CKDM area irrespective whether the candidate is currently residing in the CKDM area or not. If not born in the CKDM area than at least one parent borned in the region but both parents must have lived in the area for more than 20 years;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That a CKDM professionals body shall be consulted for particulars of local/indigent professionals to be considered for skilled jobs and/or be willing to undergo rapid skills upgrading to occupy skilled jobs; • That CKDM Professionals Body shall have representation in all committees/forums established under this proposed project; • That local sub-contractors who did not gain from tenders in the past locally will receive preferential treatment in terms of the equity principle and a skills transfer programme be adopted by the main contractors; • That sub-contractors who previously gained tenders locally equally compete with external contractors to be main contractors; • That the income/wealth status of sub-contractors and skilled workers for all Black contenders / candidates will also be included in the specifications in addition to the standard “black” requirement under the BBBEE and EEA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Close liaison with local municipal managers, local councillors and other stakeholders involved in socio-economic development is required to ensure that any projects are integrated into wider socio-economic development strategies and plans. ■ A ‘locals first’ policy with regard to construction and operational labour needs. ■ The community should be able to contact the site manager or his/her representative to report any issues which they may have. The site manager and his/her representative should be stationed within the area and should therefore be available on hand to deal with and address any concerns which may be raised. ■ A complaints register should be available on site to any individual who may have a particular complaint with regards to the construction or operations processes. ■ The applicant and the contractors should develop a Code of Conduct for the project. The code should identify what types of behaviour and activities by workers are not permitted in agreement with surrounding landowners and land managers. For example, access to land that is not part of the development will not be allowed. ■ The applicant and the contractor should implement a Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS awareness programme for all construction workers at the outset of the construction phase. ■ Arrangements must be made to enable workers from outside the area to return home over the weekends or at regular intervals. This would reduce the risk posed by non-local construction workers to local family structures and social networks. 	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>redress umbrella to ensure wealth does not circulate consistently amongst a few individuals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Condoms should be freely available to employees and all contractor workers. ■ Introduce alcohol testing on a weekly basis for construction workers. ■ The contractor should make the necessary arrangements for ensuring that all non-local construction workers are transported back to their place of residence once the construction phase is completed. ■ Close coordination with the municipality is required, including regular meetings. <p>The mitigation measures are deemed to be sufficient.</p>	
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.6 “ NEED AND DESIRABILITY” have very little to zero direct and possibly indirect relevance to the Central Karoo District Municipal Area. Yes it is a common fact that the district is in dire need of urgent economic development.</p> <p>Section 3.6, states that South Africa is the seventh highest coal producer in the world, with approximately 77% of the country’s electricity generated from coal.</p> <p>Section 3.6, states also that the SA’s large dependence on coal and its use also resulted in a variety of negative impacts on the environment, including the contribution to climate change. SA is also the highest emitter of GHGs in Africa; attributed to the country’s energy-intensive economy that largely relies on coal-based electricity generation.</p>	<p>The Need and Desirability of the project has been developed in reference to meeting international and national targets of reducing reliance on fossil fuels, such as coal, by the use of generating energy from solar resources. Section 5.3 of the FSR provides the provincial and municipal legal and regulatory framework taken into consideration.</p> <p>The request for a comparable spreadsheet and coal dependences for the Western Cape has been noted, however it is considered that the additional information will not add value to the assessment. Potentially, this may be more suited for a Strategic Environmental Assessment to determine the best energy mix for the country/province/municipality, which is not the purpose of this assessment.</p> <p>While the Frankfort Pilot Study is noted, the purpose of that specific project was to provide sufficient electricity to</p>	<p>Section 3.6 of the FSR</p> <p>Section 5.3 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested a comparable spreadsheet of the aforementioned seven countries and energy mix usages be provided.</p> <p>It is suggested a western cape regional spreadsheet show casing coal dependence amongst WC district and metro municipalities. Also to include comparative WC district municipalities and metro municipality drivers and associated environmental impacts (GHG emissions, Climate Change, Health Impacts, etc.) as a result of direct/indirect coal usages. Also to include comparative data to showcase the status of energy-intensive economies that relies on coal-based electricity generation amongst the WC district municipalities and metro municipality.</p>	<p>the town to reduce/remove its reliance on Eskom. This is not the purpose of the proposed project. The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and REIPPP. The electricity generated will be evacuated into the national grid for use and management by Eskom.</p>	
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.6 NEED AND DESIRABILITY also omits to include a dedicated subsection of WESTERN CAPE PERSPECTIVE and REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which would have outlined the energy mix in response to the growing electricity demand and the promotion of clean sources of energy within the CKDM in comparison to the province; • it would have outlined the reduction and elimination of poverty in the CKDM is more dire oppose to other regions within the province; 		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> it would also have outlined that power shortages are most probably the worse in the CKDM oppose to other regions in the province, esp the metro; it would have outlined the socio-economic benefits available to the local communities and businesses in the CKDM area from this proposed project; and that the project will And this premise will promote the reaching one of the National Development Plan's aims which is to reduce and eliminate poverty in South Africa by 2030 (see section 3.6.2, page 40 of the dBAR). <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>Hence it is strongly suggested that mention be made about the poorest socio-economic status of the region in comparison to the rest of the province.</p> <p>Further it is strongly suggested that factual comparative analysed data and an objective interpretation of electricity prices communities and businesses are subjected to amongst the districts and one metro municipality in the western cape be provided.</p> <p>Further it is strongly suggested the case study of the Frankfort Municipality and Surrounding Towns Pilot/Case Study that uses four (4) Solar Energy Farms operated by Rural Maintenance (a private</p>		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>IPPP) that benefits specifically the local communities and businesses be used and cited.</p> <p>This is to empower people of the Central Karoo to negotiate with all IPPP'S and Eskom in the region for electricity price reductions of up to 30% (considering the region might have more than four solar and wind energy farms) and many more other benefits. Benefits to the local communities and businesses of Frankford gains from that pilot study are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity demand from the Eskom grid are reduced whilst the local communities and business still have access to electricity; • The local community and businesses saves a reduced electricity cost of 15% pricing to what they would have paid to Eskom. • Water and Sanitation Facilities operates 24/7 due to electricity flow, even though it is loadshedding; • Cable theft reduced because the local grid remained alive; • Small Power Users like residence and business are exposed to power outages in smaller durations as per their requests; • The Large Power Users are exposed to power outages of a longer duration as per their request; 		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low voltages has been reduced resulting in local communities using their equipment more optimally; and • In the event of loadshedding, locals receives more reliable weekly schedules of specific reduced periods of loadshedding. 		
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Alternatives (Location):</p> <p>Section 4.1.1 only referenced that areas were assessed from a technical perspective by considering slope, aspect, undulation, and access, and more detailed environmental perspective.</p> <p>Resulting in the consideration of high level solar design. No consideration was given to geothermal heat reflection capacity from the landscape such as geological structures and soil characteristics. This could have resulted in the consideration of alternative technologies such as the addition of bi-facial panels and the reconsideration of methods of elevating those bi-facial panels. Hence it is suggested the Amended dBAR or FBAR include descriptions, maps and geothermal heat radiation capacities during non-sunshining days/periods.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested the scoping report be updated or the EIA address all current land uses in the proposed</p>	<p>The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and REIPPP. An application for Section 53 Approval, in terms of Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (No. 28 of 2002) will be submitted during or following the conclusion of the EIA process.</p>	<p>Section 5.6 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>project region, including depicting within the topographical map and a separate thematic map layers of potential future economic development resources such as geological minerals and gas.</p>		
	<p>Comment: Alternatives (Technology)</p> <p>Suggestion: It is suggested section 4.2.1 provide a detailed consideration of bi-facial solar panels in relation to both sun radiation/heat and geothermal heat.</p>	<p>South Africa does not have large scale geothermal resources to generate electricity or use for direct heat. Only heat pump technology can be viably used depending on location and demand for heating and cooling.</p> <p>The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and REIPPPP.</p>	-
	<p>Comment: Alternatives (Operational):</p> <p>Section 4, made no provision for the consideration of Operational Aspect Alternatives.</p> <p>A detailed objective review and assessment of the suggested factors for consideration will equip the people of the Central Karoo as to whether their genuine socio-economic upliftment is equally a priority as the rest of the province, but not limited to it.</p> <p>Suggestion: Hence it is strongly suggested that the updated scoping report or the EIA provide a detailed</p>	<p>While the Frankfort Pilot Study is noted, the purpose of that specific project was to provide sufficient electricity to the town to reduce/remove its reliance on Eskom. This is not the purpose of the proposed project. The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and REIPPPP. The electricity generated will be evacuated into the national grid for use and management by Eskom</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>consideration of this aspect by considering the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments made in this Letter of Comments under the section that dealt with the Frankfort Solar Energy Pilot Study; • Operational and technology aspects used in the aforementioned pilot study; • Electricity costs savings Frankfort Pilot Study local community, businesses and agriculture gained as a result of not having used the Eskom grid; and incorporate objective information of other current and/or proposed/intent renewable energy projects the western cape government recently announced to take all provincial municipalities off the Eskom national grid. 		



Comments Received During Final Scoping Phase for Mura 3 Solar PV Facility are incorporate in **Table 3-6** below and have been responded to adequately. The original comments have been included in **Appendix D.3**.

Table 3-6 – Comments received during Final Scoping Phase for Mura 3 Solar PV Facility

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
DFFE			
<p>Mr Sabelo Malaza 12 May 2023 Letter via email</p>	<p>Dear Ms Strong</p> <p>ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF UP TO 320 MW MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES.</p> <p>The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated April 2023 and received by the Department on 18 April 2023, refer.</p> <p>The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the PoSEIA dated April 2023 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges the DFFE acceptance of the Scoping Report. Specific requests have been responded to below.</p>	<p>Appendix D.2 of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.		
	<p>Please ensure that the following information forms part of the next report:</p> <p>1. Listed Activities</p> <p>a) The EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.</p>	<p>An environmental impact assessment is included in Section 9 of the Draft EIR that considers the listed activities applied for under Section 6. Each impact contains mitigation measures where applicable.</p>	<p>Section 6 and Section 9 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>b) Please continue to ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.</p>	<p>All relevant listed activities that have been applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description in Section 4 of the Draft EIR. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development have been applied for and assessed.</p> <p>The listed activities and sub listed activities are included in Table 6-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Table 6-1 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>c) The listed activities represented in the EIAR and the application form must be the same and correct.</p>	<p>The listed activities represented in the Draft EIR and application form are the same and correct.</p>	<p>Section 6 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>d) The EIAR must assess the correct sub listed activity for each listed activity applied for.</p>	<p>The listed activities and sub listed activities are included in Table 6-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Table 6-1 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>2. Public Participation</p> <p>a) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR.</p>	<p>WSP confirms that comments from all relevant stakeholders as indicated in the Stakeholder Database (Appendix A of the PPP Report) that have been received to date, have been included in the PPP Report.</p>	<p>Appendix A of the PPP Report Appendix D of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>b) 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 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.</p>	<p>WSP can confirm that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the DSR and draft EIR, as well as those received on the FSR, from registered I&APs and organs of state have been and will be included in the final EIR and adequately addressed and responded to.</p>	<p>Appendix D of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>c) 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 Annexure 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.</p>	<p>WSP can confirm that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state have been included in a comment of response table in Section 3 of the PPP Report. All comments received from the circulation of the Draft EIR will be included in the PPP Report and responded do accordingly.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the PPP Report will also be submitted as a separate report</p>	<p>Section 3 of the PPP Report Appendix D of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>d) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.</p>	<p>All comments from I&APs have been included in chronological order in Section 3 of the PPP Report. All comments have been responded to individually.</p>	<p>Section 3 of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>e) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>WSP confirm that the Public Participation Process is being conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>-</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>f) 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.</p>	<p>WSP will contact the Department to make the necessary arrangements to conduct a site inspection during the Draft EIR public review phase and prior to the submission of the final EIAR</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>3. Alternatives</p> <p>The EAP is required to provide clear assessment for each identified alternative and further provide clear motivation and reasons as to why the preferred alternative proves to be the preferred compared to other alternatives.</p> <p>These alternatives includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location / Site Alternatives. • Technology Alternatives. • Design and Layout Alternatives. • BESS technology alternatives. • No-go alternative. 	<p>The project alternatives are discussed in Section 5 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Section 5 of the Draft EIR.</p>
	<p>4. The layout map must indicate the following:</p> <p>All supporting onsite infrastructure such as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All supporting onsite infrastructure that will support the proposed 320MW photovoltaic solar facility e.g., roads (existing and proposed, fencing, BESS area, etc.). - Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network; and 	<p>The development envelope of the project is included as Figure 4-1 of the Draft EIR. The components forming part of the Solar PV project (including all supporting infrastructure) will occur within the development envelope.</p> <p>A combined No-Go Sensitivity Map and Proposed Development Envelope is included as Figure 11-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Figure 4-1 and Figure 11-1 of the Draft EIR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All existing infrastructure on the site, including neighbouring villages (if any), etc. - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected; - Buffer areas; and - All “no-go” areas. 		
	<p>5. Specialist assessments</p> <p>Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of Substation, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.</p>	<p>All specialist studies have been undertaken in line with Appendix 6 of the 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended, or, where relevant, in line with the gazetted specialist protocols of GNR 320 and GNR 1150. All specialist studies include a detailed description of the methodologies, project infrastructure descriptions and locations and recommendations for authorisations.</p>	<p>Section 8 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>a) 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.</p>	<p>All specialist assessments include applicable limitations to the studies, as well as the timing/season of the field survey, where applicable, and relevance thereof to the studies/assessments. Section 3.6 of the Draft EIR contains all assumptions and limitations put forward by the specialists.</p>	<p>Section 3.6 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>b) 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</p>	<p>WSP acknowledge the DFFE’s definition of ‘No-go’ areas. The relevant specialist assessments have indicated ‘No-go’ areas, as well as areas where it is suitable for limited linear infrastructure (water pipelines, roads, cables infrastructure etc.) to traverse a no-go area where required.</p>	<p>Figure 11-1 of the Draft EIR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	specialist must also indicate the 'no-go' area's buffer if applicable.	A combined No-Go Sensitivity Map and Proposed Development Envelope is included as Figure 11-1 of the Draft EIR.	
	c) 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.	All specialist studies conducted have been included in Appendix H of the EIR. The Specialist studies include detailed mitigation measures to prevent or avoid adverse impacts on the receiving environment, which have been incorporated into the EIR and EMP. The Specialist recommendations and conclusions are included in Section 11.2 of the Draft EIR. There are no recommendations or requirements from the Specialists to conduct further studies post EA.	Appendix H of the Draft EIR Section 11.2 of the Draft EIR
	d) 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.	Specialist assessments have been undertaken to comply with 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. Section 8 of the Draft EIR contains the Assessment Protocols used by the specialists.	Section 8 of the Draft EIR
	e) The screening tool output: - The screening tool and the gazetted protocols (GN R320 of 20 March 2020 and GN R 1150 of 30 October 2020) require a site sensitivity verification to	Specialist Studies identified by the DFFE Screening Tool that have been undertaken are included Table 3-2 of the Draft EIR and includes motivation for specialist studies not	Table 3-2 of the Draft EIR Table 8-1 of the Draft EIR



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>be completed to either confirm or dispute the findings and sensitivity ratings of the screening tool.</p> <p>- It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm the list of specialist assessments and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist studies including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and attached.</p>	<p>undertaken. A summary of the site sensitivity confirmed by specialists are included in Table 8-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	
	<p>f) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and were necessary, include further expertise advice.</p>	<p>The specialists have not specified contradicting recommendations. All recommendations are aligned and are considered practical and able to be implemented.</p>	<p>Section 11.3 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>g) Please include a table that shows the proposed studies and the relevant specialists carrying out the study. In addition, a summary should be included of the specialist's recommendations in terms of the alternatives that are preferred based on the findings of their study.</p>	<p>Specialist Studies identified by the DFFE Screening Tool that have been undertaken are included Table 3-2 of the Draft EIR. A summary of the site sensitivity confirmed by specialists are included in Table 8-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Table 3-2 of the Draft EIR Table 8-1 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>General</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Should the project's lifetime not be extended, the project will be decommissioned. During decommissioning the infrastructure will be removed from site and disposed of at a registered waste facility. The site will be rehabilitated and returned to its original condition where possible.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.	An application will be submitted during or following the conclusion of the EIA process	Section 6.6 of the Draft EIR
	A construction and operational phase EMPr that includes mitigation and monitoring measures must be submitted with the final EIAR.	An EMPr has been included in Appendix I of the Draft EIR.	Appendix I of the Draft EIR
	The comments issued by this Department on 29 March 2023, during the draft scoping report are still valid and must be all addressed throughout the EIA process.	The comments issued by this Department during the draft scoping phase have been included in Section 3 of the PPP Report and responded to accordingly.	in Section 3 of the PPP Report
	Should you use coordinates, please ensure that it is in the format as prescribed in the 2014 EIA NEMA Regulations, as amended.	Coordinates included in the Draft EIR, EMPr and Application Form have been prescribed in degrees, minutes and seconds using the Hartebeesthoek 94 datum as required in the 2014 EIA NEMA Regulations.	-
	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.	The reminder to meet timeframes stipulated Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amended, is noted. The final EIR is due to the DFFE by 28 August 2023.	-
	<p>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.</p> <p>Yours faithfully Mr Sabelo Malaza</p>	WSP and the Applicant take note of this reminder.	-

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment		
Western Cape Government: Land Use Management			
CJ Van Der Walt 12 May 2023 Letter (via Email)	<p>Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd proposes the construction and operation of a 320 MW solar photovoltaic energy facility. The proposed development will have a foot print of approximately 436ha for the solar facility and associated infrastructure.</p> <p>The Western Cape Department of Agriculture: Land Use Management (WCDoA: LUM) has reviewed the report and has no objection to the proposed application on condition that the proposed mitigation measures mentioned in the EMPr are implemented to prevent erosion and manage storm water during the construction and operational phases.</p> <p>In order to accommodate the proposed application must be made to the WCDoA: LUM as well as the Beaufort West municipality for a change in land use, the required registering of a servitude for access roads, entrance routes and power lines as well as to register a lease agreement.</p> <p>Please note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That this is comment to the relevant deciding authorities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act no.107 of 1998. 	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges the departments no objection to the project. All mitigation measures proposed in the EMPr will be monitored by the ECO for implementation.</p> <p>An application for the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act (SALA) Consent / Change of Land Use (re-zoning) will be submitted.</p>	-



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- That this is comment to the relevant deciding authorities in terms of the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act 70 of 1970.- Kindly quote the above—mentioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.- The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received. <p>Yours sincerely Mr CJ Van Der Walt</p>		



3.1.4 COMMENTS RECEIVED FOR MURA 4 SOLAR PV FACILITY

Comments Received During Draft Scoping Phase for Mura 4 Solar PV Facility are incorporate in **Table 3-7** below and have been responded to adequately. The original comments have been included in **Appendix D.4**.

Table 3-7 – Comments received during Draft Scoping Phase for Mura 4 Solar PV Facility

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
DFFE			
<p>Salome Mambane 06 March 2023 Via Email</p>	<p>Dear Ashlea 14/12/16/3/3/2/2325</p> <p>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MURA 4 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 360 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES</p> <p>The Department confirms having received the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 03 March 2023. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP confirms that the I&APs were provided with an opportunity to comment on the DSR from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.</p> <p>WSP notes that the application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations.</p> <p>WSP and the Applicant take note that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.</p>	<p>Appendix D.3 of the PPP Report.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>referred to Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.</p> <p>EIA Applications Integrated Environmental Authorisations</p>		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment		
<p>Milicent Solomons 29 March 2023 Letter (Via Email)</p>	<p>Dear Ms Strong.</p> <p>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED MURA 4 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 360 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE. The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2023 and received by the Department on 03 March 2023, refer.</p> <p>This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final SR:</p> <p>1. Application form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindly clarify the reason why this Department is the Competent Authority (CA) in terms of Section 24C of NEMA. State clearly if the applicant intends to bid the project in terms of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP). 	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>The Project is intended to be submitted as part of the REIPPPP in support of the IRP as indicated in Section 1.3.2 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Section 1.3.2 of the FSR.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note that the Minister is the competent authority for applications for facilities or infrastructure, that will form part of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Programmes for technologies whose procurement processes have been determined under the Electricity Regulation Act, 2006 and / or the Electricity Regulations on New Generation Capacity. If the applicant will not, or does not intend to, 	<p>WSP confirms that that the proposed Mura 4 Solar PV Development is related to the IRP. The Application Form has been updated to clearly state this and was submitted with the FSR.</p>	<p>Section 1.3.2 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>participate in any of the IRP programmes, the competent authority will be the MEC responsible for environmental affairs in the respective province. Be advised that this this information must be clearly presented in Section 1 –Competent Authority in the application form.</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflecting the above, the reasons provided in Section 1 of the application form for this Department being the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA are incomplete. This must be rectified and expanded on in the application form as well as the report. Please refer to GN 779. 	<p>The Application Form has been updated to clearly state that the DFFE is the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA. The amended Application Form will be submitted with the FSR. Section 1.3.2 of the FSR states that confirms that the DFFE is the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA</p>	<p>Section 1.3.2 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the SG codes, all farm names, and numbers and the EAP’s contact details are correct. 	<p>WSP confirms that the SG codes, all farm names, and numbers and the EAP’s contact details included in the Application Form and FSR are correct. The Grid Infrastructure is included in a separate application (Mura EGI Corridor).</p>	<p>Section 1.3.4 and Section 3.1 of the FSR.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include the GPS coordinates for the onsite substation and the battery energy storage system (BESS) facility. 	<p>WSP confirms that the coordinates for the BESS substation, onsite substations and switching stations have been included in the Application Form and Section 3.1 of the FSR. The BESS will be located within the project area, adjacent to or slightly removed from the substations. The substations and BESS will be placed within the Development Footprint, as assessed by the specialists and avoid all No-Go areas as indicated in Figure 7-18 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Section 3.1 of the FSR. Figure 7-18 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the declaration of the applicant is signed. 	<p>The application form has been signed by the Applicant and the amended application form will be submitted with the FSR.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>2. Listed Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is noted that the proposed solar facility does not fall within any renewable energy development zones. Although the application form indicates that part of the project is within the Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) as per GN 113, therefore this application will be considered as a normal EIA application.. 	<p>WSP confirms that this statement is correct.</p>	<p>Section 1.2 of the FSR.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed. 	<p>WSP can confirm that all relevant listed activities have been applied for. Furthermore, the descriptions of applicability in the Application Form and Table 5-1 of the FSR are specific and have been linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.</p>	<p>Table 5-1 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are required to confirm whether systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans are adopted by the competent authority. There are certain activities in Listing Notice 3 that requires that Bioregional Plans to be adopted. 	<p>As confirmed by Western Cape DEADP there are no systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans for the Western Cape Province that have been adopted by the Department. The application form and Table 5-1 has been amended to remove Activity 12, Activity 14 and Activity 23 of Listing Notice 3, as requested by Western Cape DEADP. However, the assessment does consider the impact to CBAs and ESAs as part of the terrestrial and aquatic impact assessment.</p>	<p>Table 5-1 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the environmental impact assessment process, as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of Listing Notice 3 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities (or proof of consultation if no 	<p>WSP confirms that all relevant authorities have been consulted and will continue to be consulted throughout the environmental impact assessment process.</p>	<p>Appendix A of the PPP Report Appendix B of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>comments were received) 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 final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms. 	<p>WSP can confirm that an amended application form has been submitted to include coordinates of the on-site substations and amended listed activities. Furthermore, the most recent application form template has been utilised.</p>	<p>Table 5-1 of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>3. Layout & Sensitivity Maps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide a layout map which indicates the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proposed location of the PV array and associated infrastructure of the proposed up to 360MW Mura 4 Solar Photovoltaic Facility - The proposed grid infrastructure connecting the PV facility to the existing substation, overlain by the sensitivity map; - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed); fence, office buildings, and etc. 	<p>A layout map of the development is included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR.</p> <p>A combined No-Go Sensitivity Map and Proposed Development Envelope for Mura 4 PV Facility is included as Figure 7-18 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1 and Figure 7-18 of the FSR.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected; - Buffer areas; and - All “no-go” areas. 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure, as well as the neighbouring PV Solar Clusters. 	<p>A Sensitivity Map for Mura 2 PV Facility has been included as Figure 7-19 of the FSR.</p> <p>A Cumulative map showing Renewable Energy Projects with 30km of the Mura Solar Development has been included as Figure 9-1 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Figure 7-19 and Figure 9-1 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes. 	<p>No Google maps have been used.</p>	<p>Appendix E of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>4. Public Participation Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received on the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department’s Biodiversity Section: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za, the provincial authority and the local municipality) 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 must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. 	<p>WSP can confirm that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state have been included in the PPP Report and adequately addressed and responded to.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that comments from the Biodiversity Directorate of the DFFE were received and are included in the PPP Report.</p>	<p>Appendix D of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of the approved public participation plan and Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Take note of the timeframes required for adequate public participation. 	<p>WSP confirm that the Public Participation Process is being conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments (pre and post submission of the draft SR) 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 which reflects the details of the I&APs and date of comments received, actual comments received, and response provided. Please ensure that comments made by I&APs are comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as “Noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments. 	<p>WSP can confirm that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state have been included in a comment of response report included in Section 3 of the PPP Report.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the PPP Report is also being submitted as a separate report.</p> <p>WSP confirm that all comments from I&APs have been copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Furthermore the response “Noted” has not been utilised.</p>	<p>Appendix D of the PPP Report</p> <p>Section 3 of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>5. Specialist Assessments to be conducted in the EIA Phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of PV arrays, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations. 	<p>WSP can confirm that the specialist studies to be undertaken in the EIA phase will be undertaken in line with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, or as required under the gazetted specialist protocols (GNR 320 of 20 March 2020 and GNR 1150 of 30 October 2020). Therefore, the requested information will be included.</p>	<p>Section 7 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>All relevant specialist assumptions and limitations have been included Section 2.7 of the FSR. These will be updated as required during the EIA Phase.</p>	<p>Section 2.7 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and were necessary, include further expertise advice. 	<p>To date no contradictory recommendations have been received.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are further required to ensure that all required specialist studies are recommended and assessed for the proposed up to 360MW Mura 4 Solar Photovoltaic Facility. 	<p>Section 2.2 of the FSR contains the results of the DFFE Screening Tool and notes the specialist studies commissioned.</p>	<p>Section 2.2 of the FSR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Please note further that the protocols require the specialists’ to be registered with SACNASP in their respective field. 	<p>WSP can confirm that the specialist studies to be undertaken in the EIA phase will be undertaken in line with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, or as required under the gazetted specialist protocols (GNR 320 of 20 March 2020 and GNR 1150 of 30 October 2020).</p>	<p>Section 7 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please include a table in the report, summarising the specialist studies required by the Department's Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted. Please note that if any of the specialists' studies and requirements/protocols recommended in the Department's Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation for such must be provided in the report per the requirements of the Protocols. 	<p>Table 2-2 of the FSR contains a summary of the specialist studies required by the DFFE Screening Tool including motivation for specialist studies not commissioned.</p>	<p>Table 2-2 of the FSR</p>
	<p>6. Cumulative Assessment to be conducted in the EIA Phase</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<p>Section 9 of the FSR includes Renewable Energy Projects with 30km of the Mura Solar Development. The cumulative impact significance has been preliminary identified in Section 9 of the FSR. The cumulative impact will be further investigated in the EIA Phase.</p>	<p>Section 9 of the FSR.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 		
	<p>7. Environmental Management Programme</p> <p>The EMPr must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is drawn to your attention that for substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the Generic Environmental Management Programme, must be used and submitted with the final report over and above the EMPr for the facility. This means that a generic EMPR must be included for the substation. In total, 2 EMPRs should accompany the final report. 	<p>This information will be included in the EMPr to be compiled in the EIA Phase.</p>	-
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further to the above, you are required to comply with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended. 	<p>WSP confirm that the EMPRs to be submitted in the EIA phase, will comply with the requirements of Appendix 4 in the EIA Regulation, as amended</p>	-
	<p>General</p> <p>You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:</p>	<p>WSP confirms that the FSR will be submitted to the DFFE within the required timeframe of the regulations. Please note that due to the public holidays occurring during the prescribed timeframes. the FSR will be submitted to the DFFE in line with Section 3(5) of Chapter 2 of the EIA</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>"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 SR 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".</p>	<p>Regulations which states "<i>Where a prescribed timeframe is affected by one or more public holidays, the timeframe must be extended by the number of public holiday days falling within that timeframe</i>".</p>	
	<p>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 SRs in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>WSP confirm that the FSR complies with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping report in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Please refer to Table 1-5 of the final Scoping Report for the checklist against the regulatory requirements.</p>	
	<p>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).</p>	<p>WSP notes that the application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations.</p>	
	<p>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.</p> <p>Yours sincerely Ms Milicent Solomons</p>	<p>WSP and the Applicant take note of this reminder.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations</p> <p>Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment</p> <p>Letter signed by: Mr Wayne Hector</p>		
Western Cape DEADP			
<p>Thea Jordan</p> <p>11 April 2023</p> <p>Via Email</p>	<p>Dear EAP,</p> <p>Your request for comment refers.</p> <p>Please find attached this Department's comment in the above regard.</p> <p>Yours faithfully</p> <p>Thea Jordan</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP confirms receipt of the comments from the WC DEADP.</p>	<p>Appendix D.4</p>
<p>Thea Jordan</p> <p>11 April 2023</p> <p>Letter (Via Email)</p>	<p>Dear Madam</p> <p>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND PLAN OF STUDY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 360MW MURA 4 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AND STRUCTURES (INCLUDING, INTER ALIA, A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM AND SUBSTATION, 2 ON-SITE SOLAR FARM SUBSTATIONS, ACCESS ROADS, SITE CAMPS, CABLING, BUILDINGS, ETC.) ON FARM LEEUWKLOOF NO. 43, AANGRENSEND FARM ABRAMSKRAAL NO. 11,</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>The total project area is 466 ha and should be assumed to be wholly transformed. The total development envelope for the project PV installation is approximately 425 ha to allow for the construction of a PV facility, on-site substations, switching stations, BESS, underground cables, internal gravel roads, fencing, construction site camps and other infrastructure but does not consider the access road to the PV facility nor the two site camps within the road corridor.</p> <p>The footprints for each of infrastructure forming part of the project are also outlined within the Table at the beginning</p>	<p>Section 3.1 and Section 3.4 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>FARM SNEEUWKRAAL NO. 46, AND PORTION 4; REMAINDER OF PORTION 3; AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO. 45, BEAUFORT WEST</p> <p>1. The email correspondence of 06 March 2023, informing interested and affected parties of the release of Draft Scoping Report (“DSR”) for comments, the email received on the same day, providing an additional link to download the DSR and appendices, and the Department’s email of 05 April 2023, informing the environmental assessment practitioner (“EAP”) that the Department is unable to meet the deadline of 06 April 2023, refer.</p> <p>2. The Department extends its appreciation to the EAP for extending the deadline for comments on the DSR. Please find consolidated comments from various directorates within the Department on the DSR and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (“EIA”) dated March 2023 that was available for download from various online platforms provided by the EAP.</p> <p>3. Directorate: Development Facilitation – Ms Adri La Meyer (Email: Adri.Lameyer@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 2887):</p> <p>3.1. This Directorate requires clarity on the extent of the development footprint and that of the proposed site (indicated as Farm Leeuwkloof No. 43, Aangrensend Farm Abramskraal No. 11, Farm Sneeuwkraal No. 46, and Portion 4; Remainder of Portion 3; and the Remainder of Farm Duiker Kranse</p>	<p>of the Assessment Report under “General Site Information”.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>No. 45). The DSR interchangeably refers to the total project area as 466 ha and 425 ha. On page 26 of the DSR it is indicated that “The proposed Mura 4 Facility will be developed within a project area of approximately 425 hectares (ha), excluding the access road corridor”, whereas on page 38 it is indicated that “The total project area is 466 ha” and that “The total development envelope for project installation is approximately 425 ha”. Assuming that the proposed 360MW solar field will be constructed on 425 ha; the proposed 240 MWac battery energy storage system (“BESS”) and BESS substation will be developed on ~ 4 ha; internal gravel access roads will have a development footprint of 36 ha; and up to two 2.2 ha site camps / laydown areas (i.e., 4.4 ha in total) will be developed, then more than 469 ha is required for the proposed solar photovoltaic (“PV”) facility and associated structures and infrastructure. The development footprint of the associated buildings (offices, ablution facilities, operational and maintenance centre, etc.) and the two on-site solar substations were not indicated.</p> <p>Please ensure that the Final Scoping Report (“FSR”) and the forthcoming Draft EIA Report clearly describe the size of the proposed site, the development footprint, and the individual components of the proposed solar PV development.</p>		
	<p>3.2. Further to the above, section 4.1.1 of the DSR deals with the site selection process. It is noted that the original five potential Mura PV development areas were further reduced to two areas (Areas 2</p>	<p>The total development envelope for PV project installation is approximately 395 ha to allow for the construction of a PV facility, on-site substations, switching stations, BESS, underground cables, internal gravel roads, fencing,</p>	<p>Section 3.1 and Section 3.4 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>and 5) that were considered suitable for the Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 solar PV developments. Area 5 consist of two sites of 395 ha and 425 ha, respectively. The 425-ha area corresponds with the project area for the proposed Mura 4 solar PV facility. It is again reiterated that the 425 ha appears to only be sufficient for the proposed solar field, based on the information provided in the DSR. The FSR and the Draft EIA Report must indicate the size of the development footprint against the size of the proposed site.</p>	<p>construction site camps and other infrastructure but <i>excludes</i> the footprint associated with the access road and site camps. The total footprint of the whole project is 506 ha for whole Project.</p>	
	<p>3.3. It is noted that Activities 12, 14 and 23 of Listing Notice (“LN”) 3 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (“NEMA”) EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are applied for. Please be advised that no systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans for the Western Cape Province have been adopted by this Department. As such, Activity 12.i.ii, Activity 14(ii)(a) and (c) i.i.(ff) and Activity 23(ii)(a) i.i.(ff) of LN 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are not applicable to the application for environmental authorisation.</p>	<p>Activities 12, 14 and 23 of Listing Notice 3 have been removed. An amended Application Form will be submitted to the DFFE with the FSR.</p>	<p>Table 5-1 of the FSR.</p>
	<p>3.4. Appendix F and Table 2-1 of the DSR list the specialist studies identified by the Screening Tool, that should be undertaken in the environmental impact reporting (“EIR”) phase. The EAP has provided motivation for undertaking or not undertaking the recommended Screening Tool specialist studies, as well as the undertaking of additional specialist studies not identified by the</p>	<p>WSP confirms that and RFI Compliance Statement will be undertaken in the EIA Phase. Section 10 of the FSR has been updated to include this.</p>	<p>Section 10 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Screening Tool. Section 2.2.1 of the DSR notes that “An RFI Study will not be undertaken... As this theme has been identified as high, a compliance statement will be prepared by the EAP and included in the EIA Report.” Please note that the Screening Tool indicated a medium (and not high) sensitivity for the Radio Frequency Interference (“RFI”) theme. The Plan of Study for EIA (Section 10.5) lists the specialist studies that have been commissioned for the EIR phase, which are aligned to section 2.2.1 of the DSR. The Plan of Study for EIA does not include the undertaking of an RFI Assessment. Please thus indicate whether an RFI Compliance Statement will be undertaken by the EAP in the EIR phase. If so, the Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include the RFI Compliance Statement.</p>		
	<p>3.5. The Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include an Archaeological Impact Assessment as part of the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment.</p>	<p>The plan of study for the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment during the EIA Phase will include the assessment of archaeological resources. Section 10 of the FSR has been updated to include this.</p>	<p>Section 10 of the FSR</p>
	<p>3.6. Please ensure that the specialist assessments include a cumulative assessment of the same renewable energy projects within a 30km radius of the proposed site. It is noted that the Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement compiled by 3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions dated November 2022 refers to the “The three Nuweveld WEFs west of the site have been authorised and there is also the Hoogland 1 and Hoogland 2 WEFs which have not yet been authorised and lie adjacent and to the north and west of the Nuweveld site”. Please note that the</p>	<p>WSP takes note of the authorised applications. The cumulative impacts will be revised in the EIA phase.</p>	<p>Section 9 of the FSR.</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Hoogland 1 and 2 wind energy facilities (“WEFs”) have received environmental authorisations. The Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Report compiled by Independent Economic Researchers dated January 2023 refers to the “Assessment of cumulative impacts considered Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 SEFs; Hoogland 1, 2, 3 and 4 WEFs; Nuweveld North, East and West WEFs, Taaibos WEFs, Soutrivier WEFs, as well as the Mura, Hoogland, Nuweveld and Gamma Grid Corridors.” Other scoping phase specialist assessments and section 9 of the DSR also include reference to the Taaibos and Soutrivier WEFs. If within a 30km radius of the proposed site, these WEFs must be included in all the specialist assessments and referenced in the FSR and Draft EIA Report.</p>		
	<p>3.7. The DSR states that “The site will be accessed via the R381, DR02317 and existing access roads”. The Traffic Impact Assessment (“TIA”) compiled by Athol Schwarz dated 30 November 2022 however indicates that access to the proposed site is via the OP 08881 and an existing private road from the DR 02317. Please confirm the access to the proposed site.</p>	<p>The site will be accessed via the R381, DR02317 and the OP 08881.</p>	
	<p>3.8. It is further noted that a site visit of the area was undertaken by the traffic engineer in September 2019. The TIA notes that “OP 08881 is 36.9 km long, starting at the DR 02317 before ending at the farm Slangfontein. This road will be used to access Mura 3 and Mura 4. This road was not included in the site inspection. Thus, the author cannot comment on the</p>	<p>Clarification on the condition and viability of OP 08881 will be provided in the EIA Phase.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>condition or the viability of using this route.” It is crucial that this limitation/ gap in knowledge be determined during the EIR phase to confirm that OP 08881 is acceptable for traffic to and from the proposed site. Comments from the relevant road’s authority on the condition or viability of the road would be acceptable.</p>		
	<p>3.9. Please include reference to the Western Cape Noise Control Regulations promulgated in Provincial Notice 200/2013 of 20 June 2013 in the section dealing with provincial and municipal legal and regulatory framework in the Draft EIA Report.</p>	<p>WSP confirms that reference to the Western Cape Noise Control Regulations will be included in the Draft EIA Report.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>4. Directorate: Waste Management – Mr Vishwanath Gianpersad (Email: Vishwanath.Gianpersad@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 8325):</p> <p>4.1. It is noted that the proposed project does not constitute a waste management listed activity and hence does not require a waste management licence.</p> <p>4.2. Waste mitigation and management measures will be detailed in the forthcoming Environmental Management Programme (“EMPr”), and this will include measures for the anticipated generation of hazardous materials/waste.</p> <p>4.3. The EMPr must also detail measures for the management and storing of plastics, which poses a possible threat to livestock if ingested.</p>	<p>WSP confirms that the proposed project will not require a waste management licence. The Draft EIA and EMPr will address the management of waste.</p>	<p>-</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>4.4. The Draft EIA Report must identify the waste disposal facility/ies where waste will be disposed of, and confirmation from the relevant Municipality/ service provider must be provided regarding its capacity to accept and dispose of solid waste generated during all phases of the proposed development. Waste should then be transported to an identified licensed waste disposal facility.</p> <p>4.5. Sufficient waste and recycle bins such as waste containers must be placed on-site for all the waste generated from daily operations, food packaging, waste oils, and lubricants for the maintenance of tractors and heavy-duty equipment.</p> <p>4.6. Provision must be made for the collection of waste oils and greases, generated from machinery and other equipment, by a registered contractor for transport to a licensed hazardous waste management facility.</p> <p>4.7. The EMPr's must include reference to incidents that fall within the definition of section 30(1) (a) of the NEMA, 1998.</p>		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>5. Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management – Ms Shehaam Brinkhuis (Email: Shehaam.Brinkhuis@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 8309):</p> <p>5.1. This Directorate has no comments on the DSR and Plan of Study for EIA and awaits the Draft EIA Report (and accompanying EMPr) to provide comment on potential pollution impacts and mitigation measures.</p> <p>The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any or new information received.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>Letter signed by:</p> <p>Thea Jordan</p>	<p>WSP acknowledges the Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management’s statement of no comment.</p>	
I&AP: Anthony Jeffathon			
<p>Anthony Jeffathon</p> <p>07 April 2023</p> <p>Letter (Via Email)</p>	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>The DSR omitted to include at least one comprehensive site layout plan illustrating all proposed onsite and off-site infrastructures.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested an updated SR or the EIR to include such a layout plan at an appropriate scale.</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP confirms that a site layout map has been included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR. The layout map will be refined during the EIA Phase, if required.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.1, indicates that solar Modules will be located on either single axis tracking structures or fixed tilt mounting structures or similar.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that an updated SR or the EIR indicate the exact mounting structure technology that will be used to mount the solar PV modules. This is to ensure transparency from the outset to prevent possible 11th hour substandard technology for the Central Karoo.</p>	<p>The mounting structure technology cannot be confirmed at this stage during the EIA Process however, the type of mounting system will have no environmental impact as the worst case in terms of height and area to be transformed was assessed. In addition, it is highly unlikely that a substandard mounting system will be used, given that this project will need to be competitive to be selected as a preferred bidder in REIPPP and the investment that goes into such a project. The mounting system to be used will be determined at detailed design stage.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.3, states that “The BESS will be Lithium-ion or similar solid-state technology.”</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that an updated SR alternatively the EIR indicate the exact BESS technology. This is to ensure transparency of potential health & safety risk and to prevent 11th hour substandard technology be dumped upon the Central Karoo.</p>	<p>The specific type of BESS will only be determined at detailed design stage. A high level risk assessment for this type of BESS has been included in the SR.</p>	<p>Section 6.4 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>PV & MOUNTING SYSTEM:</p> <p>Considering the CKDM is the poorest region in the Western Cape Province and its communities are the most vulnerable in the province; but its electricity rates are higher than many if not all areas within the Cape Metro. Further, section 3.2.1, states that this Mura 4 Solar PV Facility is a large-scale system supplying power into the commercial electricity grid and not to local users. Hence, how will this proposed project impact the CKDM communities passively in a direct manner with significant reduced electricity prices? If, any direct positive impact of reduced power prices at community level, what will the expected timeline be from the time of operation?</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>the municipality be subsidised by Eskom to allow it to reduce its electricity prices to communities whilst still being able to make a marginal income profit.</p>	<p>The Applicant, Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd, is a private company and not linked to Eskom. The Applicant therefore has no power to obligate Eskom to subsidise and reduce the electricity prices of the municipality.</p>	-
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.2.1, only made reference to sunlight as a source whilst excluding geothermal as a potential source. Hence the two considered mounting systems is limited to single axis tracking and fixed axis mounting structures.</p>	<p>South Africa does not have large scale geothermal resources to generate electricity or use for direct heat. Only heat pump technology can be viably used depending on location and demand for heating and cooling.</p> <p>The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP), which does not include geothermal heat/power.</p>	Section 3.6 of the FSR

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that the economic viability of geothermal heat/ power be investigated. If, it is viable, then an additional mounting technology be considered such as bifacial axis mounting structures be considered. It is assumed that the last mentioned structure would be be cost effective oppose to the current two considered mounting structures.</p>		
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.3, omitted to consider potential geothermal heat radiation that can be a viable energy source during non-sunshine days/evening periods.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested the following sentences be changed as follows,</p> <p>” Since solar and wind technology depend largely on whether the sun is shining or the wind is blowing, respectively, these technologies are more efficient when these sources are available.”</p>	<p>South Africa does not have large scale geothermal resources to generate electricity or use for direct heat. Only heat pump technology can be viably used depending on location and demand for heating and cooling.</p> <p>The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP), which does not include geothermal heat/power.</p>	<p>Section 3.6 of the FSR</p>
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.3.2, only indicates that, “The battery facilities...will not have any additional office/operation/maintenance infrastructure as those of the substation.</p>	<p>The EMPr will include requirements of the various legislation including the National Occupational Health and Safety Act (No. 85 of 1993) (OHSA).</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that the EMPr indicates specific scheduled mechanical safety maintenance operations that should be conducted in terms of all applicable SA Health & Safety requirements i.e. the OSHAct and Mechanical and Ventilation Regulations; and other applicable regulatory tools as cited under section 3.3.3, of the DSR.</p>		
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Location Map:</p> <p>Section 3.1, page 26-32 read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps). These sections basically addressed only the GPS co-ordinates; alternative sites particulars are scattered around in figures with no scales at times; and no credible topographical map but more of a kind of thematic map has been provided.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that the following being addressed in an updated scoping report or the EIA report: Provide a colour location map at a larger scale of at least 1:50 000. The scale must be indicated on the map. The map must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an accurate indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any; 	<p>A locality map of the proposed project has been included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR. This locality map meets the requirements of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, including district and access roads, a north arrow and scale. The Alternative Site Selection process is discussed in Section 4.1 of the FSR.</p> <p>A Combined No-Go Sensitivity Map overlain with the proposed Development Envelope has been included as Figure 7-18 and a Sensitivity Map has been included as Figure 7-19, which includes environmental features and sensitivities.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1, Figure 7-18 and Figure 3-19 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s) a north arrow; a legend to represent physical/natural landscapes, water features, vegetation features, constructed/cultural/man-made landscape, and transport and administration features on the map. Towns cited under section 6.3.5 should be depicted on the map.; the prevailing wind direction (during November to April and during May to October); Date map was printed; and <p>the already provided GPS Hartbeesthoek 94/WG584 co-ordinate system information.</p>		
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Site Plan:</p> <p>Section 3.1, read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps) should provide an amended Site Plan for the preferred Mura Solar 2 project as well as each alternatives considered. These site plans should conform to the following:</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>Detailed site plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity and provided in</p>	<p>A locality map of the proposed project has been included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR. This locality map meets the requirements of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, including the property boundaries.</p> <p>A Combined No-Go Sensitivity Map overlain with the proposed Development Envelope has been included as Figure 7-18 and a Sensitivity Map has been included as Figure 7-19, which includes environmental features and sensitivities.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1, Figure 7-18 and Figure 3-19 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>an updated SR or EIAR/EIR. The site plan must contain or conform to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The detailed site plan must be at a scale preferably at a scale of 1:500 or at an appropriate scale. The scale must be indicated on the plan. • The property boundaries and numbers of all the properties within 50m of the site must be indicated on the site plan. • The current land use (not zoning) as well as the land use zoning of each of the adjoining properties must be indicated on the site plan. • The position of each element of the application as well as any other structures on the site must be indicated on the site plan. • Services, including electricity supply cables (indicate above or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and access roads that will form part of the development must be indicated on the site plan. • Servitudes indicating the purpose of the servitude must be indicated on the site plan. • Sensitive environmental elements within 100m of the site must be included on the site plan, including (but not limited to): • Watercourses/Rivers/Wetlands (including non-perennial features). □ Flood lines (i.e. 1:10 		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>year, 1:50 year, and 1:100 year where applicable;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ridges. • Cultural and historical features. • Areas with indigenous vegetation (even if it is degraded or infested with alien species). <p>Whenever the slope of the site exceeds 1:10, then a contour map of the site must be submitted.</p>		
	<p>Comment: Schematic Process/Project Drawing</p> <p>Suggestion: It is suggested a holistic schematic process drawing (project layout) of the entire solar Mura 2 project be provided. This drawing should include all the different stages with its main technology/infrastructure in a input-process-output manner.</p>	<p>A locality map of the proposed project has been included as Figure 3-1 of the FSR. A Combined No-Go Sensitivity Map overlain with the proposed Development Envelope has been included as Figure 7-18. The proposed project will be developed within the Development Envelope, avoiding the No-Go areas as indicated in Figure 7-18.</p>	<p>Figure 3-1 and Figure 7-18 of the FSR</p>
	<p>Comment: Photographs:</p> <p>Section 2.4 read together with section 2.7, states that descriptions of environmental attributes were by means of combination of desktop reviews i.e. aerial imagery and site investigations done between March and October 2022, to identify sensitive features on</p>	<p>Colour Photographs have been included in the various specialist studies, most notably in the Heritage Impact Assessment compiled by ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd and included as Appendix G.8 of the FSR, and the Visual Impact Assessment compiled by Quinton Lawson and Bernard Oberholzer and included as Appendix G.11 of the FSR. Extracts from the reports have been included in Sections 6.3.1 and 6.3.4 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Appendix G.8 of the FSR</p> <p>Appendix G.11 of the FSR</p> <p>Sections 6.3.1 and 6.3.4 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>site. It further states that "...the latest available aerial imagery for the site."</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>However a number of important information has been leftout and need to be provided in an updated SR or during the EIA phase document as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Colour photographs of the site and its surroundings (taken of the site and from the site) with a description of each photograph. The vantage points from which the photographs were taken must be indicated on the site plan; 2. Recent aerial photograph or at least dates of those aerial photograpghs (attach as an Appendix). The Appendix should be supplemented with additional dated onsite-photosgrapghs taken of relevant features during your stated field trips as cited under section 7.2 of the DSR. Kindly note, the aforementioned requirements must be duplicated for all alternative sites. 		
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Land use character of surrounding area</p> <p>Section 6.3.5.1 read together with section 6.3.4.3 failed to adequately otr near adequately describes the current land uses on the proposed project site and its immediate surrounding areas. The aforementioned sections also failed to adequately</p>	<p>Section 6.3.5.1 of the FSR includes a description of the current land uses in the area.</p> <p>A Combined No-Go Sensitivity Map overlain with the proposed Development Envelope has been included as Figure 7-18 and a Sensitivity Map has been included as Figure 7-19, which includes environmental features and sensitivities.</p>	<p>Section 6.3.5.1 of the FSR</p> <p>Figure 7-18 and Figure 7-19 of the FSR</p> <p>Appendix G.2 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>describes the prominent features that occurs in the immediate surrounds from the proposed project area.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested a larger A3 size map as an Appendix be provided under section 6.1.3 (geology).</p> <p>Hence it is suggested either an updated scoping report or the EIA provides a proper description of the current land uses and/or prominent features that occur within +/- 500m radius of the proposed project area and neighbouring properties if these are located beyond 500m of the site from all directions. Further, a description of any potential impacts the proposed project may pose on the highlighted land uses or features.</p>	<p>The main land use in the area is agriculture, which is addressed in the Agricultural Compliance Statement, found in Appendix G.2 of the FSR. The Agricultural Compliance Statement found that The site has low agricultural potential and no dryland cropping potential predominantly because of aridity constraints but also because of soil constraints. As a result of the constraints, agricultural production is limited to low density grazing. The land across the site is verified in this assessment as being of low agricultural sensitivity.</p>	
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Socio-Economic:</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested that the Mitigation and Management Measures under section 6.3.5 relating to regional employment and contracts be included in an updated scoping report or be addressed within the EIA as follows:</p> <p>specifications/requirements/targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% unskilled workers must be local; 	<p>The Socio-Economic Assessment includes the following mitigations as indicated in Section 8.1 of the FSR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project must comply with the requirements of the REIPPPP bidding process which will have stringent requirements with regard to socio-economic development, enterprise development, BBEEE shareholding etc. The applicant must establish a communications committee early on in the project to ensure inclusive planning and regular feedback from stakeholders. Community development should be guided by a community needs analysis, drawn up by a third party and based on local socio-economic conditions, a review of planning documents such as the IDP, and 	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% semi-skilled workers from local; and • 70% skilled workers must be from local/indigent. • That the concept “local/indigent” shall mean having been born in the CKDM and having lived in the CKDM area for at least more than 10 years and having attended at least either and/or a primary or high school in the CKDM area irrespective whether the candidate is currently residing in the CKDM area or not. If not born in the CKDM area than at least one parent borned in the region but both parents must have lived in the area for more than 20 years; • That a CKDM professionals body shall be consulted for particulars of local/indigent professionals to be considered for skilled jobs and/or be willing to undergo rapid skills upgrading to occupy skilled jobs; • That CKDM Professionals Body shall have representation in all committees/forums established under this proposed project; • That local sub-contractors who did not gain from tenders in the past locally will receive preferential treatment in terms of the equity principle and a skills transfer programme be adopted by the main contractors; • That sub-contractors who previously gained tenders locally equally compete with external contractors to be main contractors; 	<p>discussions with local government and community representatives. Interventions should be planned in collaboration with other energy developers in the area where relevant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Close liaison with local municipal managers, local councillors and other stakeholders involved in socio-economic development is required to ensure that any projects are integrated into wider socio-economic development strategies and plans. ■ A ‘locals first’ policy with regard to construction and operational labour needs. ■ The community should be able to contact the site manager or his/her representative to report any issues which they may have. The site manager and his/her representative should be stationed within the area and should therefore be available on hand to deal with and address any concerns which may be raised. ■ A complaints register should be available on site to any individual who may have a particular complaint with regards to the construction or operations processes. ■ The applicant and the contractors should develop a Code of Conduct for the project. The code should identify what types of behaviour and activities by workers are not permitted in agreement with surrounding landowners and land managers. For example, access to land that is not part of the development will not be allowed. ■ The applicant and the contractor should implement a Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS awareness programme for all construction workers at the outset of the construction phase. ■ Arrangements must be made to enable workers from outside the area to return home over the weekends or 	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the income/wealth status of sub-contractors and skilled workers for all Black contenders / candidates will also be included in the specifications in addition to the standard “black” requirement under the BBBEE and EEA redress umbrella to ensure wealth does not circulate consistently amongst a few individuals. 	<p>at regular intervals. This would reduce the risk posed by non-local construction workers to local family structures and social networks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Condoms should be freely available to employees and all contractor workers. Introduce alcohol testing on a weekly basis for construction workers. The contractor should make the necessary arrangements for ensuring that all non-local construction workers are transported back to their place of residence once the construction phase is completed. Close coordination with the municipality is required, including regular meetings. <p>The mitigation measures are deemed to be sufficient.</p>	
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.6 “ NEED AND DESIRABILITY” have very little to zero direct and possibly indirect relevance to the Central Karoo District Municipal Area. Yes it is a common fact that the district is in dire need of urgent economic development.</p> <p>Section 3.6, states that South Africa is the seventh highest coal producer in the world, with approximately 77% of the country’s electricity generated from coal.</p> <p>Section 3.6, states also that the SA’s large dependence on coal and its use also resulted in a variety of negative impacts on the environment, including the contribution to climate change. SA is</p>	<p>The Need and Desirability of the project has been developed in reference to meeting international and national targets of reducing reliance on fossil fuels, such as coal, by the use of generating energy from solar resources. Section 5.3 of the FSR provides the provincial and municipal legal and regulatory framework taken into consideration.</p> <p>The request for a comparable spreadsheet and coal dependences for the Western Cape has been noted, however it is considered that the additional information will not add value to the assessment. Potentially, this may be more suited for a Strategic Environmental Assessment to determine the best energy mix for the country/province/municipality, which is not the purpose of this assessment.</p>	<p>Section 3.6 of the FSR</p> <p>Section 5.3 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>also the highest emitter of GHGs in Africa; attributed to the country’s energy-intensive economy that largely relies on coal-based electricity generation.</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested a comparable spreadsheet of the aforementioned seven countries and energy mix usages be provided.</p> <p>It is suggested a western cape regional spreadsheet show casing coal dependence amongst WC district and metro municipalities. Also to include comparative WC district municipalities and metro municipality drivers and associated environmental impacts (GHG emissions, Climate Change, Health Impacts, etc.) as a result of direct/indirect coal usages. Also to include comparative data to showcase the status of energy-intensive economies that relies on coal-based electricity generation amongst the WC district municipalities and metro municipality.</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>Section 3.6 NEED AND DESIRABILITY also omits to include a dedicated subsection of WESTERN CAPE PERSPECTIVE and REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which would have outlined the energy mix in response to the growing electricity demand and the promotion of clean sources of energy within the CKDM in comparison to the province; 	<p>While the Frankfort Pilot Study is noted, the purpose of that specific project was to provide sufficient electricity to the town to reduce/remove its reliance on Eskom. This is not the purpose of the proposed project. The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and REIPPP. The electricity generated will be evacuated into the national grid for use and management by Eskom.</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it would have outlined the reduction and elimination of poverty in the CKDM is more dire oppose to other regions within the province; • it would also have outlined that power shortages are most probably the worse in the CKDM oppose to other regions in the province, esp the metro; • it would have outlined the socio-economic benefits available to the local communities and businesses in the CKDM area from this proposed project; and • that the project will And this premise will promote the reaching one of the National Development Plan’s aims which is to reduce and eliminate poverty in South Africa by 2030 (see section 3.6.2, page 40 of the dBAR). <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>Hence it is strongly suggested that mention be made about the poorest socio-economic status of the region in comparison to the rest of the province.</p> <p>Further it is strongly suggested that factual comparative analysed data and an objective interpretation of electricity prices communities and businesses are subjected to amongst the districts and one metro municipality in the western cape be provided.</p>		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Further it is strongly suggested the case study of the Frankfort Municipality and Surrounding Towns Pilot/Case Study that uses four (4) Solar Energy Farms operated by Rural Maintenance (a private IPPP) that benefits specifically the local communities and businesses be used and cited.</p> <p>This is to empower people of the Central Karoo to negotiate with all IPPP'S and Eskom in the region for electricity price reductions of up to 30% (considering the region might have more than four solar and wind energy farms) and many more other benefits. Benefits to the local communities and businesses of Frankford gains from that pilot study are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity demand from the Eskom grid are reduced whilst the local communities and business still have access to electricity; • The local community and businesses saves a reduced electricity cost of 15% pricing to what they would have paid to Eskom. • Water and Sanitation Facilities operates 24/7 due to electricity flow, even though it is loadshedding; • Cable theft reduced because the local grid remained alive; • Small Power Users like residence and business are exposed to power outages in smaller durations as per their requests; 		

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Large Power Users are exposed to power outages of a longer duration as per their request; Low voltages has been reduced resulting in local communities using their equipment more optimally; and In the event of loadshedding, locals receives more reliable weekly schedules of specific reduced periods of loadshedding. 		
	<p>Comment: Alternatives (Location): Section 4.1.1 only referenced that areas were assessed from a technical perspective by considering slope, aspect, undulation, and access, and more detailed environmental perspective. Resulting in the consideration of high level solar design. No consideration was given to geothermal heat reflection capacity from the landscape such as geological structures and soil characteristics. This could have resulted in the consideration of alternative technologies such as the addition of bi-facial panels and the reconsideration of methods of elevating those bi-facial panels. Hence it is suggested the Amended dBAR or FBAR include descriptions, maps and geothermal heat radiation capacities during non-sunshining days/periods.</p>	<p>The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and REIPPP. An application for Section 53 Approval, in terms of Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (No. 28 of 2002) will be submitted during or following the conclusion of the EIA process.</p>	<p>Section 5.6 of the FSR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested the scoping report be updated or the EIA address all current land uses in the proposed project region, including depicting within the topographical map and a separate thematic map layers of potential future economic development resources such as geological minerals and gas.</p>		
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Alternatives (Technology)</p> <p>Suggestion:</p> <p>It is suggested section 4.2.1 provide a detailed consideration of bi-facial solar panels in relation to both sun radiation/heat and geothermal heat.</p>	<p>South Africa does not have large scale geothermal resources to generate electricity or use for direct heat. Only heat pump technology can be viably used depending on location and demand for heating and cooling.</p> <p>The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and REIPPPP.</p>	-
	<p>Comment:</p> <p>Alternatives (Operational):</p> <p>Section 4, made no provision for the consideration of Operational Aspect Alternatives.</p> <p>A detailed objective review and assessment of the suggested factors for consideration will equip the people of the Central Karoo as to whether their genuine socio-economic upliftment is equally a priority as the rest of the province, but not limited to it.</p>	<p>While the Frankfort Pilot Study is noted, the purpose of that specific project was to provide sufficient electricity to the town to reduce/remove its reliance on Eskom. This is not the purpose of the proposed project. The proposed project is being undertaken in terms of the IRP requirements and REIPPPP. The electricity generated will be evacuated into the national grid for use and management by Eskom</p>	

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Suggestion:</p> <p>Hence it is strongly suggested that the updated scoping report or the EIA provide a detailed consideration of this aspect by considering the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments made in this Letter of Comments under the section that dealt with the Frankfort Solar Energy Pilot Study; • Operational and technology aspects used in the aforementioned pilot study; • Electricity costs savings Frankfort Pilot Study local community, businesses and agriculture gained as a result of not having used the Eskom grid; and incorporate objective information of other current and/or proposed/intent renewable energy projects the western cape government recently announced to take all provincial municipalities off the Eskom national grid. 		
Heritage Western Cape			
<p>Stephanie-Anne Barnardt-Delport</p> <p>14 April 2023</p> <p>Via Email</p>	<p>Good day Ms Govender</p> <p>That is correct, the consultation for the HIA only ended 6 April and the matter was heard at the following HOMs meeting on the 11 April.</p> <p>The committee endorsed and the final comment has been uploaded for signature, the final comment should be out today or Monday morning.</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges the recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation from Heritage Western Cape. These recommendations will be included in the Draft and Final EIAs.</p>	<p>Appendix D.4 of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Apologies for the delay.</p> <p>However in the meantime, please see the extract from the minutes:</p> <p>Mura 4 (Western Cape):</p> <p>It is recommended that the proposed Mura 4 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr; • The site at waypoint 1399 should be avoided if possible but this is not required (if avoided and protected then the buffer can be reduced to 25 m); and • Any realignment of the DR02317 within 400 m of waypoint 2000 must be checked in the field and approved by an archaeologist; • No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and • If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution. <p>Warm regards,</p>		



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Kindly note: Due to volume of queries I receive I may not be able to respond to you immediately, if you have not received a reply from within ten working days, please resend your query</p> <p>Any urgent Heritage Western Cape matters, please contact one of the officials:</p> <p>HWC staff contact details</p> <p>Stephanie-Anne Barnardt-Delport</p> <p>Acting Collection Management Officer, Museological Service</p> <p>Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport</p> <p>Western Cape Government</p>		



Comments Received During Final Scoping Phase for Mura 4 Solar PV Facility are incorporate in **Table 3-8** below and have been responded to adequately. The original comments have been included in **Appendix D.4**.

Table 3-8 – Comments received during Final Scoping Phase for Mura 4 Solar PV Facility

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
DFFE			
<p>Mr Sabelo Malaza 29 May 2023 Letter via email</p>	<p>Dear Ms Strong</p> <p>ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF UP TO 360 MW MURA 4 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.</p> <p>The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated April 2023 and received by the Department on 18 April 2023, refer.</p> <p>The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the PoSEIA dated April 2023 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges the DFFE acceptance of the Scoping Report. Specific requests have been responded to below.</p>	<p>Appendix D.2 of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Please ensure that the following information forms part of the next report:</p> <p>1. Listed Activities</p> <p>a) The EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.</p>	<p>An environmental impact assessment is included in Section 9 of the Draft EIR that considers the listed activities applied for under Section 6. Each impact contains mitigation measures where applicable.</p>	<p>Section 6 and Section 9 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>b) Please continue to ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.</p>	<p>All relevant listed activities that have been applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description in Section 4 of the Draft EIR. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development have been applied for and assessed.</p> <p>The listed activities and sub listed activities are included in Table 6-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Table 6-1 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>c) The listed activities represented in the EIAR and the application form must be the same and correct.</p>	<p>The listed activities represented in the Draft EIR and application form are the same and correct.</p>	<p>Section 6 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>d) The EIAR must assess the correct sub listed activity for each listed activity applied for.</p>	<p>The listed activities and sub listed activities are included in Table 6-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Table 6-1 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>2. Public Participation</p> <p>a) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR.</p>	<p>WSP confirms that comments from all relevant stakeholders as indicated in the Stakeholder Database (Appendix A of the PPP Report) that have been received to date, have been included in the PPP Report.</p>	<p>Appendix A of the PPP Report Appendix D of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>b) 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</p>	<p>WSP can confirm that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the DSR and draft EIR, as well as those received on the FSR, from registered</p>	<p>Appendix D of the PPP Report</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are 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.</p>	<p>I&APs and organs of state have been and will be included in the final EIR and adequately addressed and responded to.</p>	
	<p>c) 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 Annexure 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.</p>	<p>WSP can confirm that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state have been included in a comment of response table in Section 3 of the PPP Report. All comments received from the circulation of the Draft EIR will be included in the PPP Report and responded do accordingly.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the PPP Report will also be submitted as a separate report</p>	<p>Section 3 of the PPP Report Appendix D of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>d) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.</p>	<p>All comments from I&APs have been included in chronological order in Section 3 of the PPP Report. All comments have been responded to individually.</p>	<p>Section 3 of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>e) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>WSP confirm that the Public Participation Process is being conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>f) 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.</p>	<p>WSP will contact the Department to make the necessary arrangements to conduct a site inspection during the Draft EIR public review phase and prior to the submission of the final EIAR</p>	<p>-</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>3. Alternatives</p> <p>The EAP is required to provide clear assessment for each identified alternative and further provide clear motivation and reasons as to why the preferred alternative proves to be the preferred compared to other alternatives.</p> <p>These alternatives includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location / Site Alternatives. • Technology Alternatives. • Design and Layout Alternatives. • BESS technology alternatives. • No-go alternative. 	<p>The project alternatives are discussed in Section 5 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Section 5 of the Draft EIR.</p>
	<p>4. The layout map must indicate the following:</p> <p>All supporting onsite infrastructure such as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All supporting onsite infrastructure that will support the proposed 400MW photovoltaic solar facility e.g., roads (existing and proposed, fencing, BESS area, etc.). - Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network; and - All existing infrastructure on the site, including neighbouring villages (if any), etc. - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected; 	<p>The development envelope of the project is included as Figure 4-1 of the Draft EIR. The components forming part of the Solar PV project (including all supporting infrastructure) will occur within the development envelope.</p> <p>A combined No-Go Sensitivity Map and Proposed Development Envelope is included as Figure 11-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Figure 4-1 and Figure 11-1 of the Draft EIR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Buffer areas; and - All “no-go” areas. 		
	<p>5. Specialist assessments</p> <p>Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of Substation, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.</p>	<p>All specialist studies have been undertaken in line with Appendix 6 of the 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended, or, where relevant, in line with the gazetted specialist protocols of GNR 320 and GNR 1150. All specialist studies include a detailed description of the methodologies, project infrastructure descriptions and locations and recommendations for authorisations.</p>	<p>Section 8 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>a) 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.</p>	<p>All specialist assessments include applicable limitations to the studies, as well as the timing/season of the field survey, where applicable, and relevance thereof to the studies/assessments. Section 3.6 of the Draft EIR contains all assumptions and limitations put forward by the specialists.</p>	<p>Section 3.6 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>b) 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.</p>	<p>WSP acknowledge the DFFE’s definition of ‘No-go’ areas. The relevant specialist assessments have indicated ‘No-go’ areas, as well as areas where it is suitable for limited linear infrastructure (water pipelines, roads, cables infrastructure etc.) to traverse a no-go area where required.</p> <p>A combined No-Go Sensitivity Map and Proposed Development Envelope is included as Figure 11-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Figure 11-1 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>c) All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and</p>	<p>All specialist studies conducted have been included in Appendix H of the EIR. The Specialist studies include detailed mitigation measures to prevent or avoid adverse</p>	<p>Appendix H of the Draft EIR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.</p>	<p>impacts on the receiving environment, which have been incorporated into the EIR and EMP. The Specialist recommendations and conclusions are included in Section 11.2 of the Draft EIR. There are no recommendations or requirements from the Specialists to conduct further studies post EA.</p>	<p>Section 11.2 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>d) 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.</p>	<p>Specialist assessments have been undertaken to comply with 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.</p> <p>Section 8 of the Draft EIR contains the Assessment Protocols used by the specialists.</p>	<p>Section 8 of the Draft EIR</p>
	<p>e) The screening tool output:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The screening tool and the gazetted protocols (GN R320 of 20 March 2020 and GN R 1150 of 30 October 2020) require a site sensitivity verification to be completed to either confirm or dispute the findings and sensitivity ratings of the screening tool. - It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm the list of specialist assessments and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist studies including the provision of photographic evidence of the site 	<p>Specialist Studies identified by the DFFE Screening Tool that have been undertaken are included Table 3-2 of the Draft EIR and includes motivation for specialist studies not undertaken. A summary of the site sensitivity confirmed by specialists are included in Table 8-1 of the Draft EIR.</p>	<p>Table 3-2 of the Draft EIR Table 8-1 of the Draft EIR</p>

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	situation. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and attached.		
	f) 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.	The specialists have not specified contradicting recommendations. All recommendations are aligned and are considered practical and able to be implemented.	Section 11.3 of the Draft EIR
	g) Please include a table that shows the proposed studies and the relevant specialists carrying out the study. In addition, a summary should be included of the specialist's recommendations in terms of the alternatives that are preferred based on the findings of their study.	Specialist Studies identified by the DFFE Screening Tool that have been undertaken are included Table 3-2 of the Draft EIR. A summary of the site sensitivity confirmed by specialists are included in Table 8-1 of the Draft EIR.	Table 3-2 of the Draft EIR Table 8-1 of the Draft EIR
	<p>General</p> <p>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.</p>	Should the project's lifetime not be extended, the project will be decommissioned. During decommissioning the infrastructure will be removed from site and disposed of at a registered waste facility. The site will be rehabilitated and returned to its original condition where possible.	
	Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.	An application will be submitted during or following the conclusion of the EIA process.	Section 6.6 of the Draft EIR
	A construction and operational phase EMP that includes mitigation and monitoring measures must be submitted with the final EIAR.	An EMP has been included in Appendix I of the Draft EIR.	Appendix I of the Draft EIR

Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>The comments issued by this Department on 29 March 2023, during the draft scoping report are still valid and must be all addressed throughout the EIA process.</p>	<p>The comments issued by this Department during the draft scoping phase have been included in Section 3 of the PPP Report and responded to accordingly.</p>	<p>in Section 3 of the PPP Report</p>
	<p>Should you use coordinates, please ensure that it is in the format as prescribed in the 2014 EIA NEMA Regulations, as amended.</p>	<p>Coordinates included in the Draft EIR, EMPr and Application Form have been prescribed in degrees, minutes and seconds using the Hartebeesthoek 94 datum as required in the 2014 EIA NEMA Regulations.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>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.</p>	<p>The reminder to meet timeframes stipulated Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amended, is noted. The final EIR is due to the DFFE by 14 September 2023.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>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.</p> <p>Yours faithfully Mr Sabelo Malaza Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment</p>	<p>WSP and the Applicant take note of this reminder.</p>	<p>-</p>



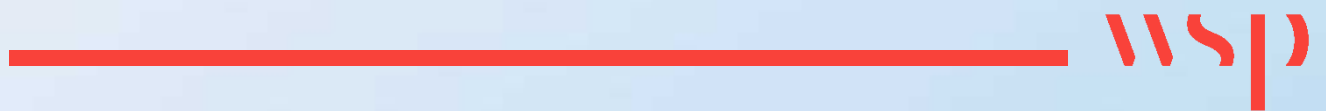
Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
Western Cape Government: Land Use Management			
CJ Van Der Walt 12 May 2023 Letter (via Email)	<p>Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd proposes the construction and operation of a 360 MW solar photovoltaic energy facility. The proposed development will have a foot print of approximately 466ha for the solar facility and associated infrastructure.</p> <p>The Western Cape Department of Agriculture: Land Use Management (WCDoA: LUM) has reviewed the report and has no objection to the proposed application on condition that the proposed mitigation measures mentioned in the EMPr are implemented to prevent erosion and manage storm water during the construction and operational phases.</p> <p>In order to accommodate the proposed application must be made to the WCDoA: LUM as well as the Beaufort West municipality for a change in land use, the required registering of a servitude for access roads, entrance routes and power lines as well as to register a lease agreement.</p> <p>Please note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That this is comment to the relevant deciding authorities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act no.107 of 1998. - That this is comment to the relevant deciding authorities in terms of the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act 70 of 1970. 	<p>WSP Response:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges the departments no objection to the project. All mitigation measures proposed in the EMPr will be monitored by the ECO for implementation.</p> <p>An application for the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act (SALA) Consent / Change of Land Use (re-zoning) will be submitted.</p>	-



Stakeholder Details	Comment	Response	Report Reference
	<p>- Kindly quote the above—mentioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.</p> <p>- The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received.</p> <p>Yours sincerely Mr CJ Van Der Walt</p>		

Appendix A

STAKEHOLDER DATABASE



Type	Org / Entity / Property	Full name & Surname
Authority	Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS)	Carel Gersbach
Authority	Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS)	Matthys Horak
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Administration
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	All Council Members
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Ashley Mitchell
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Christo de Koker
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Christopher Wright
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Directors
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Dons le Roux
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Jason Mdudumani
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Josias De Kock Reynolds
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Lewellyn Lakay
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	MJ (Jackson) Penxa
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Petrus Strumpher
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Ralph Skuza
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Roelof van Rensburg
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Valencia Godfrey
Authority	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Vuyokazi Ruiters
Authority	Beaufort West Municipality	Christopher Wright
Authority	Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Area (BGCMA)	John Sibanyoni
Authority	Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Area (BGCMA)	Zama Mbunquka
Authority	CapeNature Land Use Advice: George Office	Megan Simons
Authority	CapeNature: Land Use Advice	Colin Fordham
Authority	Central Karoo District Municipality	Andre Koopman
Authority	Central Karoo District Municipality	Barbara Brown
Authority	Central Karoo District Municipality	Gayton McKenzie
Authority	Central Karoo District Municipality	Gerrit van Zyl
Authority	Central Karoo District Municipality	Kobus Theron
Authority	Central Karoo District Municipality - The Regional Tourism Office for the Central Karoo District Municipality	Dr. L. Links (Acting)
Authority	DEA&DP: Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	Francois Naude
Authority	DEA&DP: Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	Jessica Christie
Authority	DEA&DP: Directorate: Development Facilitation	Adri La Meyer
Authority	DEFF: Biodiversity&Conservation	Aulicia Maifo (Ms)

Type	Org / Entity / Property	Full name & Surname
Authority	DEFF: Biodiversity & Conservation	Portia Makitla (Ms)
Authority	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	Mashudu Marubini
Authority	Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Natalie Uys
Authority	Department of Environmental Affairs: Directorate: Biodiversity	Stanley Tshitwamulomoni
Authority	Department of Environmental Affairs: Protected areas	Karl Naude
Authority	Department of Mineral Resources	Morne Koen
Authority	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy	Luzuko Nxantsiya
Authority	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy	Morne Koen
Authority	Department of Public Works	Basson Geldenhuys
Authority	Department of Public Works	Nomonde Khuzwayo
Authority	Department of Public Works	Singatha Maholwana
Authority	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) Northern Cape	Khitjo Sekwaila
Authority	Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) Northern Cape	Refilwe Damane
Authority	DFFE: Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation	Mr Seoka Lekota
Authority	DWS	Ncamile Dweni
Authority	Heritage Western Cape	Ayanda Mdludlu
Authority	Mzimvubu-Tsitsikamma Water Management Area	Lebelo Miki
Authority	Mzimvubu-Tsitsikamma Water Management Area	Lizna Fourie
Authority	Mzimvubu-Tsitsikamma Water Management Area	Ntombiyamayira Mpumela
Authority	Mzimvubu-Tsitsikamma Water Management Area	Portrait Tshatshu
Authority	National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Annette Stoltz
Authority	National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Lydia Bosoga
Authority	National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Mashudu Marubini
Authority	National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Serah Muobeleni
Authority	National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Thoko Buthelezi
Authority	National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Zweli Shilangwe
Authority	National Department of Energy	Ompi Aphane
Authority	National Department of Transport (DoT)	Sam Monareng
Authority	National Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Deborah Mochotlhi
Authority	NC Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Onwabile Ndzumo
Authority	NERSA (National Energy Regulator of South Africa)	NERSA
Authority	Ngwao-Boswa Ya Kapa Bokone (Northern Cape Provincial)	
Authority	Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Land Reform &	Wonders Dimakatso Viljoen Mothibi
Authority	Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism	Patrick Seboko
Authority	Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature	Bryan Fisher
Authority	Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature	Conrad Geldenhuys
Authority	Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Elsabe Swart

Type	Org / Entity / Property	Full name & Surname
Authority	Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Peter Cloete
Authority	Northern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works	Kholikile Nogwili
Authority	Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Beanca Botes
Authority	Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Brenda Saane
Authority	Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Kabelo Mohibidu
Authority	Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Lerato Wa Modise
Authority	Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Mase Manopole
Authority	Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Mr K Mlambo
Authority	Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Mr M Ndzilili
Authority	Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Mr T Sibhono
Authority	Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Ms T Wessels
Authority	Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Ms Y Louw
Authority	Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Ms Z Mogorosi
Authority	Northern Cape Economic Development Agency	Bernard Mabele
Authority	Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality	A Sibeko
Authority	Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality	Asanda Sibeko
Authority	Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality	Beatrice Bosch
Authority	Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality	HP Greef
Authority	Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality	Rhoo de Itumeleng
Authority	Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality	TA Loko
Authority	SANRAL	Shaun Dyers
Authority	SANRAL	Nicole Abrahams

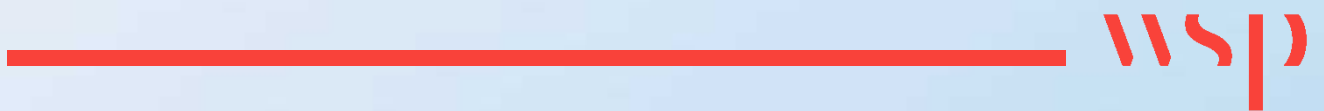
Type	Org / Entity / Property	Full name & Surname
Authority	SANRAL Western Region	Randall Smuts
Authority	South African Civilian Aviation Authority	Lizell Stroh
Authority	South African Civilian Aviation Authority	Lizell Strohl
Authority	South African National Parks (SANParks)	Maretha Alant
Authority	South African National Parks (SANParks)	Nico van der Walt
Authority	South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL)	Nicole Abrahams
Authority	Square Kilometre Array (SKA)	Adrian Tiplady
Authority	Ubuntu Local Municipality	Dibere Maposa
Authority	Ubuntu Local Municipality	Miem Maans
Authority	Ubuntu Local Municipality	Miem Maans
Authority	Ubuntu Local Municipality	Nonceba Mkontwana
Authority	Ubuntu Local Municipality	Vacant
Authority	Ubuntu Local Municipality	Zandile Seloane
Authority	WC DEA&DP: Department of Environmental Affairs and	Annelize de Villiers
Authority	WC DEA&DP: Department of Environmental Affairs and	Danie Swanepoel
Authority	WC DEA&DP: Department of Environmental Affairs and	Dorien Werth
Authority	WC DEA&DP: Department of Environmental Affairs and	Gavin Benjamin
Authority	WC DEA&DP: Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	Malcolm Fredericks
Authority	WC: Department of Agriculture: Land Use Management	Brandon Layman (Mr)
Authority	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP)	Zaahir Toefy
Authority	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) - George Office	Gavin Benjamin
Authority	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) - George Office	Réanda Pretorius
Authority	Western Cape Department of Agriculture	Cor van der Walt
Authority	Western Cape Department of Agriculture	Cor van der Walt
Authority	Western Cape Department of Agriculture	Phyllis Pienaar
Authority	Western Cape Department of Agriculture, Forestry and	Thando Ndudula
Authority	Western Cape Department of Rural Development and Land	Wayne Alexander
Authority	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	Carinne Muller
Authority	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	Carinne Muller
Authority	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	Jacqui Gooch
Authority	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	Juan Prodehl
Authority	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	Juan Prodehl
Authority	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	Llewellyn Truter
Authority	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	Stephanus Schoeman

Type	Org / Entity / Property	Full name & Surname
Authority	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	Xander Smuts
Authority	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works:	Lyle Martin
Authority	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works:	Evan Burger
Authority	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works:	Devlin Fortuin
Landowner	Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11	Hendrik Kotze
Landowner	Bultfontein Farm 12	Hendrik Kotze
Landowner	Bultfontein Farm 13	Hendrik Kotze
Landowner	Leeuwkloof Farm 43	Pottie Potgieter
Landowner	Portion 2 of Paardeberg Farm 49	George (Okkie) Jacob Wiehahn
Landowner	Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45	Pottie Potgieter
Landowner	RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 206	George (Okkie) Jacob Wiehahn
Landowner	RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45	David Jack
Landowner	RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45	David Jack
Landowner	Sneeuwkraal Farm 46	Andrew Jack
Occupier	Portion 2 of Paardeberg Farm 49	Mr Chris Kruger
Occupier	Portion 2 of Paardeberg Farm 49	Mr Daniel Saalmans
Occupier	Portion 2 of Paardeberg Farm 49	Mr Salmon Jooste
Occupier	Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45	Mr Andries Wewers
Occupier	Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45	Mr Clive de Wee
Occupier	Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45	Mr Elvis Voorman and Ms Mickey Blom
Occupier	Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45	Mr Freek Moos and Ms Roseline Carelse
Occupier	Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45	Ms Felicity Frieslaar
Adjacent Landowner	Bronkers Valei	
Adjacent Landowner	Gans Fontein	
Adjacent Landowner	Gans Fontein	
Adjacent Landowner	Gans Fontein	
Adjacent Landowner	Gansfontein Annexe	
Adjacent Landowner	Gert Adriaans Kraal	
Adjacent Landowner	Kaffers Kraal	
Adjacent Landowner	Lapfontein	
Adjacent Landowner	Paardeberg	
Adjacent Landowner	Paardeberg	
Adjacent Landowner	Paardeberg	
Adjacent Landowner	Quagga Fontein	
Adjacent Landowner	Snyderfontein	
Adjacent Landowner	Snyderfontein	
Adjacent Landowner	Spits Kop	
Adjacent Landowner	Vlak Fontein	
I&AP	Eskom Beaufort West	Andre Minnie
I&AP	Eskom Beaufort West	Andre Minnie

Type	Org / Entity / Property	Full name & Surname
I&AP	Eskom Beaufort West	Hein Olivier
I&AP	Eskom Beaufort West: Transmission Western Grid	Pierre Snyman
NPO	Agri Northern Cape	Marian
NPO	Agri Northern Cape	
NPO	Agri Western Cape	
NPO	Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)	Lourens Leeuwner
NPO	EWT	Bonnie Schumann
NPO	EWT	Johan Du Plessis
NPO	EWT	Lourens Leeuwner
NGO	BirdLife South Africa	Samantha Ralston-Paton
Stakeholder	South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)	Thato Nape
Developer	G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd	Caryn Clarke
Stakeholder	SOLA	Reuben Maroga
Stakeholder	Beaufort West Resident	Anthony Jefferson

Appendix B

NOTIFICATIONS



Appendix B.1

NEWSPAPER ADVERT



ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982, as amended published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) as amended for submission of applications for Environmental Authorisations (EA) in respect of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations activities identified in terms of GNR 983 (as amended), GNR 984 (as amended) and GNR 985 (as amended)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process	Farm Names
Mura 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 150 MW Solar Energy Facility (SEF) including associated infrastructure	Solar Photovoltaic (PV)	BA*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leeuwkloof Farm 43 • Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45
	Up to 132 kV Mura Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) Corridor	Transmission Line	BA*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leeuwkloof Farm 43 • Bultfontein Farm 13 • Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 • RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 • Bultfontein Farm 12 • Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11 • RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 206 • Sneeuwkraal Farm 46 • RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 • Portion 2 of Paardeberg Farm 49
Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 400 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leeuwkloof Farm 43 • Bultfontein Farm 13 • Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45
Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 320 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leeuwkloof Farm 43 • RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 206 • Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 • RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 • RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 • Sneeuwkraal Farm 46 • Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11
Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 360 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leeuwkloof Farm 43 • Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11 • Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 • RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 • RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 • Sneeuwkraal Farm 46

* falls within the Beaufort West Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ)

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

The following listed activities associated with the Proposed Projects are triggered:

Project	Listing Notices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mura 1 • Mura 2 • Mura 3 • Mura 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(ii) and 56(ii); • NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984, as amended): Activity 1 and 15; • NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 4 (ii)(aa), 12 (i)(ii), 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff), 18 (i)(ii)(aa) and 23 (ii)(a) (i)(i)(ff).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mura EGI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 27(i) and 28(ii); • NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 12 (i)(ii) and 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff).

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

An integrated Public Participation Process is proposed for the above-mentioned projects. The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from **06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023**.

Area	Venue	Street Address	Contact No
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street	023 414 8113
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street	023 415 1199
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton	053 381 3102
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/		

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

EAP Details: Megan Govender (T) 011 361 1410 (E) Megan.Govender@wsp.com (A) PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152



WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an I&AP for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I&AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSESSE

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE MURA FOTOVOLTAÏESE ONTWIKKELING TUSSEN LOXTON EN BEAUFORT-WES IN DIE WES-KAAP EN NOORD-KAAP PROVINSIES

Kennis word gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982, soos gewysig, gepubliseer kragtens artikel 24 en 24D van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) soos gewysig vir die indiening van aansoeke om Omgewingsmagtigings (EA) ten opsigte van die Omgewingsimpakbepalingsregulasies aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer ingevolge GNR 983 (soos gewysig), GNR 984 (soos gewysig) en GNR 985 (soos gewysig)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING

Red Cap Energy stel voor om vier sonkragfasiliteite te ontwikkel, naamlik Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3 en Mura 4, en 'n gepaardgaande netwerkverbinding, gesamentlik bekend as die Mura Fotovoltaïese sonkrag-ontwikkeling tussen Loxton en Beaufort-Wes in die Beaufort-Wes Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Ubuntu Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Sentrale Karoo Distriksmunisipaliteit en die Pixley ka Seme Distriksmunisipaliteit in die Wes-Kaap en Noord-Kaap Provinsies. Die voorgestelde Mura PV-ontwikkeling is naby die goedgekeurde Nuweveld Windplaas-ontwikkeling geleë. Die voorgestelde magtigings sluit die volgende Basiese Evaluering (BE) en Bestekopname en Omgewingsimpakverslagdoening (B&OIV) prosesse in:

Aansoeker	Projek	Tegnologie	Proses	Plaasname
Mura 1 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 150 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	BE*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Porsie 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45
	Tot 132 kV Mura Elektriese Kragnetwerkverbindingkorridor Corridor	Transmissielyn	BE*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Bultfontein Plaas 13 Porsie 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE of Porsie 3 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Bultfontein Plaas 12 Aangrensend Abramskraal Plaas 11 RE of Abrams Kraal Plaas 206 Sneeuwkraal Plaas 46 RE of Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Porsie 2 of Paardeberg Plaas 49
Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 400 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	B&OIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Porsie 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Bultfontein Plaas 13
Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 320 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	B&OIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 RE van Abrams Kraal Plaas 206 Portion 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Porsie 3 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Sneeuwkraal Plaas 46 Aangrensend Abramskraal Plaas 11
Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 360 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	B&OIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Aangrensend Abramskraal Plaas 11 Porsie 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Porsie 3 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Sneeuwkraal Plaas 46

* val binne die Beaufort-Wes Hernubare Energie Ontwikkelingsones

OMGEWINGSTOEPASSINGS

Die volgende gelyste aktiwiteite wat met die voorgestelde projekte geassosieer word, is van toepassing:

Projek	Noteringskennisgewings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mura 1 Mura 2 Mura 3 Mura 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(ii) and 56(ii); NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 2 (GNR 984, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 1 en 15; NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 3 (GNR 985, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 4 (ii)(aa), 12 (i)(ii), 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff), 18 (i)(ii)(aa) and 23 (ii)(a) (i)(i)(ff).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mura EGI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 27(i) and 28(ii); NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 3 (GNR 985, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 12 (i)(ii) and 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff).

KONSEP BASIESE ASSESSERING EN KONSEP OMFANGVERSLAG OORSIGTYDPERK

'n Geïntegreerde Openbare Deelnameproses word voorgestel vir die bogenoemde projekte. Die Konsep Basiese Omgewingsevaluering en Omvangverslae sal op versoek en/of by die lokale hieronder beskikbaar gestel word vir hersiening en kommentaar vir 30 dae vanaf **06 Maart 2023 tot 06 April 2023**.

Gebied	Lokaal	Straatadres	kontaknommer
Beaufort-Wes	Beaufort-Wes Openbare Biblioteek	Hoek van Birdstraat en Kerkstraat	023 414 8113
	Klein Karoo Agri	Donkinstraat 80	023 415 1199
Loxton	Loxton-biblioteek	Margaretha Prinsloostraat, Loxton	053 381 3102
WSP webwerf	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Datavrye webwerf	https://wsp-engage.com/		

REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Edms) Bpk (WSP) is deur Red Cap Energy (Edms) Bpk as die onafhanklike Omgewingsevalueringpraktisyn (EAP) aangestel om die onderskeie BA- en S&OIV-prosesse te bestuur. Partye wat formeel as belanghebbendes wil registreer om hul kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projekte te lewer, word versoek om hul volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die EAP te stuur na die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. Alle toekomstige korrespondensie sal aan Geregisteerde belanghebbendes aangestuur word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem.

EAP-besonderhede: Megan Govender (T) 011 361 1410 (E) Megan.Govender@wsp.com (A) Posbus 98867, Sloane Park, 2152



WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor jou as 'n B&GP werker vir doeleindes om jou registrasie as 'n B&GP moontlik te maak en vir die doeleindes om jou besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor, indien jy daartoe instem dat ons dit doen. WSP gebruik hierdie besonderhede om jou te kontak oor ander projekte in die toekoms. WSP sal altyd jou persoonlike inligting verwerk in ooreenstemming met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting 4 van 2013. Jy is geregtig om jou regte as 'n databasisgebruiker uit te oefen en ons te laat weet as jy as 'n B&GP gederegistreer wil word of as jy nie meer wil hê nie jou kontakbesonderhede om op ons databasis ingesluit te word.



Kennisse van Albert Jacobus van Meester, dnr. 31327 2018 08 4, s. 4703 van Wet 13 van 1985 dat die eerste distribusie van die eerste...

KENNISGEWING IN TERME VAN ARTIKEL 35 VAN DIE DOEDELWET NR 64 VAN 1965, SOOS GEWYSIG

Mervyn Peter Vlaanderen, dnr. 34355 5191 08 2, 'n ontwerper van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

M.D. Sartoff, INSOLVENTE DOEDL

Insolvente boedel LEBARBA LTD (DNW), dnr. 43022 3317 08 3, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

S. Ivan Vuk, BOEDL

Boedel van Susara Hettie van Wyk, dnr. 42819 0818 08 2, van die Nasionale Landbou- en Oorseehandel- en Ontwikkelingsdepartement...

PHILIP DE TOLL, CONSTRUCTION (Pty) Ltd (Insolvent), Registrasie nommer 2016/02197/23

Kennis geskied hiermee dat 'n Tweede Vergadering van Krediteure in bogenoemde boedel word te Landdrecht...

BOEUSINESS RESTRUCTURING (EDMS) BPK, J.F. Kruger & L. Lombard

Insolvente boedel MURIELLE HANCOCK (DNW), dnr. 43018 3562 08 2, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

INSOLVENTE DOEDL

Insolvente boedel HANCOCK MURIELLE (DNW), dnr. 43018 3562 08 2, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

M.H. PROKUREURS

Insolvente boedel MURIELLE HANCOCK (DNW), dnr. 43018 3562 08 2, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

Z.6. Gani, BOEDL

Boedel van Zibiswa Gertjie Gani, dnr. 46571 08108 van 2007, s. 4 van Wet 13 van 1985 dat die eerste...

INSOLVENTE DOEDL

Kays Auto Sales and Hire KENNISGEWING VAN ALGEMEEN VERGADERING VAN SKULDEHEERS

KAYS AUTO SALES AND HIRE (EDMS) BPK, KAYS AUTO (in likwidasie), Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

Die Algemene (Tweede) Vergadering van Skuldere en Lede of Blyvers van die Maatskappij van Landdrecht, Landdrecht, Londen, Engeland...

M.P. Vrancken, KENNISGEWING IN TERME VAN ARTIKEL 35 VAN DIE DOEDELWET NR 64 VAN 1965, SOOS GEWYSIG

Mervyn Peter Vlaanderen, dnr. 34355 5191 08 2, 'n ontwerper van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

M.D. Sartoff, INSOLVENTE DOEDL

Insolvente boedel LEBARBA LTD (DNW), dnr. 43022 3317 08 3, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

M.H. PROKUREURS

Insolvente boedel MURIELLE HANCOCK (DNW), dnr. 43018 3562 08 2, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

PHILIP DE TOLL, CONSTRUCTION (Pty) Ltd (Insolvent), Registrasie nommer 2016/02197/23

Kennis geskied hiermee dat 'n Tweede Vergadering van Krediteure in bogenoemde boedel word te Landdrecht...

BOEUSINESS RESTRUCTURING (EDMS) BPK, J.F. Kruger & L. Lombard

Insolvente boedel MURIELLE HANCOCK (DNW), dnr. 43018 3562 08 2, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

INSOLVENTE DOEDL

Insolvente boedel HANCOCK MURIELLE (DNW), dnr. 43018 3562 08 2, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

M.H. PROKUREURS

Insolvente boedel MURIELLE HANCOCK (DNW), dnr. 43018 3562 08 2, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

Z.6. Gani, BOEDL

Boedel van Zibiswa Gertjie Gani, dnr. 46571 08108 van 2007, s. 4 van Wet 13 van 1985 dat die eerste...

M.H. PROKUREURS

Insolvente boedel MURIELLE HANCOCK (DNW), dnr. 43018 3562 08 2, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

FENTHUS AT, EERSTE EN FINALE LIKWIDASIE & DISTRIBUSIERING

Die likwidasie van FENTHUS AT COTTON ART 08, Reg-nr. 2007/02161/23, Beoordelingsnommer: 1111/21-12-11...

A.G. Khan, KENNISGEWING VAN REKENING WAT TER HESSE LE

Insolvente boedel ABDUS SAFFOROH HANAN, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

Die Eerste en Finale Likwidasie- en Distribusiering in bogenoemde boedel, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

TYGERBERG TRUSTEES

L.L. & N.A. Meester, INSOLVENTE DOEDL

Insolvente boedel LEBARBA LTD (DNW), dnr. 43022 3317 08 3, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

ST. ADENS INTERNATIONAL, A.S. PHILIP

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

TYGERBERG TRUSTEES

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

ST. ADENS INTERNATIONAL, PHILIP

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...



GRIK (EDMS) BPK, in likwidasie, Registrasie-nr. 1991/06151/07, 06/05/2017, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

Kennis geskied hiermee dat 'n Tweede Vergadering van Krediteure in bogenoemde boedel word te Landdrecht, Wynburg gehou sal word op 23 Maart 2023 om 09:00 v.m. met die volgende doelwitte...

BOEUSINESS RESTRUCTURING (EDMS) BPK, J.F. Kruger & L. Lombard

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

COMFIDENT INTERNATIONAL, BK

Insolvente boedel COMFIDENT INTERNATIONAL, BK, dnr. 1193/08/05/23, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

COMFIDENT INTERNATIONAL, BK

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

ST. ADENS INTERNATIONAL, PHILIP

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...



CONSTATIA H (EDMS) BPK, in likwidasie, Registrasie-nr. 1992/06151/07, 06/05/2017, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

Kennis geskied hiermee dat 'n Tweede Vergadering van Krediteure in bogenoemde boedel word te Landdrecht, Wynburg gehou sal word op 23 Maart 2023 om 09:00 v.m. met die volgende doelwitte...

BOEUSINESS RESTRUCTURING (EDMS) BPK, J.F. Kruger & L. Lombard

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

ADERAM TRUSTEES

Insolvente boedel COMFIDENT INTERNATIONAL, BK, dnr. 1193/08/05/23, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

COMFIDENT INTERNATIONAL, BK

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

ST. ADENS INTERNATIONAL, PHILIP

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...



Beaufort ADRIAAN, PETRUS (ERKKE) (Dnr. 77021/21 08 08 5), in likwidasie, van Simonstraat 5, Galswold, Kaapstad, Kaapstad...

Inspekteur art. 40(1) van die Insolventwet nr. 24 van 1936, soos gewysig, geskied hiermee dat 'n Tweede Vergadering van Krediteure in bogenoemde boedel word te Landdrecht, Wynburg gehou sal word op 23 Maart 2023 om 09:00 v.m. met die volgende doelwitte...

BOEUSINESS RESTRUCTURING (EDMS) BPK, J.F. Kruger & L. Lombard

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

ADERAM TRUSTEES

Insolvente boedel COMFIDENT INTERNATIONAL, BK, dnr. 1193/08/05/23, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

COMFIDENT INTERNATIONAL, BK

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

ST. ADENS INTERNATIONAL, PHILIP

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...



SPORTS CONNECTION BENEP (EDMS) BPK, in likwidasie, Registrasie-nr. 1993/06151/07, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

Kennis geskied hiermee dat 'n Tweede Vergadering van Krediteure in bogenoemde boedel word te Landdrecht, Wynburg gehou sal word op 23 Maart 2023 om 09:00 v.m. met die volgende doelwitte...

BOEUSINESS RESTRUCTURING (EDMS) BPK, J.F. Kruger & L. Lombard

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

ADERAM TRUSTEES

Insolvente boedel COMFIDENT INTERNATIONAL, BK, dnr. 1193/08/05/23, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

COMFIDENT INTERNATIONAL, BK

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

ST. ADENS INTERNATIONAL, PHILIP

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

INSOLVENTE DOEDL

Sanstelling van truste in algemene vergadering van krediteure

NAUTIC SOUTH AFRICA (EDMS) BPK, in likwidasie, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

BOEUSINESS RESTRUCTURING (EDMS) BPK, J.F. Kruger & L. Lombard

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

ADERAM TRUSTEES

Insolvente boedel COMFIDENT INTERNATIONAL, BK, dnr. 1193/08/05/23, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

COMFIDENT INTERNATIONAL, BK

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

ST. ADENS INTERNATIONAL, PHILIP

Insolvente boedel KHONG SIFWE PHILLIPS, dnr. 42025 5995 08 4, Meester van 'n plan vir die opvoering van 'n projek...

OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSESSE

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE MURA FOTOVOLTAÏESE ONTWIKKELING TUSSEN LOXTON EN BEAUFORT-WES IN DIE WES-KAAP EN NOORD-KAAP PROVINSIËS

Kennis word gegewe ingevolge Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982, soos gewysig, gepubliseer kragtens artikel 24 en 24D van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) soos gewysig vir die indringing van aansoek om Omgewingsmagtigings (EA) 'n ten opsigte van die Omgewingsimpakbeoordelingsregulasies...

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING

Red Cap Energy stel voor om vier sonkragfasiliteite te ontwikkel, naamlik Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3 en Mura 4, in 'n gepaardgaande netwerkverbinding, gesamenlik bekend as die Mura Fotovoltaïese sonkrag-ontwikkelings tussen Loxton en Beaufort-Wes in die Beaufort-Wes Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Ubuntu Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Sentrale Karoo Distriktmunisipaliteit en die Pixley ka Isele Distriktmunisipaliteit in die Wes-Kaap en Noord-Kaap Provinsies.

Table with 5 columns: Aansoeker, Projek, Tegnologie, Proses, Plaasname. Lists details for Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4 projects.

OMGEWINGSTOEPASSINGS

Die volgende gelystede aktiwiteite wat met die voorgestelde projekte geassosieer word, is van toepassing:

Table with 2 columns: Projek, Noteringskennissgewings. Lists notification requirements for Mura 1-4 and Mura EGI.

KONSEP-BASIESE ASSESSERING EN KONSEP-OMFANGVERSLAG OORSIGTYDPERK

Table with 4 columns: Oordel, Lokaal, Straataadres, Kontaknummer. Lists project details and contact information.

REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Edms) Bpk (WSP) is deur Red Cap Energy (Edms) Bpk as die oerhoofdelike Omgewingsvalueringspraktijk (EVP) aangestel om die onderstaande EA- en SAOIV-prosesse te bestuur.



BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY CLUSTER: ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 1, ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 2 AND ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 3 & ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

RETRACTION NOTICE

The advertisement published in *Die Courier* on Friday, 24 February 2023, which provided notice of the availability of the Basic Assessment (BA) Reports for the Aberdeen Wind Facility cluster is retracted. The availability BA Reports and the correct review period will be advertised when available.

To obtain further information on the projects and to register on the database, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the projects, in writing, to Savannah Environmental.

Nicolene Venter of Savannah Environmental
 P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 Tel: 011 656 3297 / Mobile: 060 978 8396
 Fax: 086 684 0547
 Email: publicprocess@savannahsa.com
 Website: www.savannahsa.com



Begrotingsrede 2023: Agri Wes-Kaap versigtig optimisties

Agri Wes-Kaap (AWK) is versigtig optimisties oor Enoch Godongwana, minister van finansies, se aankondiging dat die regering ongeveer 60% (R254 miljard) van Eskom se skuldflas sal help verlig. Die hoop is dat 'n laer skuldflas vir Eskom in staat sal stel om aandag aan instandhouding en investering in kritiese opwekking en transmissie-infrastruktuur te kange.

AWK verwelkom ook die aankondiging dat R903 miljard op infrastruktuur spandeer sal word. Die investering in die logistieke

netwerk is vir die Wes-Kaapse landbou, wat uitvoergedrewe is, deurslaggewend. Volgens die minister sal 15% van betonwerk van die Clanwilliamdam-projek aan die einde van 2023 voltooi wees. AWK is van mening dat dié projek krities is en daar reeds lank genoeg gesloer is.

Dié is goeie nuus dat besighede hul belastbare inkomste met 125 persent van die koste van 'n belegging in hernubare energie kan verminder. AWK is van mening dat hierdie 'n stap in die regte rigting is om weg te beweeg van Eskom as

monopolie-energieverskaffer.

Agri Wes-Kaap verwelkom die kortings wat voedselverwerkers oor die volgende twee jaar sal ontvang vir die gebruik van diesel vir kragopwekkers. Ons is ook dankbaar dat die algemene brandstof- en padson-geluksheffing nie vanjaar verhoog is nie.

Alhoewel AWK gehoop het vir geen verhoging in die aksynsbelasting, is ons verlig oor tesourie se aankondiging dat aksynsbelasting op alkohol en tabak inlyn is met die verwate

Voorbakkestraat 4, Beaufort West
 karosenerwerk@esd.co.za

De Jagers CELEBRATING 77 YEARS

Loodgieter Kontrakteurs

023 414 4353 • 083 2828 507/8 (n/u)

- Herstelwerk
- Nuwe installasies
- Geberste styp
- Verskepte role
- Besoedeling
- Gabc. Geute

- Koper
- Gabc.
- PVC
- Nylon
- HDPE & UPVC
- Drukpompe
- Triu Osmose waterstelstels
- GROEBEL
- Elektries
- Son

27

Bounywerheidsraad gekwalifiseerde Loodgieters vir Gratis kwotasies (virne aansoekers)

inflasiakoers. Die wynbedryf verkeer tans onder geweldige druk en sou 'n bo inflasie styging verdere druk op die bedryf geplaas het.

Agri Wes-Kaap sien verder ook uit na die opleiding en aanstellings van 5000 addisionele polisielede per jaar.



A peach led to fame and fortune

January is the time to enjoy a Neethling peach. This delicious juicy cultivar was cultivated on Picardy in the Prince Albert district in the late 1800s by Pieter Kuiper Neethling, states historian Ailsa Tudhope.

He arrived in 1876 and on learning that deciduous fruit had been grown in this area since the 1760s, decided to concentrate on the Neethling. It was an instant winner. This cultivar, which is still grown in the area, has a good yellow colour, excellent flavour and firm texture.

In addition to farming Pieter ran a general dealer business, called Alport, for Canadian immigrant Percy Alport, brother-in-law of Sir John Charles Molteno, first Premier of the Cape. Percy had a general dealer and other businesses in Beaufort West and he also owned the wool washing plant at Klarstroom.

In 1901 Pieter helped establish the Prince Albert municipality and served as the first mayor. It is said that when Pieter died at 10 00 on October 10, 1937, at the age of 90, the Dutch Reformed Church clock stopped.

REDUCE

REUSE

RECYCLE

RETHINK!

Waste isn't waste until we waste it

A message by the CKDM Section Municipal Health Services (pvt)

THINK GREEN

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 4112) of GNR 982, as amended published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) as amended for submission of applications for Environmental Authorisations (EA) in respect of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations activities identified in terms of GNR 983 (as amended), GNR 984 (as amended) and GNR 985 (as amended)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION
 Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Uburu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process	Farm Names
Mura 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 150 MW Solar Energy Facility (SEF) including associated infrastructure	Solar Photovoltaic (PV)	BA*	• Leeuwkloof Farm 43 • Portion 4 of Duiker Krans Farm 45
	Up to 132 kV Mura Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) Corridor	Transmission Line	BA**	• Leeuwkloof Farm 43 • Bufffontein Farm 13 • Portion 4 of Duiker Krans Farm 45 • RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Krans Farm 45 • Bufffontein Farm 12 • Aangrensende Abramskraal Farm 11 • RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 208 • Sneeuwkraal Farm 45 • RE of Duiker Krans Farm 45 • Portion 2 of Pasroeberg Farm 49
Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 400 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	• Leeuwkloof Farm 43 • Bufffontein Farm 13 • Portion 4 of Duiker Krans Farm 45
Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 320 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	• Leeuwkloof Farm 43 • RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 208 • Portion 4 of Duiker Krans Farm 45 • RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Krans Farm 45 • Aangrensende Abramskraal Farm 11
Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 360 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	• Leeuwkloof Farm 43 • Aangrensende Abramskraal Farm 11 • Portion 4 of Duiker Krans Farm 45 • RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Krans Farm 45 • RE of Duiker Krans Farm 45 • Sneeuwkraal Farm 45

* Falls within the Beaufort West Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ)

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS
 The following listed activities associated with the Proposed Projects are triggered:

Project Name	Listing Notice
• Mura 1 • Mura 2 • Mura 3 • Mura 4	• NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended); Activity 11(i), 12(i)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(i) and 55(i); • NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984, as amended); Activity 1 and 15;
• Mura EGI	• NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended); Activity 11(i), 12(i)(a)(c), 14, 19, 27(i) and 28(i); • NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended); Activity 12 (i)(i) and 14 (i)(a)(c) (ii)(ff).

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD
 An Integrated Public Participation Process is proposed for the above-mentioned projects. The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from **06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.**

Area	Venue	Street Address	Contact No
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street	023 414 8113
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street	023 415 1199
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Phinsloo Street, Loxton	053 381 3102
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/		

REGISTRATION
 WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.
 EAP Details: Megan Govender (T) 011 361 1410 (E) Megan.Govender@wsp.com (A) PO Box 99867, Sloane Park, 2152

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an ISAP for purposes of enabling your registration as an ISAP and for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an ISAP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

WSP

NOORDWESTER UITGEWERS

Skryfbehoeft Handelaars op Calvinia

TEL: 027 341 1026 SEL 082 259 1814
E-pos: noordwester@hantam.co.za

STUDENTEPRET NEEM TE ERNSTIGE AFMETINGS AAN

Pluimpie word toe liewer witvoetjie seek by die US

Geagte Leser,

As daar om tyd is wat 'n mens iemand kan gun om 'n bergje ewerantwoordelik te wees, dan is dit seker waarskynlik by 'n student is. Dit beteken nie dat daar nie gronse bestaan nie, maar liewe ewerantwoordelike-

heid kan tog verskon word.

Dit geld sekerlik ook vir hul sinings oor politiek. Toe vroeë rondom die nuw beztel begin ontstaan het, was dit dikwels studente wat die voorru geeser het. Dit het hulle die granskap van partytjers op die hals gemaak. Die uitwerking van hierdie geskiedenis was dat mense begin dink het hulle moet hierdie studente dalk ernstig opsnoem.

Ek wonder hoe studente-verhoudings in die nuwe bedeling is. Huidige studente is onder die nuwe bedeling gebore en is hul ervaring van apartheid dit wat hul by ander gekoort. Dit kan maak dat hulle met wraed geval is, maar ook dat hulle die behoefte het om nie net te wys dat hulle die getyde is van ander nie, maar gaan hul vander. Hul wil oortoonend wees. Is dit geregtig om so 'n indruk te kry? Dit kan dalk wees.

Is dit nou al 'n tweede keer gebeur dat Stellenbosch-studente gemaak word om nie Afrikaans te praat in persoonlike gesprekke nie. Dit sluit ogwants ander wyle nie Afrikaans verstaan nie uit. Die boodskap is: Om laat ons nie uitluit nie en julle sal maak soos ons al.

'n Oud-student vertel my dat hulle verplig was om (ons ons se) leer mekaar klame by te woon. 'n Mens het begrip daarvoor dat dit goed kan wees. Studente uit verskillende agtergronde kan mekaar beter leer ken en so ontwikkel daar meer begrip vir mekaar. Dit is jammer dat dikwels die teenoegestelde berrik word. Die student vertel toe sy 'n mede-student by so 'n geleentheid 'n pluimpie gegee het vir die mooi rok wat sy aan het. Die reaksie van die ontvangster van die pluimpie was owerklaarbly. Haar antwoord was harsuk dat die pluimpie-gewer nie by haar moet kom witvoet seek nie.

Nou ja, soos gesk, 'n mens moet nie 'n student te ernstig opsnoem nie. En tog wonder 'n mens: As jy uit 'n minderheids-groepering kom, kan jy iets doen of is dit reg al? As jy alles of nie, is jy verkeerd en as jy iets positiefs al, is jy ook verkeerd. Die genade was om almal moet ontvring, is om met wytheid op so 'n situasie te reageer. As dit nie gebeur nie, kan die kloof tussen partye tot almal te nadeel net wyer raak.

Graciels, Agnes

EMMA EN ANNEKE
DE ELPFES op Stoppers van dr. Bertaus Nel van Calvinia versien deur Emma Nel en Anneke Nel by Willaton Landboukas verlore ra woor.



OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSESSE

KEWIGGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTRIKKUNG VAN DIE MUNA FOTOSOLIAIRE ONTRIKKUNG TUSSEN LOXTON EN BEAUFORT-WES IN DIE WSKAAP EN NOORD-KAAP PROWINSIE

Kennis word gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41(2) van OHR 982, soos gewysig, gepubliseer kragtens artikel 24 en 24D van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbeskerming (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) soos gewysig vir die indertiging van aanvaarde om Omgewingsmagtigings (EA) ' ten opsigte van die Omgewingsimpakbeoordelingsregulasies skakelende geldende ingevolge OHR 983 (soos gewysig), OHR 984 (soos gewysig) en OHR 985 (soos gewysig)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING
Red Cap Energy het wyle om 'n sonnigleentheid te ontwikkel, naamlik Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3 en Mura 4, en 'n gesamstellige versatiewe leiding, gesamstellig bekend as die Mura Fotovoltaiese sonnig-ontrikking tussen Loxton en Beaufort-Wes in die Beaufort-Wes Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, (Beaufort-Wes Plaaslike Munisipaliteit) en die Plety te linnu Ombokkinggebied in die Wes-Kaap en Noord-Kaap Provinsies. Die voorgestelde Mura Fotovoltaiese Fotovoltaiese leiding is 'n wylige sonnig-ontwikkeling gebied. Die voorgestelde magtigings al al die volgende Basiese Ontwikkeling (BO) en Beoordelings-om Omgewingsimpakbeoordelingsregulasies (SOOPV) proses in:

Aanwreker	Projek	Teegnologie	Proses	Plaasname
Mura 1 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 100 MW sonnigleentheid insuluent gesamstellige infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaiese sonnig	BO**	- Leewekloof Phase 43 - Porsie 4 van Dukker Kraans Phase 45
	Tot 120 MW Mura Gedeelte (Wegneelwende-ontwikkeling) Omreke	Transmissielyn	BO**	- Leewekloof Phase 43 - Bullfins Phase 13 - Porsie 4 of Dukker Kraans Phase 45 - RE of Porsie 3 van Dukker Kraans Phase 45 - Bullfins Phase 12
Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 400 MW sonnigleentheid insuluent gesamstellige infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaiese sonnig	BOOV	- Leewekloof Phase 43 - Bullfins Phase 13 - Porsie 4 of Dukker Kraans Phase 45
Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 320 MW sonnigleentheid insuluent gesamstellige infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaiese sonnig	BOOV	- Leewekloof Phase 43 - RE of Abrams Kraans Phase 206 - Porsie 4 of Dukker Kraans Phase 45 - RE of Porsie 3 of Dukker Kraans Phase 45
Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 380 MW sonnigleentheid insuluent gesamstellige infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaiese sonnig	BOOV	- Leewekloof Phase 43 - Aangrensende Administrasie Phase 11 - Porsie 4 of Dukker Kraans Phase 45 - Bullfins Phase 13
				- RE of Dukker Kraans Phase 45 - Bullfins Phase 13 - Aangrensende Administrasie Phase 11
				- RE of Porsie 3 van Dukker Kraans Phase 45 - RE of Dukker Kraans Phase 45 - Bullfins Phase 13

* vir beide die Beaufort-Wes Herbruuse Energie Ontwikkelingsone

OMGEWINGTOEPASSINGS

Die volgende gevende skakelende wat met die voorgestelde projekte gesamstellig word, is in 'n tabelstelling:

Projek	Noteringstoelings
- Mura 1 - Mura 2 - Mura 3 - Mura 4	- NEMA OVB-regulasie: Noteringstoelings 1 (OHR 983, soos gewysig); Adviel 1(1), 12(3)(a), 14, 18, 28(1) en 30(1) - NEMA OVB-regulasie: Noteringstoelings 2 (OHR 984, soos gewysig); Adviel 1 en 15 - NEMA OVB-regulasie: Noteringstoelings 3 (OHR 985, soos gewysig); Adviel 4 (3)(a), 12 (3)(L, 14 (3)(a)(i) (3)(b)(1), 16 (3)(a)(ii) en 22 (3)(a) (3)(b)
- Mura OVB	- NEMA OVB-regulasie: Noteringstoelings 1 (OHR 983, soos gewysig); Adviel 1(1), 12(3)(a), 14, 18, 27(1) en 28(1) - NEMA OVB-regulasie: Noteringstoelings 3 (OHR 985, soos gewysig); Adviel 12 (3)(L) en 14 (3)(a)(ii) (3)(b)(1)

KONSEP-RAPPEUR-ADRESSEER EN KONSEP-ONFANGVERSLAG-OORSGIGTYDPERKE
Die voorgestelde Operatiewe Gedragstoelings word voorgestel vir die oorsigperiode projekte. Die Kunsig Basiese Omgewingsmagtigings-ontwikkeling-ontwikkeling sal op verzoek en/of by die volgende hieronder beskrewe plekke wyle vir inspanning en inspanning vir 30-dae vanaf 06 Maart 2023 tot 08 April 2023.

Gebied	Lokaal	Strataadres	Kontaknommer
Beaufort-Wes	Beaufort-Wes Operatiewe Ombokking	Hoek van Brinsford en Karlsgat	023 434 8113
	Klein Kanto Agri	Ombokking 90	023 435 1199
Loxton	Loxton-Ombokking	Margaretha Prinsloostraat, Loxton	053 361 3122
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.co.za/en/ZA/services/public-consultations		
Datiewe Website	https://wsp-enquiries.com/		

REGISTRASE
WSP Group Africa (Edink) Bpk (WSP) is deur Red Cap Energy (Edink) Bpk as die oordrantelike Omgewingsmagtigingsregulasie (EAP) aangestel om die oordrantelike OVB en SOOPV-prosesse te bestuur. Partye wat wyle as belanghebbende wil registreer om hul kommentaar om die voorgestelde projekte te liewer, word versoek om hul volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die EAP te stuur na die beskrewe plekke wyle verskaf. Alle belanghebbende kommentaar sal aan Gewingsmagtigings beskrewe wyle gestuur wyle individueel in kennis gestel wyle van tydskennde geleentheid om aan die proses deel te neem.

EAP-beoordelingshele: Megan Guwender (T) 011 381 1410 (A) Megan.Guwerder@wsp.com (A) Postbus 98997, Stearn Park, 2152

WSP sal sakere persoonlike inliging om jou as 'n SOOPV verwerk vir oordrantelike om jou registrasie as 'n SOOPV inskryf te maak en vir die oordrantelike om jou beskrewe hante om te oordrantelike te doen, indien jy oordrantelike verskaf dat ons dit doen. WSP gegee hante beskrewe hante om jou te kontak oor ander projekte in die toekomst. WSP sal altyd jou persoonlike inliging verwerk in oordrantelike met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inliging 4 van 2013. Jy is geveg om jou regte as 'n datantelike uit te oefen en om te liewer wyle as jy in 'n SOOPV getyngsmeer wyle wyle of as jy nie wyle sal nie na jou kontakbesonderhede om om oordrantelike ingevolge te wyle.



LINÉ BY GESONDHEID
LINÉ HUMAN se portefeulie by Camarion VLV is Gesondheid. Hier is sy by die uitstalling daaroor by die eerste vergadering van die jaar wat 'n ops vergadering was.

Appendix B.2

SITE NOTICES



ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982, as amended published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) as amended for submission of applications for Environmental Authorisations (EA) in respect of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations activities identified in terms of GNR 983 (as amended), GNR 984 (as amended) and GNR 985 (as amended)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process	Listing Notices	Farm Names
Mura 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 150 MW Solar Energy Facility (SEF) including associated infrastructure	Solar Photovoltaic (PV)	BA*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(i) and 56(i); NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984, as amended): Activity 1 and 15; NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 4 (ii)(aa), 12 (i)(ii), 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(i)(ff), 18 (i)(i)(aa) and 23 (i)(a) (i)(i)(ff). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Farm 43 Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45
	Up to 132 kV Mura Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) Corridor	Transmission Line	BA*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 27(i) and 28(i); NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 12 (i)(i) and 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(i)(ff). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Farm 43 Bultfontein Farm 13 Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 Bultfontein Farm 12 Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11 RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 206 Sneeuwkraal Farm 46 RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 Portion 2 of Paardeberg Farm 49
Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 400 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(i) and 56(i); NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984, as amended): Activity 1 and 15; NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 4 (ii)(aa), 12 (i)(ii), 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(i)(ff), 18 (i)(i)(aa) and 23 (i)(a) (i)(i)(ff). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Farm 43 Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 Bultfontein Farm 13
Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 320 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(i) and 56(i); NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984, as amended): Activity 1 and 15; NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 4 (ii)(aa), 12 (i)(ii), 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(i)(ff), 18 (i)(i)(aa) and 23 (i)(a) (i)(i)(ff). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Farm 43 RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 206 Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 Sneeuwkraal Farm 46 Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11
Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 360 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(i) and 56(i); NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984, as amended): Activity 1 and 15; NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 4 (ii)(aa), 12 (i)(ii), 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(i)(ff), 18 (i)(i)(aa) and 23 (i)(a) (i)(i)(ff). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Farm 43 Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11 Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 Sneeuwkraal Farm 46

* falls within the Beaufort West Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ)

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

An integrated Public Participation Process is proposed for the above-mentioned projects. The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from **XX February 2023 to XX March 2023**.

Area	Venue	Street Address	Contact No
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street	023 414 8113
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street	023 415 1199
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton	053 381 3102
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/		

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

EAP Details: Megan Govender (T) 011 361 1410 (E) Megan.Govender@wsp.com (A) PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an I&AP for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I&AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.



OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSESSE

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE MURA FOTOVOLTAÏESE ONTWIKKELING TUSSEN LOXTON EN BEAUFORT-WES IN DIE WES-KAAP EN NOORD-KAAP PROVINSIES

Kennis word gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982, soos gewysig, gepubliseer kragtens artikel 24 en 24D van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) soos gewysig vir die indiening van aansoeke om Omgewingsmagtigings (EA) ten opsigte van die Omgewingsimpakbepalingsregulasies aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer ingevolge GNR 983 (soos gewysig), GNR 984 (soos gewysig) en GNR 985 (soos gewysig)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING

Red Cap Energy stel voor om vier sonkragfasiliteite te ontwikkel, naamlik Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3 en Mura 4, en 'n gepaardgaande netwerkverbinding, gesamentlik bekend as die Mura Fotovoltaïese sonkrag-ontwikkeling tussen Loxton en Beaufort-Wes in die Beaufort-Wes Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Ubuntu Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Sentrale Karoo Distriksmunisipaliteit en die Pixley ka Seme Distriksmunisipaliteit in die Wes-Kaap en Noord-Kaap Provinsies. Die voorgestelde Mura PV-ontwikkeling is naby die goedgekeurde Nuweveld Windplaas-ontwikkeling geleë. Die voorgestelde magtigings sluit die volgende Basiese Evaluering (BE) en Bestekopname en Omgewingsimpakverslagdoening (B&OIV) prosesse in:

Voorstander	Projek	Tegnologie	Proses	Noteringskennisgewings	Plaasname
Mura 1 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 150 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geïntegreerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	BE*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 11(i), 12(i)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(i) and 56(i); NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 2 (GNR 984, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 1 en 15; NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 3 (GNR 985, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 4 (i)(aa), 12 (i)(x), 14 (i)(a)(c) (i)(i)(f), 18 (i)(i)(aa) and 23 (i)(a) (i)(i)(f). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Portie 4 van Duker Kranse Plaas 45
	Tot 132 kV Mura Elektriese Kragnetwerkverbindingkorridor Corridor	Transmissielyn	BE*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 11(i), 12(i)(a)(c), 14, 19, 27(i) and 28(i); NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 3 (GNR 985, soos gewysig): Activity 12 (i)(i) and 14 (i)(a)(c) (i)(i)(f). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Bultfontein Plaas 13 Portie 4 van Duker Kranse Plaas 45 RE of Duker Kranse Plaas 45 Bultfontein Plaas 12 Aangrensend Abramskraal Plaas 11 RE of Abrams Kraal Plaas 206 Sneeuwkraal Plaas 46 RE of Duker Kranse Plaas 45 Portie 2 of Paardeberg Plaas 49
Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 400 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geïntegreerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	B&OIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 11(i), 12(i)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(i) and 56(i); NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 2 (GNR 984, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 1 en 15; NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 3 (GNR 985, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 4 (i)(aa), 12 (i)(x), 14 (i)(a)(c) (i)(i)(f), 18 (i)(i)(aa) and 23 (i)(a) (i)(i)(f). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Portie 4 van Duker Kranse Plaas 45 Bultfontein Plaas 13
Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 320 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geïntegreerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	B&OIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 11(i), 12(i)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(i) and 56(i); NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 2 (GNR 984, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 1 en 15; NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 3 (GNR 985, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 4 (i)(aa), 12 (i)(x), 14 (i)(a)(c) (i)(i)(f), 18 (i)(i)(aa) and 23 (i)(a) (i)(i)(f). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 RE van Abrams Kraal Plaas 206 Portie 4 van Duker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Portie 3 van Duker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Duker Kranse Plaas 45 Sneeuwkraal Plaas 46 Aangrensend Abramskraal Plaas 11
Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 360 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geïntegreerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	B&OIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 11(i), 12(i)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(i) and 56(i); NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 2 (GNR 984, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 1 en 15; NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 3 (GNR 985, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 4 (i)(aa), 12 (i)(x), 14 (i)(a)(c) (i)(i)(f), 18 (i)(i)(aa) and 23 (i)(a) (i)(i)(f). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Aangrensend Abramskraal Plaas 11 Portie 4 van Duker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Portie 3 van Duker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Duker Kranse Plaas 45 Sneeuwkraal Plaas 46

* val binne die Beaufort-Wes Herbare Energie Ontwikkelingsones

KONSEP BASIESE ASSESSERING EN KONSEP OMFANGVERSLAG OORSIGTYDPERK

'n Geïntegreerde Openbare Deelnameproses word voorgestel vir die bogenoemde projekte. Die Konsep Basiese Omgewingsevaluering en Omvangverslae sal op versoek en/of by die lokale hieronder beskikbaar gestel word vir hersiening en kommentaar vir 30 dae vanaf XX Februarie 2023 tot XX Maart 2023.

Gebied	Lokaal	Straatadres	Kontaknommer
Beaufort-Wes	Beaufort-Wes Openbare Biblioteek	Hoek van Birdstraat en Kerkstraat	023 414 8113
	Klein Karoo Agri	Donkinstaat 80	023 415 1199
Loxton	Loxton-biblioteek	Margaretha Prinsloostraat, Loxton	053 381 3102
WSP webwerf	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Datarynse webwerf	https://wsp-engage.com/		

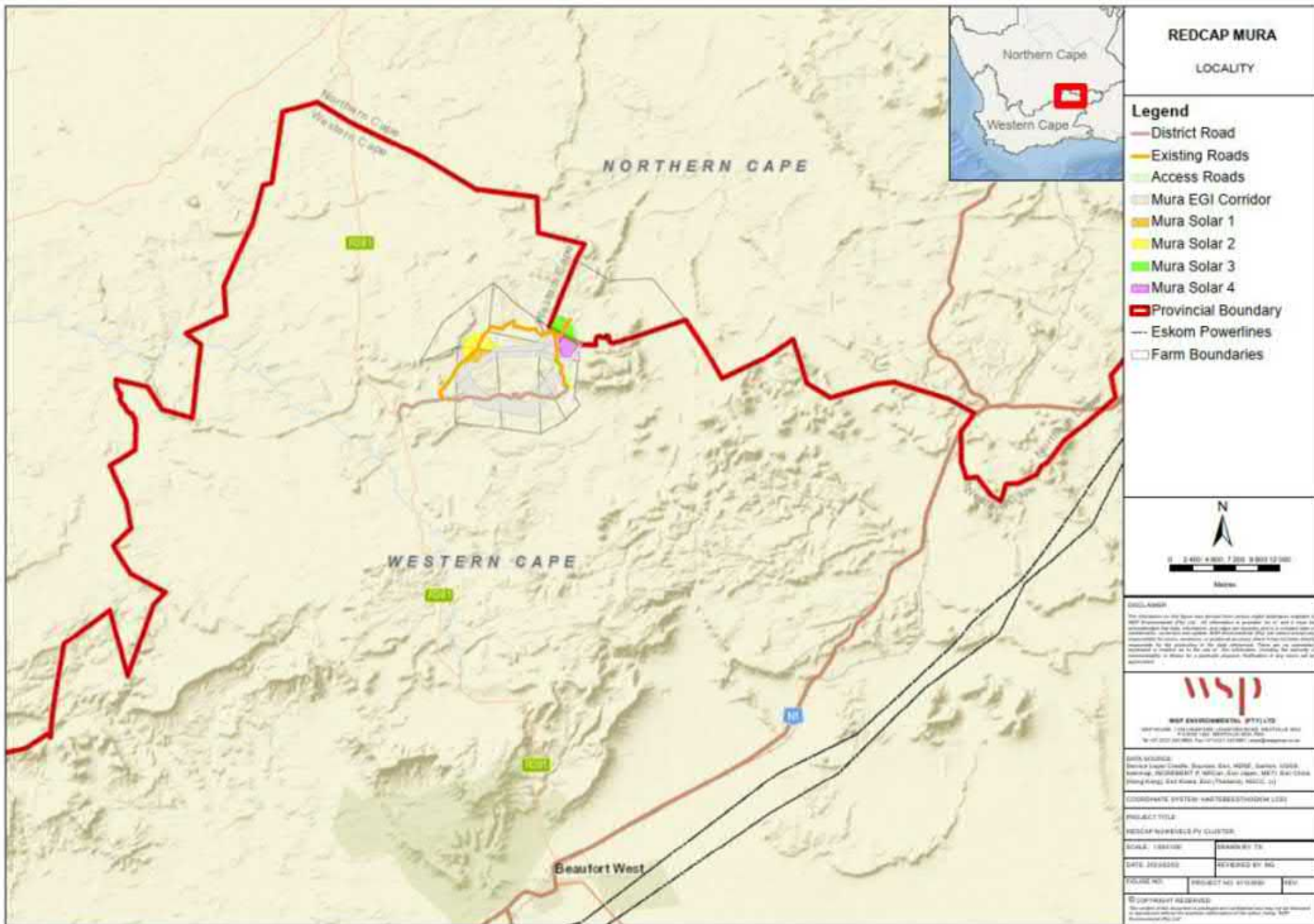
REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Edms) Bpk (WSP) is deur Red Cap Energy (Edms) Bpk as die onafhanklike Omgewingsevalueringsskatsyn (EAP) aangestel om die onderskeie BA- en S&OIV-prosesse te bestuur. Partye wat formeel as belanghebbendes wil registreer om hul kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projekte te lewer, word versoek om hul volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die EAP te stuur na die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. Alle toekomstige korrespondensie sal aan Geregisteerde belanghebbendes aangestuur word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem.

EAP-besonderhede: Megan Govender (T) 011 381 1410 (E) Megan.Govender@wsp.com (A) Posbus Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

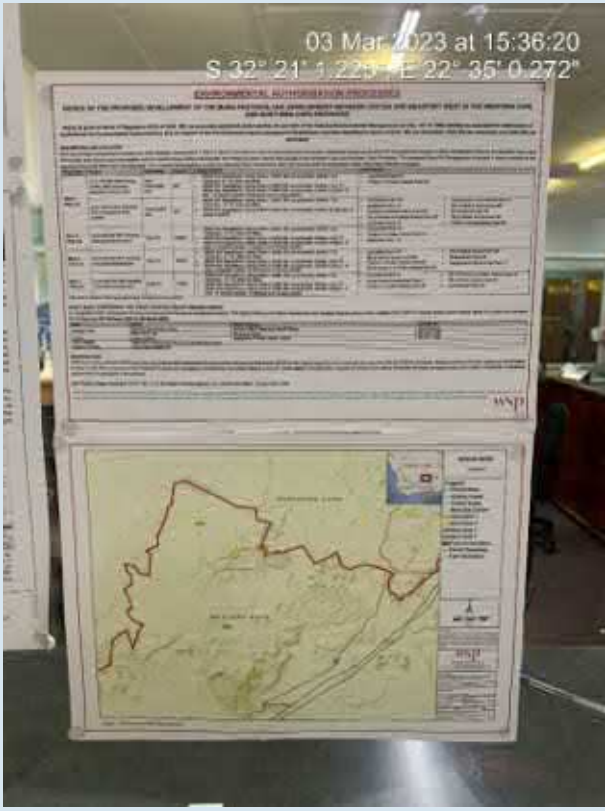
WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor jou as 'n B&GP werker vir doeleindes om jou registrasie as 'n B&GP werker te maak en vir die doeleindes om jou besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor, indien jy daartoe instem dat ons dit doen. WSP gebruik hierdie besonderhede om jou te kontak oor ander projekte in die toekoms. WSP sal altyd jou persoonlike inligting verwerk in ooreenstemming met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting 4 van 2013. Jy is geregtig om jou regte as 'n databuiker te oefen en ons te laat weet as jy as 'n B&GP-gederegistreerde wil word of as jy nie meer wil hê nie. Jy kan kontakbesonderhede om op ons databasis ingestel te word.





Fiur 1: Mura Fotovoltaiese sonkrag-ontwikkeling

Table 1 – Site Notice Locations

Location	Coordinates	Photographs
Beaufort West Public Library	32° 21' 1.23" S 22° 35' 0.27" E	 <p>The photographs show environmental assessment notices posted on a board at the Beaufort West Public Library. The top photograph is a close-up of a notice titled 'ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT' with a map of the site. The bottom photograph shows a wider view of the notice board with several notices, including the same one seen in the top photo. Both photos include a timestamp: '03 Mar 2023 at 15:36:20' and '03 Mar 2023 at 15:36:24' respectively, along with the coordinates 'S 32° 21' 1.225" E 22° 35' 0.272"'. The notices contain detailed information about the project and the assessment process.</p>

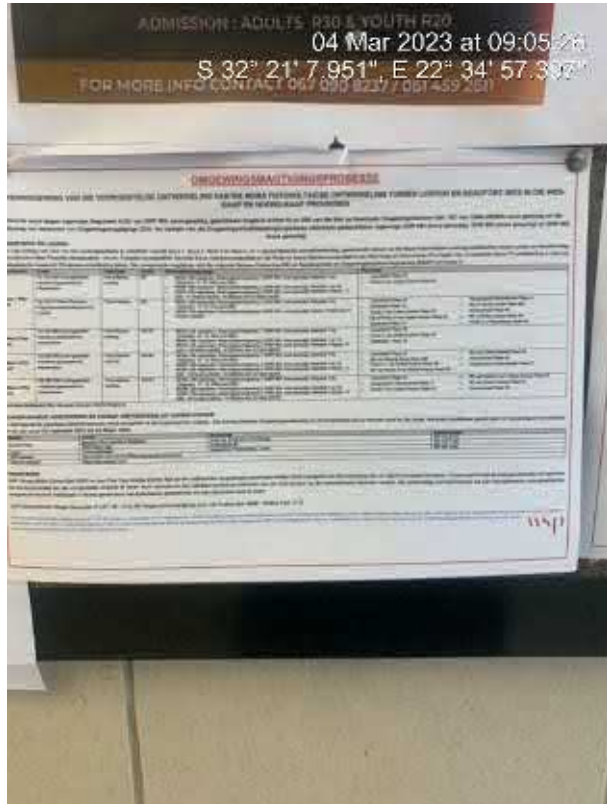
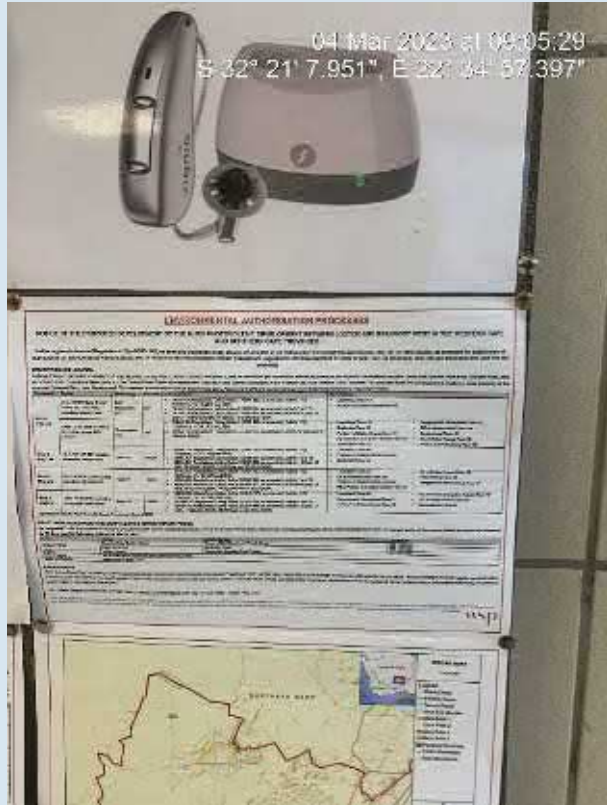
Location

Coordinates

Photographs

Beaufort West
Checkers

32° 21' 7.95" S
22° 34' 57.39" E



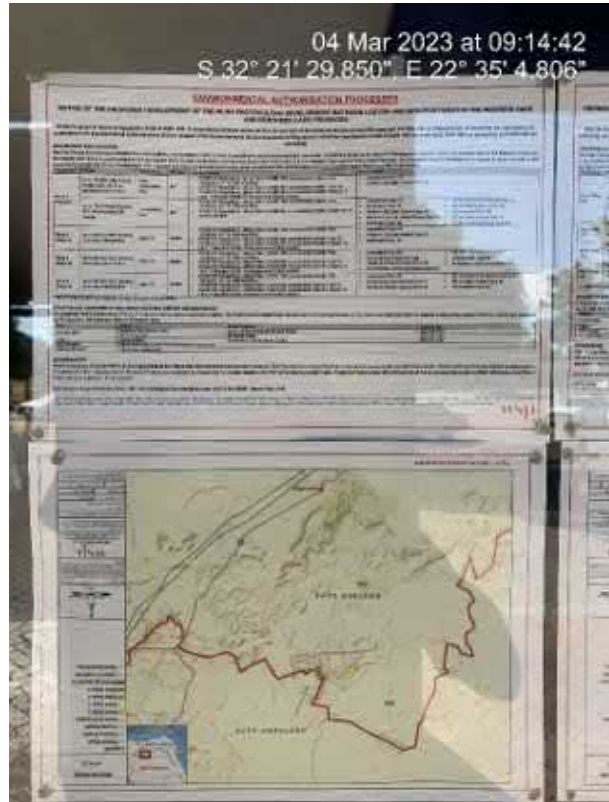
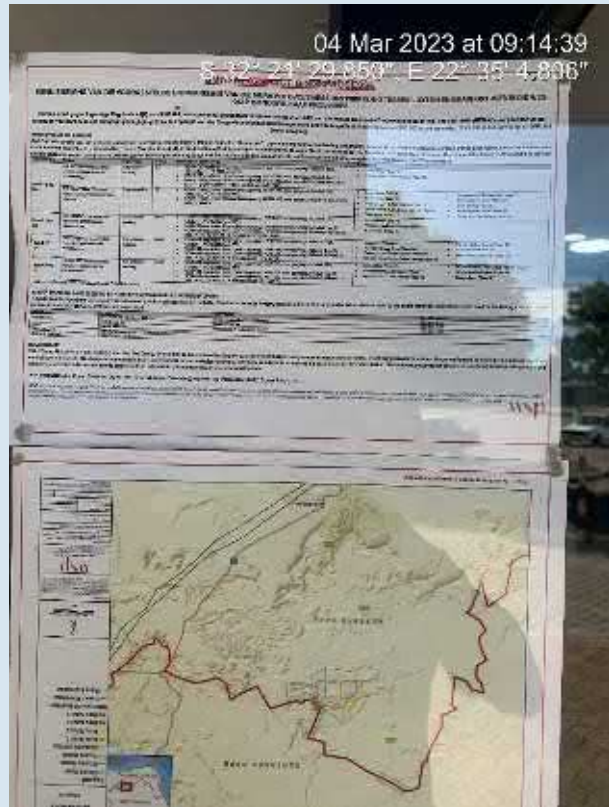
Location


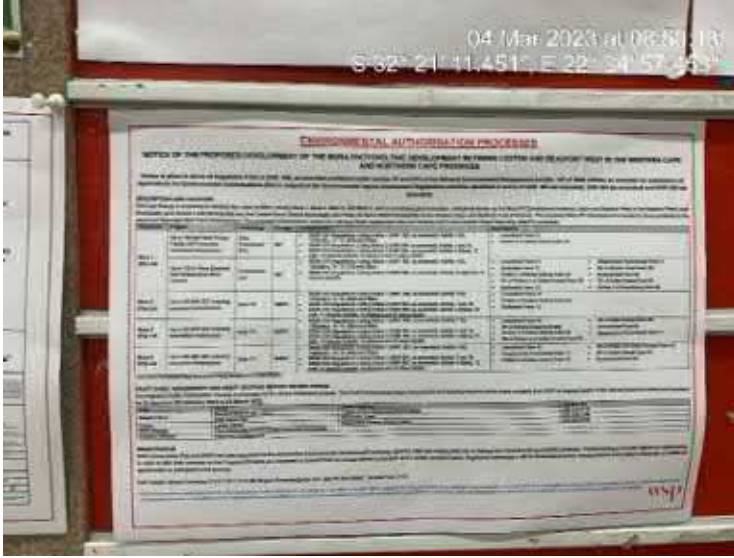
Coordinates

Photographs

Beaufort West
Karoo Junction
Mall

32° 21' 29.85" S
22° 35' 4.81" E



Location	Coordinates	Photographs
Beaufort West Checkers	32° 21' 11.45" S 22° 34' 57.45" E	 

Location	Coordinates	Photographs
Loxton Library	31° 28' 37.43"S 22° 21' 20.53"E	 A photograph showing a wooden frame structure with several sheets of paper pinned to it. The papers appear to be data sheets or field notes, with some text and diagrams visible. The frame is made of light-colored wood and is positioned in what looks like an indoor or sheltered outdoor setting.
Point 1	31° 53' 52.86"S 22° 24' 20.97"E	 A photograph of a wooden post-and-rail fence in a field. Two sheets of paper are pinned to the fence. The background shows a landscape with hills under a cloudy sky. The photo has a timestamp in the top right corner: "15 Mar 2013 at 17:05:28" and coordinates "S 31° 53' 52.86\"/>

Location	Coordinates	Photographs
Point 2	31° 52' 17.28"S 22° 32' 28.35"E	 <p>A photograph showing two maps or documents pinned to a wire fence. The maps appear to be topographic or survey maps. The background is a natural, outdoor setting with dry grass and some rocks. A timestamp in the top right corner of the photo reads: "03 Mar 2023 at 17:34:01 S 31° 52' 17.279" E 22° 32' 28.353"</p>
Point 3	31° 52' 16.74"S 22° 32' 27.78"E	 <p>A photograph showing two maps or documents pinned to a wire fence. The maps are similar to those in the previous photo. The background shows a landscape with hills and a cloudy sky. A timestamp in the top right corner of the photo reads: "03 Mar 2023 at 17:42:15 S 31° 52' 16.742" E 22° 32' 27.751"</p>

Appendix B.3

NOTIFICATION LETTER





Our Ref: 41103930

6 March 2023

Dear Stakeholder,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982, as amended published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) as amended for submission of applications for Environmental Authorisations (EA) in respect of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations activities identified in terms of GNR 983 (as amended), GNR 984 (as amended) and GNR 985 (as amended)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process	Farm Names
Mura 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 150 MW Solar Energy Facility (SEF) including associated infrastructure	Solar Photovoltaic (PV)	BA*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leeuwkloof Farm 43Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45
	Up to 132 kV Mura Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) Corridor	Transmission Line	BA*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leeuwkloof Farm 43Bultfontein Farm 13Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45Bultfontein Farm 12Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 206Sneeuwkraal Farm 46RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45Portion 2 of Paardeberg Farm 49
Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 400 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leeuwkloof Farm 43Bultfontein Farm 13Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45
Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 320 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leeuwkloof Farm 43RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 206Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45Sneeuwkraal Farm 46Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
South Africa

T: +27 11 254 4800
wsp.com



Proponent	Project	Technology	Process	Farm Names
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45
Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 360 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Farm 43 Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11 Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 Sneeuwkraal Farm 46

* falls within the Beaufort West Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ)

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

The following listed activities associated with the Proposed Projects are triggered:

Project	Listing Notices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mura 1 Mura 2 Mura 3 Mura 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(ii) and 56(ii); NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984, as amended): Activity 1 and 15; NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 4 (ii)(aa), 12 (i)(ii), 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff), 18 (i)(ii)(aa) and 23 (ii)(a) (i)(i)(ff).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mura EGI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 27(i) and 28(ii); NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 12 (i)(ii) and 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff).

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

An integrated Public Participation Process is proposed for the above-mentioned projects. The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from **06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023**.

Area	Venue	Street Address	Contact No
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street	023 414 8113
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street	023 415 1199
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton	053 381 3102
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/		

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to WSP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

WSP Details:

Megan Govender
 (T) 011 361 1410
 (E) Megan.Govender@wsp.com
 (A) PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an I&AP for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I&AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

Geagte Belanghebbende,

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE MURA FOTOVOLTAÏESE ONTWIKKELING TUSSEN LOXTON EN BEAUFORT-WES IN DIE WES-KAAP EN NOORD-KAAP PROVINSIES

Kennis word gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982, soos gewysig, gepubliseer kragtens artikel 24 en 24D van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) soos gewysig vir die indiening van aansoeke om Omgewingsmagtigings (EA)) ten opsigte van die Omgewingsimpakbepalingsregulasies aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer ingevolge GNR 983 (soos gewysig), GNR 984 (soos gewysig) en GNR 985 (soos gewysig)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING

Red Cap Energy stel voor om vier sonkragfasiliteite te ontwikkel, naamlik Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3 en Mura 4, en 'n gepaardgaande netwerkverbinding, gesamentlik bekend as die Mura Fotovoltaïese sonkrag-ontwikkeling tussen Loxton en Beaufort-Wes in die Beaufort-Wes Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Ubuntu Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Sentrale Karoo Distriksmunisipaliteit en die Pixley ka Seme Distriksmunisipaliteit in die Wes-Kaap en Noord-Kaap Provinsies. Die voorgestelde Mura PV-ontwikkeling is naby die goedgekeurde Nuweveld Windplaas-ontwikkeling geleë. Die voorgestelde magtigings sluit die volgende Basiese Evaluering (BE) en Bestekopname en Omgewingsimpakverslagdoening (B&OIV) prosesse in:

Aansoeker	Projek	Tegnologie	Proses	Plaasname
Mura 1 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 150 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	BE*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Porsie 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45
	Tot 132 kV Mura Elektriese Kragnetwerkverbindingkorridor Corridor	Transmissielyn	BE*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Bultfontein Plaas 13 Porsie 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE of Porsie 3 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Bultfontein Plaas 12 Aangrensend Abramskraal Plaas 11 RE of Abrams Kraal Plaas 206 Sneeuwkraal Plaas 46 RE of Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Porsie 2 of Paardeberg Plaas 49
Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 400 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	B&OIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Porsie 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Bultfontein Plaas 13
Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 320 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	B&OIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 RE van Abrams Kraal Plaas 206 Portion 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Sneeuwkraal Plaas 46 Aangrensend Abramskraal Plaas 11

1st Floor, Pharos House,
70 Buckingham Terrace,
Westville, 3629
South Africa

T: +27 31 240-8804
F: +27 31 240 8801
wsp.com



Aansoeker	Projek	Tegnologie	Proses	Plaasname
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RE van Porsie 3 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45
Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 360 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	B&OIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Aangrensend Abramskraal Plaas 11 Porsie 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Porsie 3 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Sneeuwkraal Plaas 46

* val binne die Beaufort-Wes Hernubare Energie Ontwikkelingsones

OMGEWINGSTOEPASSINGS

Die volgende gelyste aktiwiteite wat met die voorgestelde projekte geassosieer word, is van toepassing:

Projek	Noteringskennisgewings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mura 1 Mura 2 Mura 3 Mura 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(ii) and 56(ii); NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 2 (GNR 984, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 1 en 15; NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 3 (GNR 985, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 4 (ii)(aa), 12 (i)(ii), 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff), 18 (i)(ii)(aa) and 23 (ii)(a) (i)(i)(ff).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mura EGI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 27(i) and 28(ii); NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 3 (GNR 985, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 12 (i)(ii) and 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff).

KONSEP BASIESE ASSESSERING EN KONSEP OMFANGVERSLAG OORSIGTYDPERK

'n Geïntegreerde Openbare Deelnameproses word voorgestel vir die bogenoemde projekte . Die Konsep Basiese Omgewingsevaluering en Omvangverslae sal op versoek en/of by die lokale hieronder beskikbaar gestel word vir hersiening en kommentaar vir 30 dae vanaf **06 Maart 2023 tot 06 April 2023** .

Gebied	Lokaal	Straatadres	kontaknommer
Beaufort-Wes	Beaufort-Wes Openbare Biblioteek	Hoek van Birdstraat en Kerkstraat	023 414 8113
	Klein Karoo Agri	Donkinstraat 80	023 415 1199
Loxton	Loxton-biblioteek	Margaretha Prinsloostraat, Loxton	053 381 3102
WSP webwerf	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Datavrye webwerf	https://wsp-engage.com/		

REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Edms) Bpk (WSP) is deur Red Cap Energy (Edms) Bpk as die onafhanklike Omgewingsevalueringpraktisyn (EAP) aangestel om die onderskeie BA- en S&OIV-prosesse te bestuur. Partye wat formeel as belanghebbendes wil registreer om hul kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projekte te lewer, word versoek om hul volledige kontakbesonderhede aan WSP te stuur na die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. Alle toekomstige korrespondensie sal aan Geregistreerde belanghebbendes aangestuur word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem. .

WSP-besonderhede:

Megan Govender

(T) 011 361 1410

(E) Megan.Govender@wsp.com

(A) Posbus 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor jou as 'n B&GP werker vir doeleindes om jou registrasie as 'n B&GP moontlik te maak en vir die doeleindes om jou besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor, indien jy daartoe instem dat ons dit doen. WSP gebruik hierdie besonderhede om jou te kontak oor ander projekte in die toekoms. WSP sal altyd jou persoonlike inligting verwerk in ooreenstemming met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting 4 van 2013. Jy is geregtig om jou regte as 'n datasubjek uit te oefen en ons te laat weet as jy as 'n B&GP gederegistreer wil word of as jy nie meer wil hê nie jou kontakbesonderhede om op ons databasis ingesluit te word.



Our Ref: 41103930

6 March 2023

Dear Landowner,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982, as amended published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) as amended for submission of applications for Environmental Authorisations (EA) in respect of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations activities identified in terms of GNR 983 (as amended), GNR 984 (as amended) and GNR 985 (as amended)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process	Farm Names
Mura 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 150 MW Solar Energy Facility (SEF) including associated infrastructure	Solar Photovoltaic (PV)	BA*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leeuwkloof Farm 43Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45
	Up to 132 kV Mura Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) Corridor	Transmission Line	BA*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leeuwkloof Farm 43Bultfontein Farm 13Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45Bultfontein Farm 12Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 206Sneeuwkraal Farm 46RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45Portion 2 of Paardeberg Farm 49
Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 400 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leeuwkloof Farm 43Bultfontein Farm 13Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45
Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 320 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leeuwkloof Farm 43RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 206Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45Sneeuwkraal Farm 46Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11

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Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
South Africa

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Proponent	Project	Technology	Process	Farm Names
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45
Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 360 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Farm 43 Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11 Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 Sneeuwkraal Farm 46

* falls within the Beaufort West Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ)

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

The following listed activities associated with the Proposed Projects are triggered:

Project	Listing Notices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mura 1 Mura 2 Mura 3 Mura 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(ii) and 56(ii); NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984, as amended): Activity 1 and 15; NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 4 (ii)(aa), 12 (i)(ii), 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff), 18 (i)(ii)(aa) and 23 (ii)(a) (i)(i)(ff).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mura EGI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 27(i) and 28(ii); NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 12 (i)(ii) and 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff).

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

An integrated Public Participation Process is proposed for the above-mentioned projects. The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from **06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023**.

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	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street	023 415 1199
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WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
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REGISTRATION

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WSP Details:

Megan Govender
 (T) 011 361 1410
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WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an I&AP for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I&AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

Geagte Grondeienaar,

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE MURA FOTOVOLTAÏESE ONTWIKKELING TUSSEN LOXTON EN BEAUFORT-WES IN DIE WES-KAAP EN NOORD-KAAP PROVINSIES

Kennis word gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982, soos gewysig, gepubliseer kragtens artikel 24 en 24D van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) soos gewysig vir die indiening van aansoeke om Omgewingsmagtigings (EA)) ten opsigte van die Omgewingsimpakbepalingsregulasies aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer ingevolge GNR 983 (soos gewysig), GNR 984 (soos gewysig) en GNR 985 (soos gewysig)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING

Red Cap Energy stel voor om vier sonkragfasiliteite te ontwikkel, naamlik Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3 en Mura 4, en 'n gepaardgaande netwerkverbinding, gesamentlik bekend as die Mura Fotovoltaïese sonkrag-ontwikkeling tussen Loxton en Beaufort-Wes in die Beaufort-Wes Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Ubuntu Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, Sentrale Karoo Distriksmunisipaliteit en die Pixley ka Seme Distriksmunisipaliteit in die Wes-Kaap en Noord-Kaap Provinsies. Die voorgestelde Mura PV-ontwikkeling is naby die goedgekeurde Nuweveld Windplaas-ontwikkeling geleë. Die voorgestelde magtigings sluit die volgende Basiese Evaluering (BE) en Bestekopname en Omgewingsimpakverslagdoening (B&OIV) prosesse in:

Aansoeker	Projek	Tegnologie	Proses	Plaasname
Mura 1 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 150 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	BE*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Porsie 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45
	Tot 132 kV Mura Elektriese Kragnetwerkverbindingkorridor Corridor	Transmissielyn	BE*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Bultfontein Plaas 13 Porsie 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE of Porsie 3 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Bultfontein Plaas 12 Aangrensend Abramskraal Plaas 11 RE of Abrams Kraal Plaas 206 Sneeuwkraal Plaas 46 RE of Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Porsie 2 of Paardeberg Plaas 49
Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 400 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	B&OIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Porsie 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Bultfontein Plaas 13
Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 320 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	B&OIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 RE van Abrams Kraal Plaas 206 Portion 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Sneeuwkraal Plaas 46 Aangrensend Abramskraal Plaas 11

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Aansoeker	Projek	Tegnologie	Proses	Plaasname
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RE van Porsie 3 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45
Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 360 MW sonkragfasiliteit insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Fotovoltaïese sonkrag	B&OIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Plaas 43 Aangrensend Abramskraal Plaas 11 Porsie 4 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Porsie 3 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 RE van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45 Sneeuwkraal Plaas 46

* val binne die Beaufort-Wes Hernubare Energie Ontwikkelingsones

OMGEWINGSTOEPASSINGS

Die volgende gelyste aktiwiteite wat met die voorgestelde projekte geassosieer word, is van toepassing:

Projek	Noteringskennisgewings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mura 1 Mura 2 Mura 3 Mura 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(ii) and 56(ii); NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 2 (GNR 984, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 1 en 15; NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 3 (GNR 985, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 4 (ii)(aa), 12 (i)(ii), 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff), 18 (i)(ii)(aa) and 23 (ii)(a) (i)(i)(ff).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mura EGI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 27(i) and 28(ii); NEMA OIB-regulasies: Noteringskennisgewing 3 (GNR 985, soos gewysig): Aktiwiteit 12 (i)(ii) and 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff).

KONSEP BASIESE ASSESSERING EN KONSEP OMFANGVERSLAG OORSIGTYDPERK

'n Geïntegreerde Openbare Deelnameproses word voorgestel vir die bogenoemde projekte . Die Konsep Basiese Omgewingsevaluering en Omvangverslae sal op versoek en/of by die lokale hieronder beskikbaar gestel word vir hersiening en kommentaar vir 30 dae vanaf **06 Maart 2023 tot 06 April 2023** .

Gebied	Lokaal	Straatadres	kontaknommer
Beaufort-Wes	Beaufort-Wes Openbare Biblioteek	Hoek van Birdstraat en Kerkstraat	023 414 8113
	Klein Karoo Agri	Donkinstraat 80	023 415 1199
Loxton	Loxton-biblioteek	Margaretha Prinsloostraat, Loxton	053 381 3102
WSP webwerf	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Datavrye webwerf	https://wsp-engage.com/		

REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Edms) Bpk (WSP) is deur Red Cap Energy (Edms) Bpk as die onafhanklike Omgewingsevalueringpraktisyn (EAP) aangestel om die onderskeie BA- en S&OIV-prosesse te bestuur. Partye wat formeel as belanghebbendes wil registreer om hul kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projekte te lewer, word versoek om hul volledige kontakbesonderhede aan WSP te stuur na die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. Alle toekomstige korrespondensie sal aan Geregistreerde belanghebbendes aangestuur word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem. .

WSP-besonderhede:

Megan Govender

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(E) Megan.Govender@wsp.com

(A) Posbus 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor jou as 'n B&GP werker vir doeleindes om jou registrasie as 'n B&GP moontlik te maak en vir die doeleindes om jou besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor, indien jy daartoe instem dat ons dit doen. WSP gebruik hierdie besonderhede om jou te kontak oor ander projekte in die toekoms. WSP sal altyd jou persoonlike inligting verwerk in ooreenstemming met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting 4 van 2013. Jy is geregtig om jou regte as 'n datasubjek uit te oefen en ons te laat weet as jy as 'n B&GP gederegistreer wil word of as jy nie meer wil hê nie jou kontakbesonderhede om op ons databasis ingesluit te word.



Our Ref: 41103930

6 March 2023

Dear Authority,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982, as amended published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) as amended for submission of applications for Environmental Authorisations (EA) in respect of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations activities identified in terms of GNR 983 (as amended), GNR 984 (as amended) and GNR 985 (as amended)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process	Farm Names
Mura 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 150 MW Solar Energy Facility (SEF) including associated infrastructure	Solar Photovoltaic (PV)	BA*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leeuwkloof Farm 43Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45
	Up to 132 kV Mura Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) Corridor	Transmission Line	BA*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leeuwkloof Farm 43Bultfontein Farm 13Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45Bultfontein Farm 12Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 206Sneeuwkraal Farm 46RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45Portion 2 of Paardeberg Farm 49
Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 400 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leeuwkloof Farm 43Bultfontein Farm 13Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45
Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 320 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leeuwkloof Farm 43RE of Abrams Kraal Farm 206Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45Sneeuwkraal Farm 46Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11

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Proponent	Project	Technology	Process	Farm Names
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45
Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 360 MW SEF including associated infrastructure	Solar PV	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leeuwkloof Farm 43 Aangrensend Abramskraal Farm 11 Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 RE of Portion 3 of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 RE of Duiker Kranse Farm 45 Sneeuwkraal Farm 46

* falls within the Beaufort West Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ)

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

The following listed activities associated with the Proposed Projects are triggered:

Project	Listing Notices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mura 1 Mura 2 Mura 3 Mura 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 28(ii) and 56(ii); NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984, as amended): Activity 1 and 15; NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 4 (ii)(aa), 12 (i)(ii), 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff), 18 (i)(ii)(aa) and 23 (ii)(a) (i)(i)(ff).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mura EGI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983, as amended): Activity 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 27(i) and 28(ii); NEMA EIA Regulations: Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985, as amended): Activity 12 (i)(ii) and 14 (ii)(a)(c) (i)(ii)(ff).

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RE van Porsie 3 van Duiker Kranse Plaas 45
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* val binne die Beaufort-Wes Hernubare Energie Ontwikkelingsones

OMGEWINGSTOEPASSINGS

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KONSEP BASIESE ASSESSERING EN KONSEP OMFANGVERSLAG OORSIGTYDPERK

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WSP webwerf	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Datavrye webwerf	https://wsp-engage.com/		

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WSP-besonderhede:

Megan Govender

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(A) Posbus 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

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Appendix B.4

EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS



Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 14:39
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW
Attachments: 41103930_20230306_RedCap Mura_Notification Letter_Afrikaans_Stakeholder.pdf; 41103930_20230306_RedCap Mura_Notification Letter_English_Stakeholder.pdf

Dear Stakeholders,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Mura 1 Solar PV Facility: BA Process
- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
Tel: 011 361 1410

Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender

Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300



WSP in Africa

Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
2191 South Africa

wsp.com

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 14:37
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW
Attachments: 41103930_20230306_RedCap Mura_Notification Letter_Afrikaans_Landowner.pdf; 41103930_20230306_RedCap Mura_Notification Letter_English_Landowners.pdf

Dear Landowner,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

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Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

One Drive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review
One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification

number which will automatically be sent to your email address
– if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam"
folder

A presentation on the summary of the proposed development has been collated. The presentation has been made available on the WSP website, Datafree website and One Drive Link.

**PowerPoint
Instruction**

- To view and listen to the project summary presentation, please open the PowerPoint Presentation and click on the speaker icon on the left on each slide to listen to the accompanying commentary

In order to assist with the completeness of our database, please can you provide us with the contact details (name, cell phone number and email address) of the below:

- 1. Tenants on your properties.**
- 2. Employees at your properties.**
- 3. Neighbouring land owner.**
- 4. Neighbouring tenants.**
- 5. Any other interested party.**

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
Tel: 011 361 1410
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 14:51
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW
Attachments: 41103930_20230306_RedCap Mura_Notification Letter_Afrikaans_Authority.pdf; 41103930_20230306_RedCap Mura_Notification Letter_English_Authority.pdf

Dear Commenting Authority,

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WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
Tel: 011 361 1410
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Thursday, 20 April 2023 13:19
To: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST - FINAL SCOPING REPORTS [Filed 20 Apr 2023 13:19]

Dear Stakeholder

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST

This notification is to inform you that the Final Environmental Scoping Report for the following projects were submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) on 18 April 2023 for their review and decision -making:

- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2323)
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2324)
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2325)

The Final Scoping Reports have been made available on the WSP website for your information:
WSP website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents>

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
Tel: 011 361 1410
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Protection of Personal Information: WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I&AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300



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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

Appendix B.5

SMS NOTIFICATIONS



Mura Solar PV Development - SMS Notifications

created_time	msisdn	status_text	body
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	Notice of Public Review of Draft Environmental Reports for Mura Solar PV Development from 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Contact WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Goven
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	der@wsp.com\n\nKennisgewing aangaande openbare hersiening van Konsep-Omgewingsverslae vir Mura-Sonkrag-PV-Ontwikkeling vanaf 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Kontak WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Govender@wsp.com
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	Notice of Public Review of Draft Environmental Reports for Mura Solar PV Development from 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Contact WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Goven
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	der@wsp.com\n\nKennisgewing aangaande openbare hersiening van Konsep-Omgewingsverslae vir Mura-Sonkrag-PV-Ontwikkeling vanaf 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Kontak WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Govender@wsp.com
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	Notice of Public Review of Draft Environmental Reports for Mura Solar PV Development from 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Contact WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Goven
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	der@wsp.com\n\nKennisgewing aangaande openbare hersiening van Konsep-Omgewingsverslae vir Mura-Sonkrag-PV-Ontwikkeling vanaf 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Kontak WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Govender@wsp.com
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	Notice of Public Review of Draft Environmental Reports for Mura Solar PV Development from 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Contact WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Goven
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	der@wsp.com\n\nKennisgewing aangaande openbare hersiening van Konsep-Omgewingsverslae vir Mura-Sonkrag-PV-Ontwikkeling vanaf 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Kontak WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Govender@wsp.com
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered upstream	Notice of Public Review of Draft Environmental Reports for Mura Solar PV Development from 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Contact WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Goven
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered upstream	der@wsp.com\n\nKennisgewing aangaande openbare hersiening van Konsep-Omgewingsverslae vir Mura-Sonkrag-PV-Ontwikkeling vanaf 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Kontak WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Govender@wsp.com
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2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered upstream	k WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Govender@wsp.com
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered upstream	Notice of Public Review of Draft Environmental Reports for Mura Solar PV Development from 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Contact WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Goven
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered upstream	der@wsp.com\n\nKennisgewing aangaande openbare hersiening van Konsep-Omgewingsverslae vir Mura-Sonkrag-PV-Ontwikkeling vanaf 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Kontak
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2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	der@wsp.com\n\nKennisgewing aangaande openbare hersiening van Konsep-Omgewingsverslae vir Mura-Sonkrag-PV-Ontwikkeling vanaf 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Kontak
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2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	der@wsp.com\n\nKennisgewing aangaande openbare hersiening van Konsep-Omgewingsverslae vir Mura-Sonkrag-PV-Ontwikkeling vanaf 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Kontak
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	k WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Govender@wsp.com
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	Notice of Public Review of Draft Environmental Reports for Mura Solar PV Development from 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Contact WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Goven
2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	der@wsp.com\n\nKennisgewing aangaande openbare hersiening van Konsep-Omgewingsverslae vir Mura-Sonkrag-PV-Ontwikkeling vanaf 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Kontak
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created_time	msisdn	status_text	body
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2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	Notice of Public Review of Draft Environmental Reports for Mura Solar PV Development from 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Contact WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Goven
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2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered to phone	Notice of Public Review of Draft Environmental Reports for Mura Solar PV Development from 06/03/2023 - 06/04/2023. Contact WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Goven
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2023-03-06 14:50:06.0		Delivered upstream	k WSP 011 361 1410 / Megan.Govender@wsp.com

Appendix B.6

PROOF OF DISPLAY OF REPORTS



Location

Photographs

Beaufort West Municipality Offices



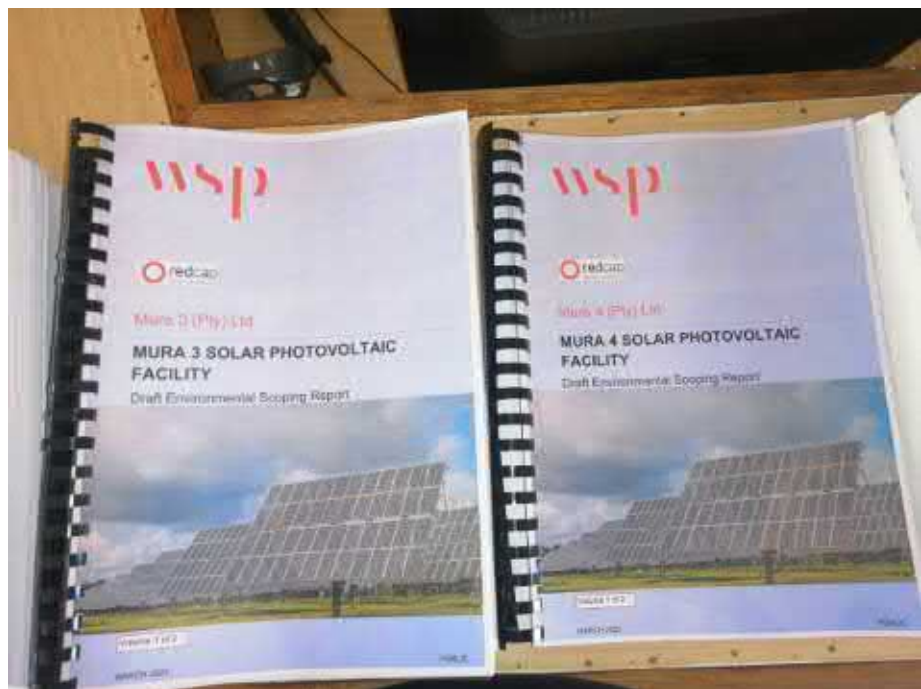
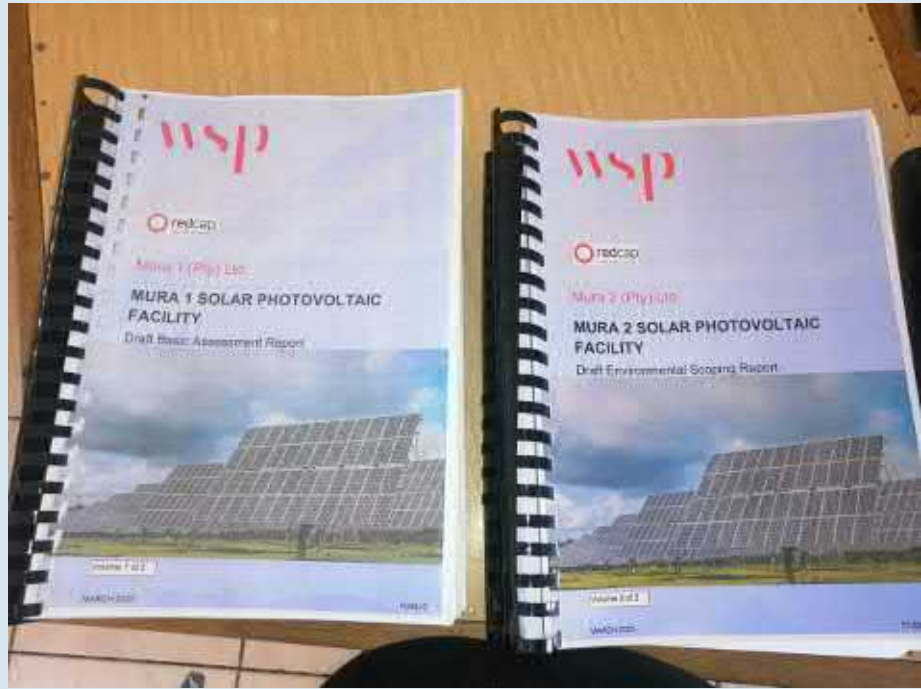
Beaufort West Public Library



Location

Loxton Public Library

Photographs





Report 1: Mura 1 Solar PV Facility Draft BAR
Title of Project: Mura 1 Solar PV facility between Loxton and Beaufort

Report 2: Mura 2 Solar PV Facility Draft Scoping Report
Title of Project: Mura 2 Solar PV facility between

Report 3: Mura 3 Solar PV Facility Draft Scoping Report
Title of Project: Mura 3 Solar PV facility between

Report 4: Mura 4 Solar PV Facility Draft Scoping Report
Title of Project: Mura 4 Solar PV facility between

Report 5: Mura EGI Corridor Draft BAR
Title of Project: Mura EGI Corridor between Loxton and Beaufort

Power Point Presentations: Mura Solar PV Development Project Summary
Title of Project: Mura Solar PV Development



Title of Project: Mura 2 Solar PV facility between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

Public Disclosure dates: 06 March 2023 - 06 April 2023

Document on Public Display: Draft Scoping Report

Contact Person: Megan Govender (Megan.Govender@wsp.com)

- 41103930_20230302_Mura Solar 2_Draft Scoping Report Part 1
- 41103930_20230302_Mura Solar 2_Draft Scoping Report Part 2

- Appendix A_EAP CV
- Appendix B_EAP Declaration
- Appendix C_Specialist Declarations
- Appendix D_Combined SER_Public
- Appendix E_Maps
- Appendix F_DFFE Screening Tool Report
- Appendix G1_Climate Change Assessment
- Appendix G2_Agriculture Compliance Statement
- Appendix G3_Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement
- Appendix G4_Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment
- Appendix G5_Plant Species Compliance Statement
- Appendix G6_Animal Species Compliance Statement
- Appendix G7_Avifaunal Impact Assessment
- Appendix G8_Heritage Assessment
- Appendix G9_Palaeontological Assessment
- Appendix G10_Traffic Impact Assessment
- Appendix G11_Visual Impact Assessment



Title of Project: Mura 3 Solar PV facility between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces

Public Disclosure dates: 06 March 2023 - 06 April 2023

Document on Public Display: Draft Scoping Report

Contact Person: Megan Govender (Megan.Govender@wsp.com)

- 41103930_20230302_Mura Solar 3_Draft Scoping Report Part 1
- 41103930_20230302_Mura Solar 3_Draft Scoping Report Part 2
- Appendix A_EAP CV
- Appendix B_EAP Declaration
- Appendix C_Specialist Declarations
- Appendix D_Combined SER_Public
- Appendix E_Maps
- Appendix F_DEFE Screening Tool Report
- Appendix G1_Climate Change Assessment
- Appendix G2_Agriculture Compliance Statement
- Appendix G3_Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement
- Appendix G4_Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment
- Appendix G5_Plant Species Compliance Statement
- Appendix G6_Animal Species Compliance Statement



Title of Project: Mura 4 Solar PV facility between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

Public Disclosure dates: 06 March 2023 - 06 April 2023

Document on Public Display: Draft Scoping Report

Contact Person: Megan Govender (Megan.Govender@wsp.com)

- 41103030_20230302_Mura Solar 4_Draft Scoping Report Part 1
- 41103030_20230302_Mura Solar 4_Draft Scoping Report Part 2
- Appendix A_EAP CV
- Appendix B_EAP Declaration
- Appendix C_Specialist Declarations
- Appendix D_Combined SEIR_Public
- Appendix E_Maps
- Appendix F_DEFE Screening Tool Report
- Appendix G1_Climate Change Assessment
- Appendix G2_Agriculture Compliance Statement
- Appendix G3_Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement
- Appendix G4_Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment
- Appendix G5_Plant Species Compliance Statement
- Appendix G6_Animal Species Compliance Statement

Title of Project: Mura Solar PV Development Project Summary
Document on Public Display: Audio Presentation in English and Afrikaans
Contact Person: Megan Govender (Megan.Govender@wsp.com)

- Mura PV Development Summary, Afrikaans
- Mura PV Development Summary, English

Title of Project: Proposed Expansion of the FCC Flammable Deum Storage Facility in Epping Industria, Cape Town
Document on Public Display: Final Basic Assessment Report
Contact Person: Takadzani Takadani (Takadzani.Takadani@wsp.com)

- EAP Declaration, FBAR
- FBAR_FCC Flammable Store Expansion_20202003
- Appendix A1_FCC locality Map
- Appendix A2_Zoning Map
- Appendix B(iii) - Flammable Deum Store GA Plan
- Appendix B(iii) - Flammable Store - Fire Plan
- Appendix B(iii) - Storage Location Compatibility
- Appendix C - Photographs
- Appendix E1_IDWC Response-Comment to NED
- Appendix E2_Cape Nature_Ismat Adams
- Appendix E5-BOD Hazardous Materials Stores ERP 112560 Epping
- Appendix E10_City of Cape Town PCM DBAR Comments_Jan 2003
- Appendix E15_City of Cape Town DBAR Comments_Jan 2003
- Appendix E16 - CCY Electricity Gen & Distr Energy Directorate
- Appendix E17 (i) FCC Air Emissions License 2005
- Appendix E17 (ii) Proof of AEL Amend Submission Consultation
- Appendix E17 (iii) AEL Non-Subst. Admin Amend Feedback
- Appendix F_SER_FCC Flammable Store Expansion_Final W
- Appendix H_EMPR_FCC Flammable Store Expansion_Final W
- Appendix I_Screening Tool Report
- Appendix L_EAP CV
- Appendix M_FCC Flammable Store Upgrade_MHJ Letter_Rev 1

Mura 2 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (up to 400 MW)

[Add new comments](#) [Subscribe to this post](#) 4 views

CaseNumber: [L202400016](#) **Agency:** [Admin](#)

Status: SUBMITTED

HeritageAuthorityType: NAC
SUNSA

Case Type: Section 36 (3) - Statutory Comment Requested

Development Type: Solar

ProjectDescription:

Mura 2 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (up to 400 MW) between Lander and Bourke Roads in the Murrumbidgee Province

ApplicationDate: Monday, February 12, 2024 - 10:33

CaseID: 22271

Applicant: Mura 2 Pty Ltd

Consultants/Partner: Legal Counsel

DirectReferences:

Document	Application Type	Created Date	Contact Person
Department of Planning, Fisheries and Environment	Draft SR	26/02/2024	Ashley Moore
Heritage Report: Heritage Impact Assessment for Mura 2 PV			
Reference.pdf			

Additional Documents

- 01 Draft Staging Report - Mura 2 Solar PV.pdf
- 02 Appendix A_SRP CV.pdf
- 03 Appendix B_EOC Declaration.pdf
- 04 Appendix C_Special Conditions.pdf
- 05 Appendix D_IHA_Public.pdf
- 06 Appendix E_Maps.pdf
- 07 Appendix F_DPE Screening Tool Report.pdf
- 08 Appendix G1_Cultural Change Assessment.pdf
- 09 Appendix G2_Agricultural Compliance Statement.pdf
- 10 Appendix G3_Territorial Modernity Compliance Statement.pdf
- 11 Appendix G4_Social Resilience Assessment.pdf
- 12 Appendix G5_Wild Species Compliance Statement.pdf
- 13 Appendix G6_General Species Compliance Statement.pdf
- 14 Appendix G7_Aesthetic Impact Assessment.pdf
- 15 Appendix G8_Paleontological Assessment.pdf
- 16 Appendix G9_Traffic Impact Assessment.pdf
- 17 Appendix G10_Visual Impact Assessment.pdf
- 18 Appendix G11_Social Assessment.pdf
- 19 Appendix G12_Cultural Impact Assessment.pdf

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South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)

111 Hertzog Ave

P.O. Box 4037

Cape Town, 7900

Phone: +27 (0)21 424 1111



Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (up to 320 MW)

[Add new comment](#) | [Subscribe to this page](#) | 4 results

[Case Header](#) | [Location Info](#) | [Admin](#)

Status: **SUBMITTED**

Heritage Authority/Agency: FWC

52486

Case Type: [Division 20 \(1\) - Statutory General Resource](#)

Development Type: [Solar](#)

Proposed Description:

Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (up to 320MW) between Lagoon and Boulder Creek in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces.

Application/Case Number: [Heritage](#), 15, 2022 - 1039

Case#: [15221](#)

Applicants: [Mura 3 Pty Ltd](#)

Consultants/Agent/Other Contact:

Other Attachment:

Attachment	Application Type	Baseline Date	Contact Person
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment	IN	2024/02/02	Jaco van Oortzen
Heritage Report: Heritage Impact Assessment for Mura 3 PV Refinement.pdf			

Additional Comments

- 1 [14 Appendix 02_Justified Impact Assessment.pdf](#)
- 2 [15 Appendix 03_Preliminary Assessment.pdf](#)
- 3 [17 Appendix 04C_Traffic Impact Assessment.pdf](#)
- 4 [16 Appendix 011_Cultural Impact Assessment.pdf](#)
- 5 [18 Appendix 04D_Social Assessment.pdf](#)
- 6 [20 Appendix 04D_Geological Assessment.pdf](#)
- 7 [21 Draft Eoping Report - Mura 3 Solar Project](#)
- 8 [22 Appendix 6_SAP CV.pdf](#)
- 9 [23 Appendix 6_SAP Declaration.pdf](#)
- 10 [24 Appendix 11_Specialist Recommendations.pdf](#)
- 11 [25 Appendix 0_SAP_Public.pdf](#)
- 12 [26 Appendix 5_Maps.pdf](#)
- 13 [28 Appendix 7_ZIPP Summary Report.pdf](#)
- 14 [28 Appendix 01_Climatic Change Assessment.pdf](#)
- 15 [29 Appendix 02_Agriculture Compliance Statement.pdf](#)
- 16 [29 Appendix 03_Terrace Biodiversity Compliance Statement.pdf](#)
- 17 [31 Appendix 04_Roads Biodiversity Assessment.pdf](#)
- 18 [32 Appendix 06_Pland Species Compliance Statement.pdf](#)
- 19 [33 Appendix 05_Ornith Species Compliance Statement.pdf](#)

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Mura 4 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (up to 360 MW)

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Caseheader | [Locations](#) | [Admin](#)

Status: **SUBMITTED**

Heritage/Archaeology: **None**

SARPA

Case Type: **Section 34 (1) - Stating Consent Request**

Development Type: **Other**

Proposal Description:

Mura 4 (400) Photovoltaic Facility (up to 360 MW) (system layout and detailed) (link to the Internet Case Process

Application/Date: **Monday, February 15, 2022 - 10:19**

CaseID: **2022**

Applicant: **Maple of P&L Ltd**

Government/Partner: **Maple (Developer)**

Other Information:

Applicant	Application type	Resulted file	Contact Person
Department of Energy, Fisheries and Development	Draft SR	168810000	160-161181000

Heritage Reports: Heritage Impact Assessment for Mura 4-PV
[Heritage1.pdf](#)

Additional Documents

1. [14 Appendix 01_Archaeological Impact Assessment.pdf](#)
2. [14 Appendix 02_Paleontological Assessment.pdf](#)
3. [17 Appendix 03_Traffic Impact Assessment.pdf](#)
4. [18 Appendix 04_Cultural Impact Assessment.pdf](#)
5. [18 Appendix 05_Social Assessment.pdf](#)
6. [20 Appendix 06_Demographic Assessment.pdf](#)
7. [21 Draft Security Report - Mura 4 Solar PV.pdf](#)
8. [21 Appendix A_EAP-C1.pdf](#)
9. [21 Appendix B_EAP-Declaration.pdf](#)
10. [24 Appendix C_Sensitised Distribution.pdf](#)
11. [26 Appendix D_MER_Public.pdf](#)
12. [26 Appendix E_MER.pdf](#)
13. [27 Appendix F_EFPC Screening Tool Report.pdf](#)
14. [28 Appendix G1_Climate Change Assessment.pdf](#)
15. [28 Appendix G2_Agriculture Compliance Statement.pdf](#)
16. [28 Appendix G3_Terraced Roadworks Compliance Statement.pdf](#)
17. [28 Appendix G4_Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment.pdf](#)
18. [28 Appendix G5_Plant Species Compliance Statement.pdf](#)
19. [28 Appendix G6_Annual Status Compliance Statement.pdf](#)

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Environmental Reports for Public Review

Environmental documents for review and public comment

As part of our Environment & Energy team's service to clients, certain documentation must be made available for public review. These documents are hosted here for the duration of the public review period.



Title of Project: Mura 2 Solar PV facility between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

Document on Public Display: Final Scoping Report

Contact Person: Megan Govender (Megan.Govender@wsp.com)

- 41103930_20230418_Mura Solar 2_Final Scoping Report
- Appendix A_EAP CV
- Appendix B_EAP Declaration
- Appendix C_Specialist Declarations_02
- Appendix D_SER_Part 1
- Appendix D_SER_Part 2
- Appendix E_Maps 02
- Appendix F_DFFE Screening Tool Report
- Appendix G1_Climate Change Assessment
- Appendix G2_Agriculture Compliance Statement
- Appendix G3_Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement
- Appendix G4_Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment
- Appendix G5_Plant Species Compliance Statement
- Appendix G6_Animal Species Compliance Statement
- Appendix G7_Avifaunal Impact Assessment
- Appendix G8_Heritage Assessment
- Appendix G9_Palaeontological Assessment

Title of Project: Mura 3 Solar PV facility between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

Document on Public Display: Final Scoping Report

Contact Person: Megan Govender (Megan.Govender@wsp.com)

- 41103030_20230418_Mura Solar 3_Final Scoping Report
- Appendix A_EAP CV
- Appendix B_EAP Declaration
- Appendix C_Specialist Declarations_03
- Appendix D_SER_Part 1
- Appendix D_SER_Part 2
- Appendix E_Maps 03
- Appendix F_DFFE Screening Tool Report
- Appendix G1_Climate Change Assessment
- Appendix G2_Agriculture Compliance Statement
- Appendix G3_Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement
- Appendix G4_Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment
- Appendix G5_Plant Species Compliance Statement
- Appendix G6_Animal Species Compliance Statement
- Appendix G7_Avifaunal Impact Assessment
- Appendix G8_Heritage Assessment
- Appendix G9_Palaeontological Assessment
- Appendix G10_Traffic Impact Assessment
- Appendix G11_Visual Impact Assessment
- Appendix G12_Social Assessment
- Appendix G13_Geohydrological Assessment

Title of Project: Mura 4 Solar PV facility between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

Document on Public Display: Final Scoping Report

Contact Person: Megan Govender (Megan.Govender@wsp.com)

- 41103030_20230418_Mura Solar 4_Final Scoping Report
- Appendix A_EAP CV
- Appendix B_EAP Declaration
- Appendix C_Specialist Declarations_04
- Appendix D_SER_Part 1
- Appendix D_SER_Part 2
- Appendix E_Maps 04

Title of Project: Mura 4 Solar PV facility between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

Document on Public Display: Final Scoping Report

Contact Person: Megan Govender (Megan.Govender@wsp.com)

- 41103030_20230418_Mura Solar 4_Final Scoping Report
- Appendix A_EAP CV
- Appendix B_EAP Declaration
- Appendix C_Specialist Declarations_04
- Appendix D_SER_Part 1
- Appendix D_SER_Part 2
- Appendix E_Maps 04
- Appendix F_DFFE Screening Tool Report
- Appendix G1_Climate Change Assessment
- Appendix G2_Agriculture Compliance Statement
- Appendix G3_Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement
- Appendix G4_Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment
- Appendix G5_Plant Species Compliance Statement
- Appendix G6_Animal Species Compliance Statement
- Appendix G7_Avifaunal Impact Assessment
- Appendix G8_Heritage Assessment
- Appendix G9_Palaeontological Assessment
- Appendix G10_Traffic Impact Assessment
- Appendix G11_Visual Impact Assessment
- Appendix G12_Social Assessment
- Appendix G13_Geohydrological Assessment

Title of Project: Avaliação de Impacto Ambiental para o Projecto de Fábrica de Extração de Bio-óleo

Public Disclosure dates: 19 April - 18 May 2023

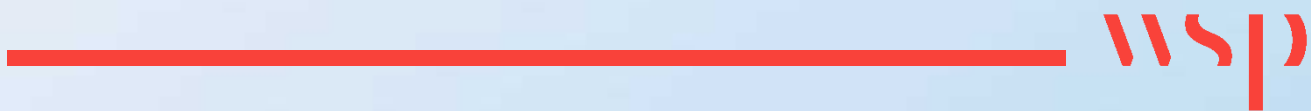
Document on Public Display: Rascunho do Relatório do Estudo de Pré-Viabilidade Ambiental e Definição de Âmbito (EPDA) e Termos de Referência

Contact Person: Jamila das Neves (jamila.dasneves@wsp.com)

- Relatório do Estudo de Pré-Viabilidade Ambiental e Definição de Âmbito (EPDA)
- RESUMO NÃO-TÉCNICO_Avaliação de Impacto Ambiental para o Projecto de Fábrica de Extração de Bio-óleo
- Termos de Referência - Avaliação de Impacto Ambiental para o Projecto da Fábrica de Extração de Bio-óleo

Appendix C

MEETINGS



Appendix C.1

DFFE PRE-APPLICATION MEETING





MEETING NOTES

JOB TITLE	Mura Solar Photovoltaic Development
PROJECT NUMBER	41103930
DFFE PRE-APPLICATION REFERENCE NUMBER	2022-09-0002
DATE	22 September 2022
TIME	10h00
VENUE	MS Teams
SUBJECT	DFFE Pre-Application Meeting for Mura Solar Photovoltaic Development
CLIENT	Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd
PRESENT	Ashlea Strong (AS) - WSP Megan Govender (MG) - WSP Surina Laurie (SL) - Red Cap Jessica Trytsman (JT) – Red Cap Lerato Mokoena (LM) – DFFE Jay-Jay Mpelane (JM) – DFFE Nyiko Nkosi (NN) - DFFE

MATTERS ARISING

ACTION

NOTE:

These notes constitute a summary of the key discussion points and decisions made during the meeting. They are not intended to reflect the exact discussions held.

Post-meeting notes are formatted in red italic text

1.0 INTRODUCTIONS

MG welcomed all attendees and presented the Agenda for the meeting. The attendees introduced themselves.

2.0 PROJECT PRESENTATION

Following the introductions, MG proceeded with the presentation (**Appendix A**) of the proposed Mura Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Complex located between Loxton and Beaufort West.

MG presented the project which covered the following:

Building C, Knightsbridge
33 Sloane Street
Bryanston, 2191
South Africa

T: +27 11 361 1300
F: +27 11 361 1301

www.wsp.com \\corp.pbwan.net\za\Central_Data\Projects\41100xxx\41103930 - RedCap Nuweveld PV Cluster\41 ES\01-Reports\02-Pre-App\03_Pre-Application Meeting Minutes\41103930_20220928_Redcap Mura Solar_Pre-App Meeting Minutes.docx

MEETING NOTES

- Overview of project;
- Project background;
- Typical infrastructure;
- Key considerations;
- Environmental Authorisation Process;
- Listed Activities;
- DFFE Screening Tool Results;
- Specialist Studies;
- Public Participation Plan;
- Project Timeframes; and
- Clarification Questions and Discussions.

The following key issues were raised during the presentation:

- JM enquired the purpose of the meeting. MG clarified that the meeting is a pre-application meeting for the Mura Solar PV Complex and there is specific clarification required for the environmental authorisation process as there are aspects of the project that do not follow the norm.
- There are four solar PV facilities and two grid connections proposed which will collectively be known as the Mura Solar PV Complex. All projects are located in the same area next to each other.
- Most of the project areas fall within the Western Cape, however Mura 3 Solar Area falls within the Northern Cape.
- The typical infrastructure associated with the project includes:
 - Solar Field
 - Solar Farm Substations
 - Building Infrastructure (O&M buildings, workshops, etc.)
 - Battery Energy Storage Systems
 - Underground cables
 - Gravel roads
 - Fencing
- The Project Area traverses a Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA 1). Mura 1 Solar PV Facility falls within the Beaufort West Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ). Mura 2 falls partially within the Beaufort West REDZ. The entire project falls within the Eastern Corridor Strategic Transmission Corridor.
- Specialists have been to site to undertake a sensitivity verification. The results have been combined into an environmental sensitivity map that highlights all the potential environmentally sensitive areas within the project area as identified by the specialists. The project layout has been designed to avoid the environmentally sensitive areas.
- Mura 2, 3 and 4 will follow a Scoping and EIA (S&EIA) Process, whereas Mura 1 will follow a Basic Assessment Process as the project falls within the Beaufort West REDZ.
- Corridor A will follow a Basic Assessment Process and Corridor B may qualify for Registration in terms of GN 2313.
- The S&EIA and BA Processes will run concurrently.
- There will be one consolidated public participation process for all projects.
- The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) was confirmed as being the competent authority for this project.

Post meeting it was decided that Corridor A and B will be assessed as one project and will follow a single BA Process

3.0 CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS

MG noted that the proposed approach for the specialist studies is to have one combined specialist report that will have each area assessed by the specialist in a separate section in the report. MG enquired if this approach would be accepted by the department (DFFE). JM confirmed that the supporting specialist studies for the various applications can be a combined report but the recommendations and mitigation measures must be separate for each project.

The Mura 2 Solar PV Facility falls partially within the Beaufort West REDZ. AS requested clarity on whether Mura 2 can be considered falling within the Beaufort West REDZ and therefore subject to a Basic Assessment? The DFFE Screening Tool states that the development falls within the REDZ. LM

MEETING NOTES

clarified that the project has to completely fall within the REDZ to qualify for the BA Process. Mura 2 therefore does not qualify.

Mura 2, 3 and 4 will all follow a S&EIA Process. These are three separate applications. MG enquired if the department would be open to having one combined Scoping Report and EIA Report for the three applications? Each area will be assessed separately and impacts, mitigation measures and recommendations for each project will be separated in the report. JM advised that it is preferable to submit separate reports to ensure there is no confusion. The applications may not all be allocated to the same case officer therefore each application will require its own report.

SL enquired whether the department would accept a regulation 11 request for a combined application process? If this was accepted, would all the applications therefore not go to the same case officer? JM reiterated that each application should have an accompanying report.

LM enquired if there will be a regulation 11 application submission? SL confirmed that the approach is to combine the applications as per regulation 11, but clarification on this was to be requested from the department. LM suggested that the regulation 11 combined application request is formally submitted. Thereafter the department will submit an official response.

Corridor B falls within the Eastern Strategic Transmission Corridor and specialists have confirmed that the line routing within the Corridor may be able to avoid very high and high sensitive areas. MG noted that this is interpreted as the project qualifying for Registration of a Transmission Line as per Government Notice No. 2313 published in Government Gazette No. 47095 of 27 July 2022. MG enquired if the department has to confirm the applicability of this or if the EAP commence with the registration process. MG also enquired if the EA for the solar farms has to be granted first or can the registration process commence at the beginning of the EA Process of the other projects? LM clarified that the department does not have to confirm the applicability prior to the registration process. Chapter 2 of the guideline must be followed. Once all the requirements have been received as per Chapter 2, the registration of the transmission line can commence by the EAP. This can take place at any point in the timeline.

4.0 CLOSING REMARKS

AS noted that the EAP will liaise with the applicant and proceed with submission of the regulation 11 approval for combined applications. If the department approves the request, the process will follow with a combined application.


MG noted that meeting minutes will be compiled and sent to the attendees for approval.

WSP to submit request for combination of applications as per Regulation 11 of the EIA Regs (*this was submitted on 23 September 2022*).

WSP to compile and submit meeting minutes for approval.


APPENDIX A

PRE-APPLICATION MEETING PRESENTATION



DFFE Pre-Application Meeting

Mura Solar PhotoVoltaic Development



1




Agenda

- 1 **Introduction**
Introduction
- 2 **Overview of Project**
Project Background
Typical Infrastructure
Key Considerations
- 3 **Permitting Processes**
Environmental Authorisation Process
L1 and L2 Activities
DFFE Screening Tool
Specialist Studies
- 4 **Public Participation Plan**
- 5 **Timeframes**
- 6 **Discussion**
Specific Clarification
Questions and Comments




2

2




Introductions

Applicant	Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd Suzana Leznik Jessica Trifunovic
EAP	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd Wegand Gwevond Akhona Sinyang
Authority	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) Sipho Makhahle



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Overview of the Project

Background

Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd is proposing to develop four solar facilities and associated grid connections, collectively known as the Mura Solar PV Complex, between Loxton and Beaufort West. The development will be divided into up to four solar and two grid projects, namely:

- o Mura 1 Solar PV Facility (up to 150 MW)
- o Mura 2 Solar PV Facility (up to 450 MW)
- o Mura 3 Solar PV Facility (up to 320 MW)
- o Mura 4 Solar PV Facility (up to 360 MW); and
- o Two grid infrastructure projects (Mura EGI Corridor for Mura Sites 1 and 2 and Mura EGI Corridor for Mura Sites 3 and 4)

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Overview of the Project

Background

	Mura 1 Solar PV Facility	Mura 2 Solar PV Facility	Mura 3 Solar PV Facility	Mura 4 Solar PV Facility
Project Extent (full area to be transformed)	160 ha	580 ha	370 ha	420 ha
Generation capacity	150 MW	450 MW	320 MW	360 MW

	Corridor A	Corridor B
Grid Infrastructure Area	Mura EGI Corridor for Mura 3 and 4 Facilities	Mura EGI Corridor for Mura 1 and 2 Facilities

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Overview of the Project

Location

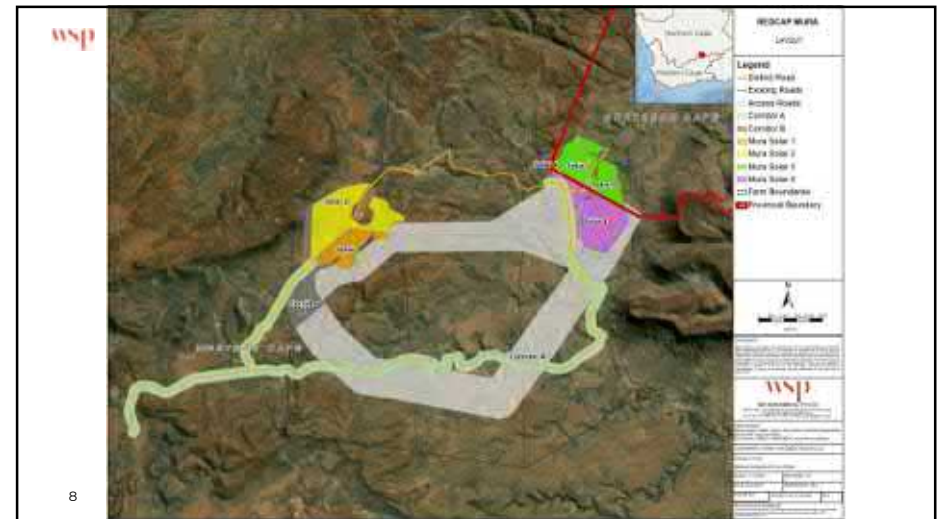
	Mura 1 Solar PV Facility	Mura 2 Solar PV Facility	Mura 3 Solar PV Facility	Mura 4 Solar PV Facility
Province	Western Cape and Northern Cape			
District Municipality	Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Sema District Municipality			
Local Municipality	Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality			
Farms	Portion 4 of Duiker Kranse Farm No. 45	Portion 4 and 45 of Duiker Kranse Farm No. 45	RE of Abrams Kraal Farm No. 206	Portion 11 of Bullfontein Farm No. 387

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Overview of the Project

Typical Infrastructure

Each of the solar facilities will contain the following infrastructure:

- Solar Field
 - Maximum height of 6 m
 - PV Modules that are located on either axis tracking structures or fixed tilt mounting structures or similar
- Solar Farm Substations
 - Maximum height of 12m
 - Two up to 150 m x 75 m substation yards that will include:
 - Substation building
 - High voltage gantry
- Building Infrastructure
 - Maximum height of 8m
 - Offices
 - Operational and maintenance (O&M)/ control centre
 - Warehouse/workshop
 - Ablution facilities
 - Converter/inverter stations

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Overview of the Project

Typical Infrastructure

- Li-ion or similar solid state Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
 - Each solar farm will have up to a 3.5 ha area for a 240 MW BESS
 - BESS substation (same specifications as the solar farm substations)
 - Connected to the solar farm sub/switching stations via an underground high voltage cable
- Other infrastructure
 - Internal underground cables of up to 132 kV
 - Internal gravel roads
 - Fencing (between 2 – 3 m high) around the PV Facilities
 - Panel maintenance and cleaning area
 - Storm water management system
 - Construction work area

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Overview of the Project

Typical Infrastructure

- Associated Infrastructure – outside the solar area footprint:
 - Internal access gravel roads
 - 6m wide driving surface
 - May be up to 12m wide during construction but will be temporary and rehabilitated following construction phase
 - May require side drains on one or both sides
- Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) Corridor Components
 - Covered in separate applications to the Solar PV facilities
 - Eskom Switching stations:
 - Located adjacent to the solar farm substations within the solar area footprint
 - Maximum height of 12m
 - Footprint of up to 150 m x 75 m
 - Overhead 132 kV lines supported by monopole pylons with a 38m max height
 - Three additional up to 150 m x 75 m switching stations located within the electricity grid corridors

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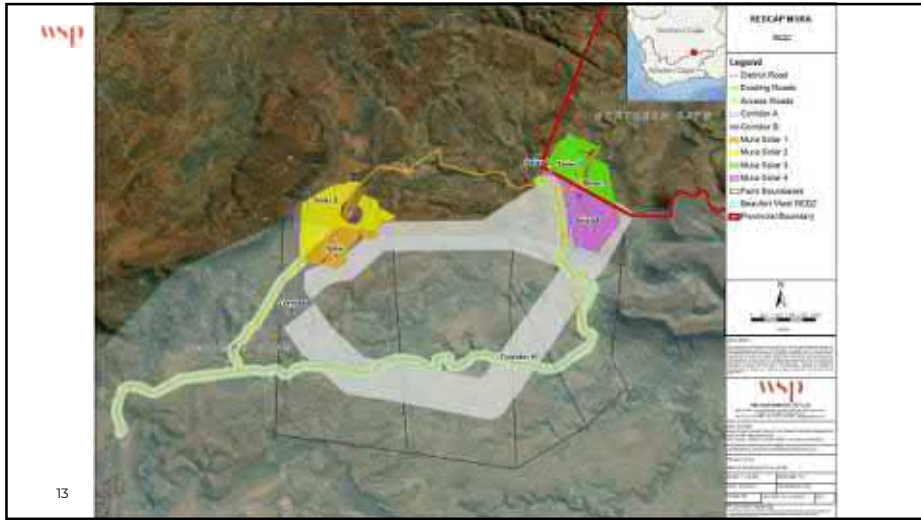
Overview of the Project

Key Considerations

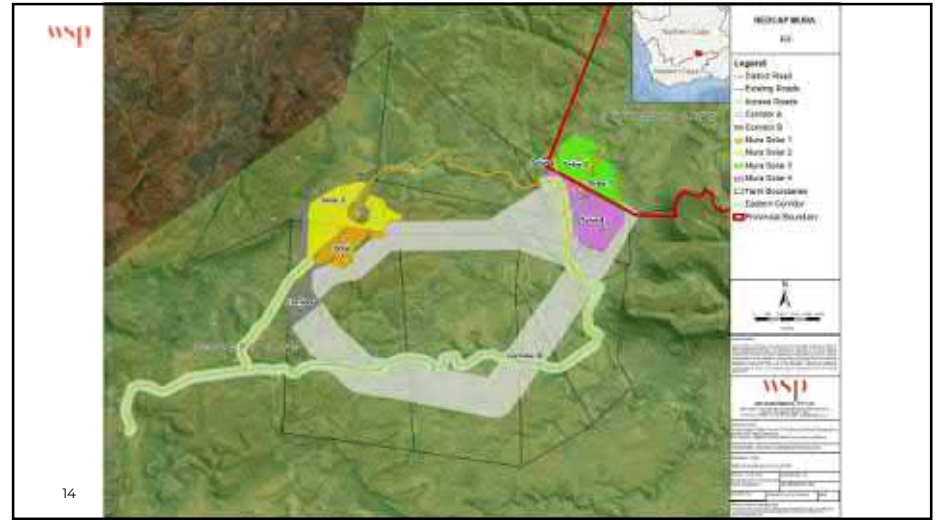
- The Project Area traverses **Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA)** (CBA 1)
- Mura 1 Solar PV Facility falls within the Beaufort West **Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ)**
- The entire project falls within the **Strategic Transmission Corridors: Eastern Corridor**

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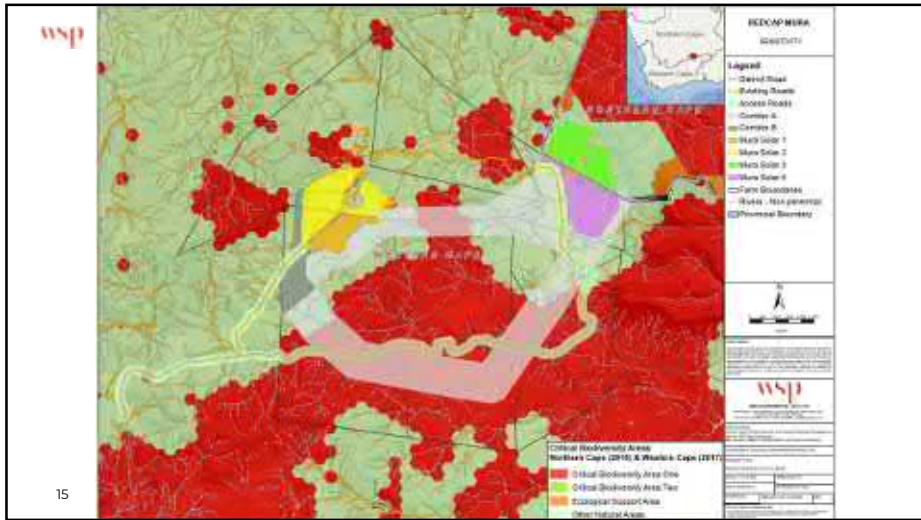
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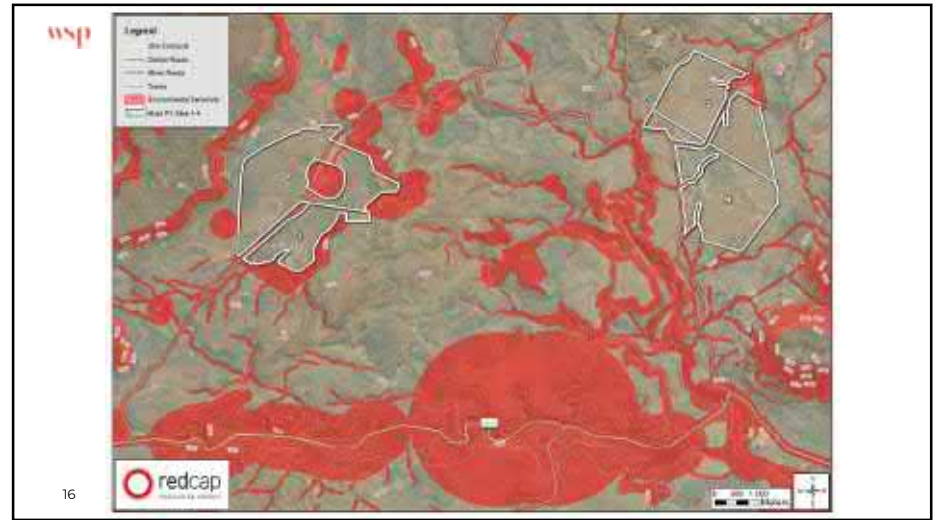
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Permitting Processes

Environmental Authorisation Applications

- o **Combined Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) Processes:**
 - Mura 2 Solar PV Facility (up to 450 MW)
 - Mura 3 Solar PV Facility (up to 320 MW)
 - Mura 4 Solar PV Facility (up to 360 MW)
- o **Separate Basic Assessment/Assessment Processes:**
 - Basic Assessment for the Mura 1 Solar PV Facility (up to 150 MW)**
 - Basic Assessment for the Corridor A 132kV Grid Connection
 - Basic Assessment/Registration of the transmission line for the Corridor B 132kV Grid Connection***

** Falls wholly within Beaufort West REDZ
 *** May qualify for Registration in terms of GN 2313

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Permitting Processes

Listed Activities – Listing Notice 1

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
Activity 11: The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity— (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts	All projects will include grid infrastructure of up to 132 kV overhead/underground transmission lines. The transmission lines are outside of the urban edge.
Activity 12: The development of— (i) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs— (a) within a watercourse; or (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse	The powerlines will require the erection of pylons, which may require a total construction area of approximately 100m ² . There is the potential that a pylon or access road will transverse a watercourse (or drainage line).
Activity 19: The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse	Internal access roads and stormwater control infrastructure, as well as electrical cabling required to connect the various components of the Facilities will collectively require the excavation, infilling or removal of soil exceeding 10m ³ from delineated watercourses on site.
Activity 27: The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for: (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan	The development envelope of these facilities will be wholly transformed either with solar panels or other supporting infrastructure (including the substation, Battery Facility, cables, etc)

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Permitting Processes

Listed Activities – Listing Notice 2

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
Activity 1: The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more, excluding where such development of facilities or infrastructure is for photovoltaic installations and occurs: (a) within an urban area; or (b) on existing infrastructure.	Mura 1 Solar PV Facility will generate up to 150 MW, Mura 2 Solar PV Facility will generate up to 450 MW, Mura 3 Solar PV Facility will generate up to 320 MW, and Mura 4 Solar PV Facility will generate up to 360 MW of electricity output from a renewable resource.
Activity 15: The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for— (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	Each of the Mura Solar PV projects will utilise a footprint of more than 150 ha. It is likely that at least 20 ha of indigenous vegetation will be removed.

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Permitting Processes

Listed Activities – Listing Notice 3

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
Activity 12: The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan In i. Western Cape ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans;	Each of the Mura Solar PV projects and the supporting grid infrastructure will utilise a footprint of more than 300 m ² and traverses a Critical Biodiversity Area.
Activity 14: The development of— (i) dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area exceeds 10 square metres; or (ii) infrastructure or structures with a Physical footprint of 10 Square metres or more; where such development occurs— (a) within a watercourse; (b) in front of a development setback; or (c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse; In i. Western Cape; ii. Outside urban areas: (ff) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;	The powerlines will require the erection pylons, which may require a construction area of approximately 100m ² . There is the potential that a pylon or access road will transverse a watercourse (or drainage line) in a Critical Biodiversity Area.

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Permitting Processes


DFFE Screening Tool Identified Sensitivities – Solar PV Facilities

THEME	VERY HIGH SENSITIVITY	HIGH SENSITIVITY	MEDIUM SENSITIVITY	LOW SENSITIVITY
Agriculture Theme		S2	S1 S3 S4	
Animal Species Theme		S1 S2	S3 S4	
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme				S1 S2 S3 S4
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				S1 S2 S3 S4
Avian Theme				S1 S2 S3 S4
Civil Aviation (Solar PV) Theme				S1 S2 S3 S4
Defence Theme				S1 S2 S3 S4
Landscape (Solar) Theme	S1 S2 S3 S4			
Palaeontology Theme	S1 S2 S3 S4			
Plant Species Theme			S2	S1 S3 S4
RFI Theme		S1 S2	S3 S4	
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	S2			S1 S3 S4

S1: Mura 1 Solar PV Facility
S2: Mura 2 Solar PV Facility
S3: Mura 3 Solar PV Facility
S4: Mura 4 Solar PV Facility

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Permitting Processes


DFFE Screening Tool Identified Sensitivities – Grid Infrastructure

THEME	VERY HIGH SENSITIVITY	HIGH SENSITIVITY	MEDIUM SENSITIVITY	LOW SENSITIVITY
Agriculture Theme		A	B	
Animal Species Theme		AB		
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme	AB			
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				AB
Civil Aviation Theme				AB
Defence Theme				AB
Paleontology Theme	AB			
Plant Species Theme			AB	
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	AB			

A: Corridor A Grid Infrastructure
B: Corridor B Grid Infrastructure

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Permitting Processes

Specialist Assessments Identified by the DFFE Screening Tool

Specialist Study	Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 Solar PV Facilities	Corridor A and B Grid Infrastructure
Agricultural Impact Assessment	X	X
Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment	X	X
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	X	X
Palaeontology Impact Assessment	X	X
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	X	X
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	X	X
Civil Aviation Assessment	X	X
Defense Assessment	X	X
RFI Assessment	X	X
Geotechnical Assessment	X	X
Socio-Economic Assessment	X	
Plant Species Assessment	X	X
Animal Species Assessment	X	X
Avian Impact Assessment		X

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Permitting Processes

Specialist Studies Commissioned

Specialist Study	Comment
Soils and Agricultural Potential Assessment	A soils and agricultural assessment will be undertaken
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	An archaeological and heritage impact assessment will be undertaken
Palaeontology Impact Assessment	A palaeontological impact assessment will be undertaken
Visual Impact Assessment	A visual impact assessment will therefore be undertaken
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	A terrestrial biodiversity assessment will be undertaken. This assessment will include both fauna and flora aspects
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	An aquatic biodiversity assessment will be undertaken
Avifauna Impact Assessment	Due to the potential impacts on birds as a result of the projects, an avifauna assessment will be undertaken
Social Impact Assessment	A socio-economic impact assessment will be undertaken
★ Traffic Assessment	A traffic assessment will be undertaken
★ Climate Change	A climate change assessment will be undertaken

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Permitting Processes

Specialist Studies NOT Commissioned

Specialist Study	Comment
Geotechnical	A detailed Geotechnical Assessment will not be undertaken as this will be undertaken during the design phase.
RFI	A Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) Study will not be undertaken. The South African Weather Service (SAWS) and relevant telecommunications stakeholders will be engaged with as part of the Public Participation Process. As this theme has been identified as either medium or high, a compliance statement will be prepared by the EAP and included in the EIA Reports for the Mura Solar PV Projects.
Civil Aviation	The Civil Aviation Authority will be included on the project stakeholder database. They will be informed of the proposed Project, and comment will be sought. An Application for the Approval of Obstacles will also be submitted to SACAA once preferred bidder status is obtained. As this theme has been identified as a low sensitivity, no compliance statement is required.
Defence	The Department of Defence will be included on the project stakeholder database. They will be informed of the proposed Project, and comment will be sought. As this theme has been identified as a low sensitivity, no compliance statement is required.

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Permitting Processes

Competent Authority

- o **Section 24C(2)(a) of NEMA**
 - The Minister must be identified as the Competent Authority (CA) if the activity has implications for international environmental commitments or relations
- o **Section 24C(2)(d)(iii) of NEMA**
 - The Minister must be identified as the Competent Authority (CA) if the activity is undertaken by a statutory body, excluding any municipality, performing an exclusive competence of the national sphere of government
- o **GN 779 of 01 July 2016**
 - Identifies the Minister as the CA for the consideration and processing of environmental authorisations and amendments thereto for activities related the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) 2010 – 2030
- o **DFFE** is therefore deemed to be the Competent Authority

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Public Participation Process

Public Participation Plan

- o A Consolidated Public Participation Process is proposed for all applications
- o Formally announce project via:
 - Adverts (English and Afrikaans in local newspaper)
 - Site notices
 - Utilising existing stakeholder databases
- o Compilation and management of I&AP Database
- o Written notification:
 - Owners and occupiers on or adjacent to the proposed project site
 - Municipality Ward Councillor
 - District Municipality
 - Relevant State Departments
- o Draft Reports Review for 30 days:
 - Online on the WSP website
 - Online on a data free website
 - Hard copies placed at local libraries
 - An audio presentation of the project (voiced over PowerPoint) in English and Afrikaans will be made available

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Timeframes

Timeframes

- o Authority Timeframes
 - Does fall within a Strategic Transmission Corridor (GN 113)
 - Does fall within a REDZ (GN 114)
 - Authority decision making timeframe is 107 days for S&EIA
 - Authority decision making timeframe is 54 days for BA
- o Key Milestones
 - Submission of Application Forms – January 2023
 - Draft Scoping Report Public Review – January to February 2023
 - Submission of Final Scoping Reports – March 2023
 - Draft EIA and BA Reports Public Review – June 2023
 - Submission of Final EIA and BA Reports – August 2023

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Discussion

Specific Clarification

- We are proposing that the specialists produced combined reports for the solar projects. However, project specific impacts will be assessed separately (As per Regulation 11 of EIA Regs)
- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility falls partially within the REDZ, the DFFE Screening Tool identifies the project falling within the Beaufort West REDZ. Please confirm whether Mura 2 can be considered falling within the REDZ and subject to a BA?
- In the event that Mura 2 is subject to a BA, we would like to submit two BA applications for Mura 1 and 2, but one combined BA Report.
- In the event that Mura 2 is subject to an EIA, we would like to submit three applications but one combined report (Scoping and EIA) for Mura 2, 3 and 4.
- Corridor B falls within a Strategic Transmission Corridor and avoids Very High and High sensitive areas as confirmed by the specialists. In our interpretation the project qualifies for Registration of a Transmission Line as per Government Notice No. 2313 published in Government Gazette No. 47095 of 27 July 2022?
- When should this registration process begin?


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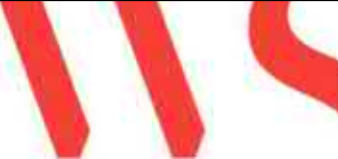
Discussion

- Questions
- Way Forward



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Thank you

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APPENDIX B

MS TEAMS ATTENDANCE RECORD

Attendance Report

1. Summary

Meeting title	2022-09-0002: DFFE Pre-Application Meeting – RedCap Mura Solar PhotoVoltaic Development
Attended participants	6
Start time	22/09/22, 09:58:10
End time	22/09/22, 10:47:33
Meeting duration	49m 24s
Average attendance time	46m 46s

2. Participants

Name	First join	Last leave	In-meeting duration	Email	Participant ID (UPN)	Role
Strong, Ashlea	22/09/22, 09:58:27	22/09/22, 10:47:33	49m 6s	Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com	Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com	Presenter
Govender, Megan	22/09/22, 09:58:35	22/09/22, 10:47:16	48m 41s	Megan.Govender@wsp.com	Megan.Govender@wsp.com	Organizer
Surina Laurie (Red Cap) (Guest)	22/09/22, 10:00:14	22/09/22, 10:47:06	46m 52s			Presenter
Jessica Els	22/09/22, 10:00:34	22/09/22, 10:47:06	46m 31s	jessica@red-cap.co.za	jessica@red-cap.co.za	Presenter
Lerato Mokoena	22/09/22, 10:02:19	22/09/22, 10:47:11	44m 51s	LMOKOENA@dffe.gov.za	lmokoena@environment.gov.za	Presenter
Jay-Jay Mpelane	22/09/22, 10:02:36	22/09/22, 10:47:10	44m 33s	JMPELANE@dffe.gov.za	jmpelane@environment.gov.za	Presenter

3. In-Meeting activities

Name	Join time	Leave time	Duration	Email	Role
Strong, Ashlea	22/09/22, 09:58:27	22/09/22, 10:47:33	49m 6s	Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com	Presenter
Govender, Megan	22/09/22, 09:58:35	22/09/22, 10:47:16	48m 41s	Megan.Govender@wsp.com	Organizer
Surina Laurie (Red Cap) (Guest)	22/09/22, 10:00:14	22/09/22, 10:47:06	46m 52s		Presenter
Jessica Els	22/09/22, 10:00:34	22/09/22, 10:47:06	46m 31s	jessica@red-cap.co.za	Presenter
Lerato Mokoena	22/09/22, 10:02:19	22/09/22, 10:47:11	44m 51s	LMOKOENA@dffe.gov.za	Presenter
Jay-Jay Mpelane	22/09/22, 10:02:36	22/09/22, 10:47:10	44m 33s	JMPELANE@dffe.gov.za	Presenter

Govender, Megan

From: Jay-Jay Mpelane <JMPELANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 02 November 2022 12:39
To: Govender, Megan; Lerato Mokoena; Ephron Maradwa; Nyiko Nkosi
Cc: jessica@red-cap.co.za; Strong, Ashlea; 'Surina Laurie'
Subject: RE: 2022-09-0002_DFFE Pre-Application Meeting Minutes for Mura Solar PV Development

Dear Govender.

The minutes are indeed adopted, however, these minutes are not exempting you from perform your duties as per require throughout the EIA process. E.g. if you omit anything during EIA process, you are not going to blame this Department for not advising you.

Regards,
Jay.

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: 01 November 2022 01:19 PM
To: Jay-Jay Mpelane <JMPELANE@dffe.gov.za>; Lerato Mokoena <LMOKOENA@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: jessica@red-cap.co.za; Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; 'Surina Laurie' <surina@red-cap.co.za>
Subject: FW: 2022-09-0002_DFFE Pre-Application Meeting Minutes for Mura Solar PV Development

Good Day Jay

I hope you are well.

I have tried calling you today. In reference to my email below, please may you approve the pre-application meeting minutes. I have attached it again for ease of reference.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300
M +27 083 228 5288

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Wednesday, 28 September 2022 10:25
To: Jay-Jay Mpelane <JMPELANE@dffe.gov.za>; Lerato Mokoena <LMOKOENA@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Jessica Els <jessica@red-cap.co.za>; Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; Surina Laurie <surina@red-cap.co.za>
Subject: 2022-09-0002_DFFE Pre-Application Meeting Minutes for Mura Solar PV Development

Good Day

Please find attached for your approval the pre-application meeting minutes for the Mura Solar PV Development that took place on 22 September 2022.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

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M +27 083 228 5288



WSP in Africa
Building C
Knightsbridge
33 Sloane Street, Bryanston
2191 South Africa

wsp.com

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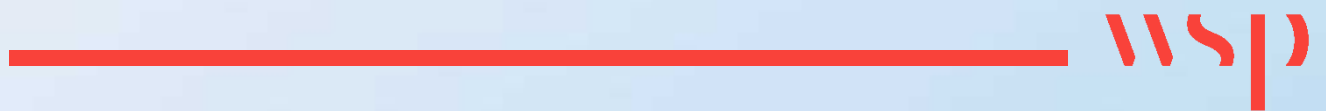
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building C, Knightsbridge, 33 Sloane Street, Bryanston, 2191, South Africa Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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-LAE mHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Appendix D

COMMENTS RECEIVED



Appendix D.1

COMMENTS RECEIVED FOR ALL PROJECTS



Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Tuesday, 07 March 2023 09:05
To: Rene Van Tonder
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.
Attachments: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Good Morning Rene

I have shared the folder with your email address. You should have received the attached email.

Please let me know if you still have any issues downloading the reports.

Alternatively, you can also download the reports from the WSP website or a Datafree Website using the links below:

WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender

Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Rene Van Tonder <rene@skdm.co.za>
Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 15:13
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Subject: Re: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Good afternoon Megan

I cannot open the attachment that you send to the manager address

Regards

Rene Van Tonder
Manager: Records - Central
Karoo District Municipality

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

E-mail: manager@skdm.co.za

Web: <https://www.skdm.co.za>

Working Together in Development and Growth

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From: "Govender, Megan" <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 3:05:24 PM

Subject: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.



Govender, Megan shared a folder with you

Here's the folder that Govender, Megan shared with you.



Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review



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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Tuesday, 07 March 2023 09:11
To: Natalie Uys
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Attachments: Mura Solar 1.kml; Mura Solar 2.kml; Mura Solar 3.kml; Mura Solar 4.kml; Mura EGI Corridor.kml; Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Good Morning Natalie

Please see attached .kml files of the development areas as requested. I have also shared the One Drive Folder with your email address. You should have received the attached email.

Please let me know if you still have any issues downloading the reports.

Alternatively, you can also download the reports from the WSP website or a Datafree Website using the links below:

WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300
M +27 083 228 5288

From: Natalie Uys Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 15:10

To: Govender, Megan Megan.Govender@wsp.com

Subject: Re: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good day

Could you please send the kml/kmz/shapefile layer for the development .

Please could you send the onedrive link? I cannot get access to the onedrive link.

Best regards
Natalie

On Mon, 6 Mar 2023 at 14:52, Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com> wrote:

Dear Commenting Authority,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

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	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street	
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton	
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/		

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One Drive Link	 Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review
One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder

A presentation on the summary of the proposed development has been collated. The presentation has been made available on the WSP website, Datafree website and One Drive Link.

PowerPoint Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To view and listen to the project summary presentation, please open the PowerPoint Presentation and click on the speaker icon on the left on each slide to listen to the accompanying commentary
-------------------------------	--

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
Tel: 011 361 1410
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
2191 South Africa

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--
Best regards
Natalie Uys *Pr. Sci. Nat.*
Production Scientist Grade A: Botanist
Environmental Research Development
Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform
(former Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC))
Contact info: Redacted as per POPIA requirements
Physical Address: 90 Long street, Albertynshof, Kimberley, Northern Cape
<https://goo.gl/maps/PyBbrDUngaMQsn9u5>

Permit office contact information: - dencpermits@gmail.com / 081 463 4839

Permit forms: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YEmVt4YHNfljnodXqmwTa3O10ilka3fs7PRk0GiZXXs/pub>

Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Tuesday, 07 March 2023 09:32
To: Brandon Layman
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Good Morning Brandon

The below is noted. WSP will courier a USB to your offices.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Brandon Layman <Brandon.Layman@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 15:39
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Subject: FW: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Hi Ms. Govender

Please note that this office is bound by the government filing system which is currently in physical file format as approved by the Auditor General.

The transition to electronic filing is slow and must be according to government protocols. The provincial department responsible for our electronic storage/filing etc. is in process to develop that.

As solution to the cost of printing hard copies and lack of electronic filing system on our side (as discussed above) we decided the best option is to give you as consultants the option for a CD or USB as alternative to hard copy.

The main difference between a CD or USB is storage. A hard copy, CD or USB is the "store". Email or we-transfer needs to be printed to be stored physically as we do not have an approved filing system available in the cloud or other network.

CD or USB we can still put on a physical file.

With many thanks and kind regards

Brandon Layman

Administrative Assistant to:
Cor Van der Walt : LandUse Manager
Department of Agriculture
Provincial Government of the Western Cape
Private Bag X1
ELSENBURG
7607
GPS koordinate Elsenburg kantoor: 33.845259 S 18.834722 E.

2nd Floor, Main Building, Muldersvlei Road
Telephone: +27 21 808 5093
Fax: +27 865448977
E-mail: Brandon.layman@westerncape.gov.za
Departmental Website: www.elsenburg.com
Provincial Website: www.capegateway.gov.za



From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: 06 March 2023 03:03 PM

Redacted as per POPIA requirements


Subject: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.



Govender, Megan shared a folder with you

Here's the folder that Govender, Megan shared with you.

 Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review

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Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Tuesday, 07 March 2023 09:39
To: Fourie Lizna (ELS)
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Good Morning Lizna

The total size of the files is 601 MB (with a total of 101 reports) so I am unable to send it via email. Are you perhaps able to download the report from either the WSP website or the Datafree Website using the links below:

WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/

If you are unable to download the reports, please let me know if there is an alternative method of sending you the reports?

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300
M +27 083 228 5288

From: Fourie Lizna (ELS) <FourieL4@dws.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 07 March 2023 09:15
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Subject: FW: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Morning Megan

SITA does not allow me to open this

Please email me the relevant docs which we need to review

Thanks


Lizna Fourie

From: Fourie Lizna (ELS)
Sent: Tuesday, 07 March 2023 08:36
To: Rambani Rachel (ELS) <RambaniR@dws.gov.za>
Subject: FW: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 15:05
To: Redacted as per POPIA requirements


Redacted as per POPIA requirements


Subject: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.



Govender, Megan shared a folder with you

Here's the folder that Govender, Megan shared with you.

 Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Tuesday, 07 March 2023 14:25
To: Portia Makitla; Mashudu Mudau
Cc: Strong, Ashlea; Kamogelo Mathetja
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW
Attachments: Mura Solar 1.kml; Mura Solar 2.kml; Mura Solar 3.kml; Mura Solar 4.kml; Mura EGI Corridor.kml

Good Day Mrs Makitla and Ms Mudau

Please find attached .kml files related to the project.

Should you have any additional queries, please feel free to contact me.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Kamogelo Mathetja <KMathetja@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 07 March 2023 12:53
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Cc: Portia Makitla <PMakitla@dffe.gov.za>; Mashudu Mudau <MaMudau@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Sir/Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs P Makitla and Ms M Mudau (Both copied on this email). In addition, kindly share the shapefiles of the development footprints/application site with the Case Officers.

Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota

Regards,
Kamogelo

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 2:51 PM
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Commenting Authority,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

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- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
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The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

One Drive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review
One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder

A presentation on the summary of the proposed development has been collated. The presentation has been made available on the WSP website, Datafree website and One Drive Link.

PowerPoint Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To view and listen to the project summary presentation, please open the PowerPoint Presentation and click on the speaker icon on the left on each slide to listen to the accompanying commentary
-------------------------------	--

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender

Tel: 011 361 1410
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
2191 South Africa

wsp.com

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-LAEHhHhdZjzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKl

Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Tuesday, 07 March 2023 14:34
To: Annette Geertsema
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day Annette

I have uploaded the title deeds, development site and locality maps to this One Drive Folder: [Mura Additional Information](#) as the files are too big to send via email.

Please confirm receipt and download of the files.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Annette Geertsema <AnnetteS@Dalrrd.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 07 March 2023 08:35
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good day Megan

Can you please send the title deeds, proposed site development and locality maps to enable the Department to consider the applications?

Regards
Annette

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 14:51
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated outside of "DALRRD Environment". CAUTION: Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

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One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder

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WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
 Tel: 011 361 1410
 Fax: 011 361 1381
 E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
 Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
2191 South Africa

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Wednesday, 08 March 2023 10:16
To: René de Kock (WR)
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Good Day Rene

Please see if you can access the files using the following link: [Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review](#)

Alternatively, you can also download the reports from the WSP website or a Datafree Website using the links below:

WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/

Please let me know if you have any issues downloading the reports.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: René de Kock (WR) Redacted as per POPIA requirements
Sent: Wednesday, 08 March 2023 08:08
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Good day

Thank you for your email, unfortunately I cannot open it.

regards

René de Kock
STATUTORY CONTROLLER
Western Region
1 Havenga Street, Oakdale, Bellville, Western Cape, 7530, South Africa

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

SANRAL



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From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 3:03 PM

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Subject: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

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Govender, Megan shared a folder with you

Here's the folder that Govender, Megan shared with you.



[Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review](#)



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-LAEHhHHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Govender, Megan

From: René de Kock (WR) Redacted as per POPIA requirements
Sent: Wednesday, 08 March 2023 10:56
To: Govender, Megan
Cc: Sinazo Pekula (WR)
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Thank you, Megan.

Please forward all EIA related emails to Nicole Abrahams at Redacted as per POPIA requirements for comment.

Kind regards

René de Kock
STATUTORY CONTROLLER
Western Region
1 Havenga Street, Oakdale, Bellville, Western Cape, 7530, South Africa

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Fraud Hotline Number - 0800 204 558

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From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 10:40 AM
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

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Good Day

Please note that the Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports for the Mura PV Development could unfortunately not be accommodated at the Klein Karoo Agri. The reports have been made alternatively available at the Beaufort West Municipal Offices (25 Church St, Beaufort West).

Should you have any queries please feel free to contact me.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Govender, Megan

Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 14:51

Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Commenting Authority,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Mura 1 Solar PV Facility: BA Process
- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

One Drive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review
One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification

number which will automatically be sent to your email address
– if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam"
folder

A presentation on the summary of the proposed development has been collated. The presentation has been made available on the WSP website, Datafree website and One Drive Link.

PowerPoint Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To view and listen to the project summary presentation, please open the PowerPoint Presentation and click on the speaker icon on the left on each slide to listen to the accompanying commentary
-------------------------------	--

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
Tel: 011 361 1410
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
2191 South Africa

wsp.com

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-LAEHhHhd.JzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Wednesday, 15 March 2023 09:52
To: Sinazo Pekula (WR)
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

Good Day Sinazo

Thank you, your comment is noted.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Sinazo Pekula (WR) <PekulaS@nra.co.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 March 2023 13:43
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

Good day Megan

Please find the attached letter for your attention.

Kind Regards

Sinazo Pekula
STATUTORY CONTROL OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
Western Region
1 Havenqa Street, Oakdale, Bellville, Western Cape, 7530, South Africa

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

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Reference: W11/2/1 Fax Number: +27 (0) 21 910 1699
Date: 14 March 2023 Direct Line: +27 (0) 21 957 4600
Email: PekulaS@nra.co.za Website: www.nra.co.za

Megan Govender

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City
Midrand
1685

e-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com

Dear Megan Govender

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

Thank you for your email dated 6 March 2023.

The South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL) has no jurisdiction regarding the above application and therefore, has no comment.

Yours Sincerely

Pekula
.....
Ms. S Pekula
STATUTORY CONTROL

ID: 20736736

Govender, Megan

From: Vanessa Stoffels
Sent: Monday, 13 March 2023 10:08
To: Govender, Megan
Subject: RE: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Hi Megan

Thank you. I gained access.

Kind regards
Vanessa

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:36 AM

To: Vanessa Stoffels

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Subject: RE: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Good Day Vanessa

There are a total of 101 reports with several above the email limit size so I am unable to send it via email. Are you perhaps able to download the report from either the WSP website or the Datafree Website using the links below:

WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/

If you are unable to download the reports, please let me know if there is an alternative method of sending you the reports?

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Vanessa Stoffels

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Sent: Monday, 13 March 2023 08:33

To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

Subject: RE: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Good day Megan

Thank you for your e-mail.

Unfortunately I could not access your documents. Staff are blocked by our IT department to open links due to Cyber threats.

Please feel free to send documents via multiple e-mails.

Kind Regards

Vanessa Stoffels

Admin Clerk: Road Use Management
Department of Transport and Public Works
Chief Directorate: Road Planning
Western Cape Government

24th Floor, 9 Lower Burg Street, Cape Town

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Website: www.westerncape.gov.za

Be 110% Green. Read from the screen.

From: Evan Burger Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 3:35 PM

To: Vanessa Stoffels <Vanessa.Stoffels@westerncape.gov.za>

Subject: FW: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Regards | Groete

Evan Burger

Control Engineering Technician
Department: Transport & Public Works
Western Cape Government

3rd Floor, Room 3.36, 9 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001

PO Box 2603, Cape Town, 8000

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Website: www.westerncape.gov.za

Road Network Information System: <http://rnis.westerncape.gov.za>



Be 110% Green. Read from the screen.

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 2:58 PM

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



Govender, Megan shared a folder with you

Here's the folder that Govender, Megan shared with you.



[Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review](#)



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Govender, Megan

From: Vanessa Stoffels <Vanessa.Stoffels@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 March 2023 08:08
To: Govender, Megan
Subject: RE: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Good day

Received your application, our reference Job 30235.

The matter is receiving attention and further communication will be addressed to you as soon as circumstances permit.

Kind Regards

Vanessa Stoffels

Admin Clerk: Road Use Management
Department of Transport and Public Works
Chief Directorate: Road Planning
Western Cape Government

24th Floor, 9 Lower Burg Street, Cape Town

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Website: www.westerncape.gov.za

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From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:36 AM
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Subject: RE: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

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Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

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To: Vanessa Stoffels <Vanessa.Stoffels@westerncape.gov.za>

Subject: FW: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.

Regards | Groete

Evan Burger

Control Engineering Technician
Department: Transport & Public Works
Western Cape Government

3rd Floor, Room 3.36, 9 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001

PO Box 2603, Cape Town, 8000

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From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 2:58 PM

To: Zaahir Toefy <Zaahir.Toefy@westerncape.gov.za>; Gavin Benjamin <Gavin.Benjamin@westerncape.gov.za>; DEADP-EIAAdmin George <DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za>; Landuse.Elsenburg@elsenburg.com; Cor Van der Walt <Cor.VanderWalt@westerncape.gov.za>; Phyllis Pienaar <Phyllis.Pienaar@westerncape.gov.za>; ThandoNd@daff.gov.za; Clareen.Collins@drbl.gov.za; Carinne Muller <Carinne.Muller@westerncape.gov.za>; Jacqui Gooch <Jacqui.Gooch@westerncape.gov.za>; Juan.Prodehl@westerncape.gov.za; Llewellyn Truter <Llewellyn.Truter@westerncape.gov.za>; Stephanus J Schoeman <Stephanus.Schoeman@westerncape.gov.za>; Xander Smuts <Xander.Smuts@westerncape.gov.za>; Lyle.Martin@westerncape.gov.za; Evan Burger <Evan.Burger@westerncape.gov.za>; Devlin Fortuin <Devlin.Fortuin@westerncape.gov.za>; nmkontwana@ubuntu.gov.za; ubuntuvw@gmail.com; mayor@ubuntu.gov.za

Subject: Govender, Megan shared the folder "Mura Solar PV Development_For Public Review" with you.



Govender, Megan shared a folder with you

Here's the folder that Govender, Megan shared with you.



[Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review](#)



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Govender, Megan

From: Marian van der Westhuizen
Sent: Wednesday, 08 March 2023 12:26
To: Govender, Megan
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Hi
Please send this information in the future to bestuurder@agrink.co.za and geo@agrink.co.za
Thanks

MARIAN VAN DER WESTHUIZEN
Finansies / Finance

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

www.agrink.co.za



From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 08 March 2023 10:38
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day

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Should you have any queries please feel free to contact me.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 14:39
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Stakeholders,

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- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

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The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
 Tel: 011 361 1410
 Fax: 011 361 1381
 E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
 Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
 Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



WSP in Africa

Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
2191 South Africa

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Thursday, 16 March 2023 13:58
To: Reuben Maroga
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: Request: Registration as an Interested and Affected Party
Attachments: Mura Solar 1.kml; Mura Solar 2.kml; Mura Solar 3.kml; Mura Solar 4.kml; Mura EGI Corridor.kml

Good Day Reuben

Please find attached kml files as requested. I can also confirm that you have been added to our stakeholder database.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Reuben Maroga <reuben@solagroup.co.za>
Sent: Thursday, 16 March 2023 05:43
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Subject: Request: Registration as an Interested and Affected Party

Hi Megan,

I hope you are well.

We would like to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the proposed Mura 1 Solar PV facility between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province. For the registration, please capture this email address: iap@solagroup.co.za

Furthermore, could you kindly share the KML files of the proposed development extent and the grid connection corridor route assessed to the nearest ESKOM substation.

Lastly, we would also like to request that WSP registers us as an I&AP for all renewable energy projects. We are continuously developing sites across various Provinces so it would be great to have sight of other projects that we can include in our own stakeholder databases for our projects, as well as take into consideration from a technical perspective.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards

Reuben Maroga

Permitting Specialist

Redacted as per POPIA requirements





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Govender, Megan

From: Bonnie Schumann Redacted as per POPIA requirements
Sent: Friday, 17 March 2023 16:22
To: Govender, Megan
Cc: Strong, Ashlea; Johan du Plessis
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Hi Megan

Thank you for the email below. We note the proposed development and at this stage and have no comments.

Kind Regards



Bonnie Schumann
Nama Karoo Coordinator
Drvlands Conservation Programme
Redacted as per POPIA requirements

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Physical Address: 27 and 28 Austin Road, Glen Austin AH, Midrand, 1685, Gauteng, South Africa

Postal Address: Postnet Suite # 027, Postnet Suite 002, Private Bag X08, Wierda Park 0149, Gauteng, South Africa

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 10:38 AM

Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day

Please note that the Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports for the Mura PV Development could unfortunately not be accommodated at the Klein Karoo Agri. The reports have been made alternatively available at the Beaufort West Municipal Offices (25 Church St, Beaufort West).

Should you have any queries please feel free to contact me.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Govender, Megan

Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 14:39

Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Stakeholders,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Mura 1 Solar PV Facility: BA Process
- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

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WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
Tel: 011 361 1410
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com

Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

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Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
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Govender, Megan

From: Strong, Ashlea
Sent: Tuesday, 28 March 2023 06:45
To: Shonese Bloy
Cc: Ansoné Esterhuizen; Kathryn Winstanley; Caryn Clarke; Skye Clarke-McLeod; Colette Alisha Stander; Govender, Megan
Subject: RE: I&AP Registration: Mura 1-4 SEF and Mura Grid Infrastructure

Dear Shonese

Thank you for your email.

I can confirm that Caryn has been added to the database as requested and will receive all project related notificaitons going forward.

Kind regards

Ashlea



Ashlea Strong
Principal Associate

T +27 11 361-1392

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Shonese Bloy Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Sent: Monday, 27 March 2023 11:45

To: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Subject: I&AP Registration: Mura 1-4 SEF and Mura Grid Infrastructure

Good day Ashlea,

Could you please register **Caryn Clarke** with email address eia@g7energies.com as an I&AP for the proposed Mura 1-4 Solar Energy Facility and Mura Grid Infrastructure.

Would you kindly send through any relevant documents and reply with confirmation of registration.

Thanks so much.

Kind Regards,



Shonese Bloy
Environmental Intern

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd
5th Floor, 125 Buitengracht Street
Cape Town 8001, South Africa



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Govender, Megan

From: Mashudu Mudau <MaMudau@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 06 April 2023 11:15
To: Strong, Ashlea; Govender, Megan
Cc: Portia Makitla
Subject: COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THREE SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES, NAMELY MURA 2, MURA 3, AND MURA 4, BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE BEAUFORT WEST LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND THE CENTRAL

Attachments: Mura 2 3 4 Solar Facilities DSR Comments.pdf

Good day Ashlea and Megan.

Kindly find attached comments for the three scoping reports Mura 2, 3 and 4.

I will be sending out comments for the remaining two DBAR soon.

*Regards,
Mashudu Mudau*

Biodiversity Mainstreaming & EIA
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Environment House
473 Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Streets
PRETORIA
Tel: (012) 399 9945
Cell: 076 166 8307
E-mail: mamudau@dffe.gov.za





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, Pretoria, Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +27 86 625 1042

Reference: Mura 2- 4 Solar Facilities

Enquiries: Ms. Mashudu Mudau/ Ms. Portia Makitla

Telephone: 012 399 9411/9945 **E-mail:** pmakitla@dffe.gov.za

Ms. Ashlea Strong
PO Box 98867,
SLOANE PARK,
2152

Telephone Number: +27 (11) 361 1392
Email Address: Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com

PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms. Strong

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THREE SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES, NAMELY MURA 2, MURA 3, AND MURA 4, BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE BEAUFORT WEST LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND THE CENTRAL KAROO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the reports.

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the reports and does not have any objection to the draft Scoping Reports and the Plans of Study, however, the EIA reports must comply with 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.

In conclusion, the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email; BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment
Date: 06/04/2023



Batho pele- putting people first.

Govender, Megan

From: Adri La Meyer <Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 05 April 2023 13:17
To: Govender, Megan; Strong, Ashlea
Cc: Thea Jordan; surina@red-cap.co.za; Megan Simons
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Megan,

Thanks so much for your positive response. I will make sure that Thea has our comments on Tuesday morning for signature.

Just also realised that I am still waiting for 2 sets of comments from Waste Management, so am following up with them on that.

Many thanks again!

Kind regards,
Adri

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 12:58
To: Adri La Meyer <Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za>; Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Cc: Thea Jordan <Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za>; surina@red-cap.co.za; Megan Simons <msimons@capenature.co.za>
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day Adri

Thank you so much for letting us know.

We can still accommodate your comments if you send it on Tuesday morning.

Goodluck!

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300
M +27 083 228 5288

From: Adri La Meyer <Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 05 April 2023 12:13
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>; Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Megan and Ashlea,

I hope you are well.

The comments on the DSRs and Draft BARs for the MURA PV and EGI development are due tomorrow (06 April 2023). I have received comments from our Waste and Pollution Management Directorates. However, our Development Management Directorate (EIA section) is unable to provide comments as the case officer's laptop has crashed and her comments cannot be retrieved by our IT section.

Unfortunately, I also cannot provide you with the collated comments tomorrow as I am already under so much stress to deliver collated comments on 4 x BARs for solar facilities that are also due tomorrow. (I'm sure Megan from CapeNature feels my pain!). I'm still waiting for our George Office's comments on those 4 BARs.

Whilst I am only supposed to collate comments from our commenting directorates and not review the reports myself, I will now have to review the DSRs and BARs for the Mura development this weekend in the absence of comments from our EIA section. Such comments can however only be provided to you on Tuesday morning. Should you however be unable to accommodate the Department's comments to be submitted on Thursday morning, please go ahead and finalise the reports without our inputs.

Kind regards,
Adri

Adri La Meyer
Directorate: Development Facilitation
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Western Cape Government

11th Floor, Utilitas Building, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8000

Tel: +27 (0)21 483 2887
Email: Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za
Website: www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp



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Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are still operating on a "work-from-home" basis.
Should you not be able to contact the numbers above, please call +27 (0)21 483 4091
between 07:30-16:00.

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 10:40

Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day

Please note that the Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports for the Mura PV Development could unfortunately not be accommodated at the Klein Karoo Agri. The reports have been made alternatively available at the Beaufort West Municipal Offices (25 Church St, Beaufort West).

Should you have any queries please feel free to contact me.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Govender, Megan

Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 14:51

Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Commenting Authority,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

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- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

One Drive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review
One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder

A presentation on the summary of the proposed development has been collated. The presentation has been made available on the WSP website, Datafree website and One Drive Link.

PowerPoint Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To view and listen to the project summary presentation, please open the PowerPoint Presentation and click on the speaker icon on the left on each slide to listen to the accompanying commentary
-------------------------------	--

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
 Tel: 011 361 1410
 Fax: 011 361 1381
 E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
 Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
 Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



WSP in Africa
 Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
 2191 South Africa

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Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Tuesday, 11 April 2023 09:54
To: Jeffathon Anthony
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: COMMENTS FOR MURA SOLAR PV FACILITIES

Good Day Anthony

Thank you for your comments. We will include them in the Stakeholder Engagement Report and respond accordingly.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Jeffathon Anthony
Sent: Friday, 07 April 2023 09:10
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Subject: COMMENTS FOR MURA SOLAR PV FACILITIES

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Dear M/s Megan Govender,

Attached comments for the four subject matter applications.

Kindly note it is a day late due to loadshedding interruptions and reviewing and commenting on more than 1.5 applications documents was very time constraining within 30 days.

Kind regards

Anthony

Govender, Megan

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Friday, 14 April 2023 10:48
To: 'Megan Simons'
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Thank you very much Megan.

Cape Nature's comment is noted.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Megan Simons <msimons@capenature.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 14 April 2023 10:10
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good morning, Megan

I hope you are well.

Thank you for following up, we have been battling with internet connectivity since stage 6 loadshedding was implemented. Kindly see attached comments from CapeNature and our apology for the delay. If you require anything else, do not hesitate to contact me.

Have a good day.

Megan Simons
Land Use Scientist – Landscape East
Conservation Operations: Conservation Intelligence



Redacted as per POPIA requirements

www.capenature.co.za

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 12 April 2023 11:48
To: Megan Simons
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Good Day Megan

Just following up on the comments for Mura as per the email below?

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Megan Simons Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Sent: Wednesday, 05 April 2023 13:24

To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Megan,

I am well thank you. I trust you are too.

Yes, CapeNature would still comment, and we thank you for granting an extension until 11 April 202. It is much appreciated.

Have a good day.

Kind Regards,

Megan Simons
Land Use Scientist – Landscape East
Conservation Operations: Conservation Intelligence



Redacted as per POPIA requirements

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From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>

Sent: Wednesday, 05 April 2023 13:02

To: Megan Simons <msimons@capenature.co.za>

Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Subject: FW: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Caution: This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Megan

I hope you are well.

Please may you confirm if Cape Nature will be submitting comments as well for the Proposed Mura Solar PV Development? The comments are due tomorrow (06 April 2023) but we can still accommodate your comments if received on Tuesday, 11 April 2023 as we will be doing the same for WC Government.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender

Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Adri La Meyer <Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za>

Sent: Wednesday, 05 April 2023 12:13

To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>; Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Megan and Ashlea,

I hope you are well.

The comments on the DSRs and Draft BARs for the MURA PV and EGI development are due tomorrow (06 April 2023). I have received comments from our Waste and Pollution Management Directorates. However, our Development Management Directorate (EIA section) is unable to provide comments as the case officer's laptop has crashed and her comments cannot be retrieved by our IT section.

Unfortunately, I also cannot provide you with the collated comments tomorrow as I am already under so much stress to deliver collated comments on 4 x BARs for solar facilities that are also due tomorrow. (I'm sure Megan from CapeNature feels my pain!). I'm still waiting for our George Office's comments on those 4 BARs.

Whilst I am only supposed to collate comments from our commenting directorates and not review the reports myself, I will now have to review the DSRs and BARs for the Mura development this weekend in the absence of comments from our EIA section. Such comments can however only be provided to you on Tuesday morning. Should you however be unable to accommodate the Department's comments to be submitted on Thursday morning, please go ahead and finalise the reports without our inputs.

Kind regards,
Adri

Adri La Meyer

Directorate: Development Facilitation

Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Western Cape Government

11th Floor, Utilitas Building, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8000

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Website: www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp

Be 110% Green. Read from the screen.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are still operating on a "work-from-home" basis. Should you not be able to contact the numbers above, please call +27 (0)21 483 4091 between 07:30-16:00.

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 10:40
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day

Please note that the Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports for the Mura PV Development could unfortunately not be accommodated at the Klein Karoo Agri. The reports have been made alternatively available at the Beaufort West Municipal Offices (25 Church St, Beaufort West).

Should you have any queries please feel free to contact me.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA re-
quirements

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 14:51
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Commenting Authority,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Mura 1 Solar PV Facility: BA Process
- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

One Drive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review
One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder

A presentation on the summary of the proposed development has been collated. The presentation has been made available on the WSP website, Datafree website and One Drive Link.

PowerPoint Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To view and listen to the project summary presentation, please open the PowerPoint Presentation and click on the speaker icon on the left on each slide to listen to the accompanying commentary
-------------------------------	--

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
 Tel: 011 361 1410
 Fax: 011 361 1381
 E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
 Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
2191 South Africa

wsp.com

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

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postal Private Bag X6546, George, 6530
physical 4th Floor, York Park Building, York Street, George
6530
website www.capenature.co.za
enquiries **Megan Simons**
telephone **Redacted as per POPIA require-**
email **ments**
reference **LE-1729/1704/MOON_Solar PV_Develop**
West
date 14 April 2023

WSP Africa,
P.O Box 98867,
Sloane Park,
2152,

Attention: Ms Megan Govender
By email: Megan.Govender@wsp.com

Dear: Ms Megan Govender

THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE FOUR MURA SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITIES, BEAUFORT WEST LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE

CapeNature would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the above report. Please note that our comments only pertain to the biodiversity related impacts and not to the overall desirability of the application. CapeNature wishes to make the following comments:

According to the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (Pool-Stanvliet *et.al.* 2017)¹ the proposed Mura series of PV developments and infrastructure footprints are within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA 1: Terrestrial, Aquatic, River; CBA 2: Terrestrial), Ecological Support Areas (ESA 1: Aquatic, ESA 2: restore), and Other Natural Areas over most of the area. The freshwater features include the Krom Rivers, numerous non-perennial drainage lines, and wetlands. The wetlands are classified as National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (NFEPA) are important in achieving biodiversity targets for riverine ecosystems² and have an important role in allowing plant and animal species movement within the landscape.

According to the National Biodiversity Assessment (Skowno et al. 2018)³ the vegetation for the proposed development area is Eastern Upper Karoo which is Least Concerned (SANBI 2022)⁴. The Eastern Upper Karoo has experienced low rates of natural habitat loss and 97% of the original extent remains (SANBI 2022)⁵. Although, the vegetation type is Least Threatened (LT), kindly note that any loss to natural habitat should be avoided. Considering

¹ Pool-Stanvliet, R., Duffell-Canham, A., Pence, G. & Smart, R. 2017. The Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan Handbook. Stellenbosch: CapeNature.

² Nel, J.L., Murray, K.M., Maherry, A.M., Petersen, C.P., Roux, D.J., Driver, A., Hill, L., Van Deventer, H., Funke, N., Swartz, E.R., Smith-Adao, L.B., Mbona, N., Downsborough, L. & Nienaber, S. (2011). Technical Report for the National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas project. WRC Report No. K5/1801

³ Skowno, A. L., Poole, C. J., Raimondo, D. C., Sink, K. J., Van Deventer, H., Van Niekerk, L., Harris, L. R., Smith-Adao, L. B., Tolley, K. A., Zengeya, T. A., Foden, W. B., Midgley, G. F. and Driver, A. 2019. National Biodiversity Assessment 2018: The status of South Africa's ecosystems and biodiversity. Synthesis Report. Pretoria, South Africa. 214 pp.

⁴ Government of South Africa (2022) South African Red List of Terrestrial Ecosystems: assessment details and ecosystem descriptions. Technical Report #7664, SANBI Pretoria, South Africa.

⁵ Government of South Africa (2022) South African Red List of Terrestrial Ecosystems: assessment details and ecosystem descriptions. Technical Report #7664, SANBI Pretoria, South Africa.

that arid habitats could take years to rehabilitate, even from temporary disturbances and we only consider habitat as rehabilitated when comparable level of ecosystem functionality has been proven.

The Department of Environment and Forestry identified geographical areas as renewable energy development zones (REDZ)⁶. Thus, it can be expected that renewable energy developments will increase, and such a monitoring program are essential to inform future renewable energy developments, especially in the Karoo. It is noted that the proposed WEF is situated within a Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZs) known as the Beaufort West REDZ 11⁷.

The Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (Pool-Stanvliet *et.al.* 2017) has specific guidelines regarding CBA and ESA loss and their sensitivity and conservation objectives. Thus, the proposed development must be guided by those objectives to conserve and protect the CBAs and ESAs (Pool-Stanvliet *et al.* 2017). CapeNature maintains minimal habitat loss is acceptable, in line with the WCSBP Land Use Guidelines Handbook, provided the underlying biodiversity objectives and ecological functioning are not compromised. CapeNature notes that not all the Mura PV facilities are located within CBAs and ESAs.

Existing infrastructure (i.e., already disturbed areas) must be used where possible and constructing new infrastructure must avoid watercourse/ sensitive areas and their buffers.

The areas of medium sensitivity areas must not be disturbed by the solar PV development or associated infrastructure. Furthermore, No-Go Areas and 35m aquatic buffer areas must be demarcated with the necessary signage.

The Aquatic Report stated Riverine Rabbit may potentially occur in the area/ landscape associated with the watercourse while the Terrestrial Report stated the habitat is not suitable for the species. CapeNature requires clarity whether the proposed Mura area has habit that supports the Riverine Rabbit.

CapeNature acknowledges that the relevant plant permit for endangered species or protected species listed in Schedules 3 and 4 respectively, in terms of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Laws Amendment Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000) will be obtained from CapeNature.

The compilation of Alien Control Plan, Rehabilitation and Monitoring Plans are supported. However, not all these plans can be developed post-authorisation as alien clearing can be implemented from the onset of the proposed development and must be on-going for the duration of this project and continue beyond the operational phase. Furthermore, the Soil Erosion Management plan must be included in the EMPr as to mitigate for erosion during this project. To reiterate these plans must not be a condition of authorisation and compiled after EA is granted but compiled before the development commences.

Flooding events can change watercourses within a short period, and it must be mitigated in the EMPr.

The Ecological Control Officer must ensure that the mitigation measures and recommendations proposed by the specialists are implemented to protect the remaining ecological services and connectivity. The Aquatic buffers and Riverine Rabbit habitat buffers must be protected and not impacted.

CapeNature supports the development of renewable energy facilities however we remain concerned that the cumulative impacts of energy facilities, if not properly considered and planned for, could be quite significant. There are a few renewable energy developments planned in the broader region of which some were issued with Environmental Authorisation and other applications are still in progress. It is therefore essential to take a precautionary

⁶ National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), Government Gazette, , No.114, 16 February 2018

⁷ National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), Government Gazette, , No.114, 16 February 2018

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trading as **CapeNature**

Board Members: Associate Prof Denver Hendricks (Chairperson), Prof Gavin Maneveldt (Vice Chairperson), Ms Marguerite Loubser, Mr Mervyn Burton, Dr Colin Johnson, Prof Aubrey Redlinghuis, Mr Paul Slack

approach and to ensure that the infrastructure (i.e., roads, power lines, substations, etc.) be positioned outside ecologically sensitive areas. On-going monitoring throughout the various phases of this project is important to assess the impacts of these developments on different species biodiversity and the impact these facilities will have on habitat fragmentation and associated ecological corridors. It is also vital that a clear monitoring and reporting protocol is established so that lessons learned from newly established facilities can be shared with the wider community.

CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MS', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Megan Simons
For: Manager (Landscape Conservation Intelligence)

Govender, Megan

From: Natasha Higgitt Redacted as per POPIA requirements
Sent: Thursday, 06 April 2023 14:12
To: Govender, Megan; Dumisani Bhambatha
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Importance: High

Good afternoon

SAHRIS Case ID 20670, 20671 and 20673 are located in the Western Cape Province. SAHRA does not have jurisdiction to provide comments on development applications located in the Western Cape. Comments must be sought from Heritage Western Cape in this regard.

I further note that PoP were uploaded to Case ID 20671 and 20673. [@Dumisani Bhambatha](#), please proceed with the refund process for these two cases, as they should have been for HWC and not SAHRA.

Megan, please confirm if payment was made in terms of Case ID 20670 and upload the PoP so that the refund may be made.

Kind regards,

Please note: Due to high meeting and task load, I may not be able to respond to your email immediately. If you do not receive a response within 5 working days, please resend your query.

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 1:26 PM
To: Natasha Higgitt <nhiggitt@sahra.org.za>
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day Natasha

I hope you are well.

Please note I have only received comments from SAHRA for the following cases related to the Mura Solar PV Development applications:

- 20672 (Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (up to 320 MW))
- 20674 (Mura Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) Corridor)

We are still waiting for comments on the following:

- 20670 (Mura 1 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (up to 150 MW))
- 20671 (Mura 2 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (up to 400 MW))
- 20673 (Mura 4 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (up to 360 MW))

Our Public Review Period closes today. Please may you confirm if you will be sending through the outstanding comments?

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
1685 South Africa

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-LAErhHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Natasha Higgitt

Manager: Development Applications



T: Redacted as per POPIA requirements

M:

E:

A: SAHRA, 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town, 8001,
Western Cape, ZA

www.sahra.org.za

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SAHRA PRIVACY POLICY

Our Ref: HM/ CENTRAL KAROO/ BEAUFORT WEST/ MURA 1 TO 4
Case No: 22101902AM1019E
Enquiries: Stephanie Barnardt
E-mail: Stephanie.Barnardt@westerncape.gov.za
Tel: 021 483 5959

Jayson Orton

jayson@asha-consulting.co.za



RESPONSE TO HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: FINAL COMMENT
In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape Provincial Gazette 6061, Notice 298 of 2003

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED MURA 1-4 PV FACILITIES, BEAUFORT WEST MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, WESTERN CAPE, SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(1) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)

The matter above has reference.

This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officer Committee (HOMs) held on 11 April 2023.

FINAL COMMENT

The Committee resolved to endorse the HIA prepared by ASHA Consulting dated 15 December 2022 as meeting the requirements of Section 38 (3) of the NHRA and the following recommendations on page 60;

Mura 1 (Western Cape):

It is recommended that the proposed Mura 1 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
- No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Mura 2 (Western Cape):

It is recommended that the proposed Mura 2 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
- No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and
- ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd | Reg. no.: 2013/220482/07 61
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Mura 4 (Western Cape):

It is recommended that the proposed Mura 4 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
- The site at waypoint 1399 should be avoided if possible but this is not required (if avoided and protected then the buffer can be reduced to 25 m); and
- Any realignment of the DR02317 within 400 m of waypoint 2000 must be checked in the field and approved by an archaeologist;
- No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.

SJhupsee

Sneha Jhupsee

Acting Assistant Director: Professional Services www.westerncape.gov.za/cas



Street Address: Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square, Cape Town, 8000 • **Postal Address:** P.O. Box 1665, Cape Town, 8000
• **Tel:** +27 (0)21 483 5959 • **E-mail:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

Straatadres: Protea Assuransie-gebou, Groentemarkplein, Kaapstad, 8000 • **Posadres:** Posbus 1665, Kaapstad, 8000
• **Tel:** +27 (0)21 483 5959 • **E-pos:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

Idilesi yendawo: kumgangatho 3, kwisakhiwo iProtea Assurance, Greenmarket Square, eKapa, 8000 • **Idilesi yeposi:** Inombolo yebhokisi yeposi 1665, eKapa, 8000 • **Iinombolo zomnxeba:** +27 (0)21 483 5959 • **Idilesi ye-imeyile:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

Ref: TPW/CFS/RP/LUD/REZ/SUB-01/42 (Job 30235)

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 98867
SLOANE PARK
2152

Attention: Ms Megan Govender

Dear Madam

RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

1. Your letter 41103930 dated 6 March 2023 refers.
2. This Branch offers no objection to the issuing of an Environmental Authorisation in favour of the proposed Mura Photovoltaic Facilities, provided that this Branch is offered the opportunity to comment on the land use application, at which stage this Branch will issue its approvals in terms of Act 21 of 1940 (building restrictions, if applicable) and Roads Ordinance 19 of 1976 (accesses and construction activities within the road reserves and adjacent building lines).
3. The proposed facility affects Trunk Road 58, Section 1 (R381), Divisional Road 2317, and Minor Road 8881 of which this Branch is the Road Authority. (Other roads may be affected as well, depending on the final routes taken and accesses used, and the plans will need to be adapted to take this into account).
4. All the abovementioned Provincial Roads' Public accessibility must be retained (if not closed / de-proclaimed to become private or servitude roads) and they must be evaluated for the purposes of construction, operation, and decommissioning.
5. This Branch, for now, will ultimately require the following:
 - a. A geotechnical and geometric design report, including improvement proposals, must be compiled to ensure that all the roads that will be affected by these developments during the construction phase are adequately improved and maintained before any other construction activity may commence on any of the farm portions. This is to ensure that no more than

normal deterioration and additional maintenance costs are experienced by the Road Authority during the construction and operating phases. It will be required that any design affecting any Proclaimed Provincial Road must carry this Branch's Chief Directorate Road Design's (Ms M Hofmeyr – tel: 2721-4833999) approval before implementation thereof may commence.

- b. Confirmation that a similar geotechnical proposal (as per paragraph 5.a) will be compiled, and approval obtained prior to commencing with any major upgrade or decommissioning phase; whenever that may be.
- c. Indication of all the access(es) to each respective farm portion, ownership thereof and application for any changed access to the provincial road network - in line with this Branch's Access Management Guidelines, 2020. It will be required to clearly state which access will serve what purpose (e.g., energy and / or farming).
- d. Construction applications, including wayleaves for third party services, when building restrictions, building lines and road reserves are affected.
- e. Abnormal load transportation implications, which will require a route clearance report and prior application for any geometric and materials designs for approval before construction. It is recommended to commence with planning in this regard once detail of energy infrastructure and transportation equipment are known.
- f. If any accesses are to be upgraded, it must be submitted to this Branch's Chief Directorate Road Design's approval before implementation thereof may commence.

Yours Sincerely



SW CARSTENS

For DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: ROADS

DATE: 25 APRIL 2023

ENDORSEMENTS

1. WSP
Attention: Ms M Govender (e-mail: megan.govender@wsp.com)

2. Central Karoo District Municipality

Attention: Mr A Theron

3. District Roads Engineer
Oudtshoorn

4. Mr E Burger (e-mail)

5. Mr SW Carstens (e-mail)

6. Mr F Fakier (e-mail)

Appendix D.2

MURA 2 SOLAR PV FACILITY COMMENTS



Govender, Megan

From: Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 12:30
To: Strong, Ashlea
Cc: EIAAdmin; Ephron Maradwa; Jay-Jay Mpelane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2323

Dear Ashlea

14/12/16/3/3/2/2323

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MURA 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 400 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 03 March 2023. 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.

Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

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 EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za.

You are advised that this mailbox has a 48 hour response time.

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email

Kind Regards,
Salome Mambane
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Priority Infrastructure Developments
Tel: 012 399 9385
Cell: 063 684 5431
Email: SMambane@dfef.gov.za



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: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2323

Enquiries: Mr Wayne Hector

Telephone: (012) 399 8529 **E-mail:** Whector@dffe.gov.za

Ms Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Building 1, Golder House
Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
MIDRAND
1685

Cell Number: 011 361 1392
Email Address: Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED MURA 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 400 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2023 and received by the Department on 03 March 2023, refer.

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

1. Application form:

- Kindly clarify the reason why this Department is the Competent Authority (CA) in terms of Section 24C of NEMA. State clearly if the applicant intends to bid the project in terms of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP).
- Please note that the Minister is the competent authority for applications for facilities or infrastructure, that will form part of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Programmes for technologies whose procurement processes have been determined under the Electricity Regulation Act, 2006 and / or the Electricity Regulations on New Generation Capacity. If the applicant will not, or does not intend to, participate in any of the IRP programmes, the competent authority will be the MEC responsible for environmental affairs in the respective province. Be advised that this information must be clearly presented in Section 1 –Competent Authority in the application form.
- Reflecting the above, the reasons provided in Section 1 of the application form for this Department being the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA are incomplete. This must be rectified and expanded on in the application form as well as the report. Please refer to GN 779.
- Ensure that the SG codes, all farm names, and numbers and the EAP's contact details are correct. The farm names and SG codes must be clearly differentiated for the grid infrastructure and the PV facility infrastructure.

wh

- Include the GPS Coordinates for the onsite substation and battery energy storage system (BESS) facility.

2. **Listed Activities**

- It is noted that the proposed solar facility does not fall within any renewable energy development zones. Although the application form indicates that part of the project is within the Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) as per GN 113, it is noted that the proposed solar facility does not fall within any renewable energy development zones, as such this application will be considered as a normal EIA application.
- Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.
- You are required to confirm whether systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans are adopted by the competent authority. There are certain activities in Listing Notice 3 that requires that Bioregional Plans to be adopted.
- It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the environmental impact assessment process, as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of Listing Notice 3 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities (or proof of consultation if no comments were received) 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 final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).
- 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.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms>.

3. **Layout & Sensitivity Maps**

- Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:
 - The proposed location of the PV array and associated infrastructure of the proposed 400MW Mura 2 Solar Photovoltaic Facility
 - The proposed grid infrastructure connecting the PV facility to the existing substation, overlain by the sensitivity map;
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed); fence, office buildings, and etc.
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
 - Buffer areas; and
 - All "no-go" areas.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure, as well as the neighbouring PV Solar Clusters.
- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

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4. **Public Participation Process**

- Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received on the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za, the provincial authority and the local municipality) 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 must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of the approved public participation plan and Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Take note of the timeframes required for adequate public participation.
- A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments (pre and post submission of the draft SR) 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 which reflects the details of the I&APs and date of comments received, actual comments received, and response provided. Please ensure that comments made by I&APs are comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.

5. **Specialist Assessments to be conducted in the EIA Phase**

- Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of PV arrays, 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.
- You are further required to ensure that all required specialist studies are recommended and assessed for the proposed 400MW Mura 2 Solar Photovoltaic Facility.
- 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. Please note further that the protocols require the specialists' to be registered with SACNASP in their respective field.
- Please include a table in the report, summarising the specialist studies required by the Department's Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted. Please note that if any of the specialists' studies and requirements/protocols recommended in the Department's Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation for such must be provided in the report per the requirements of the Protocols.

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6. Cumulative Assessment to be conducted in the EIA Phase

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.

7. Environmental Management Programme

The EMPr must include the following:

- It is drawn to your attention that for the substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the generic Environmental Management Programme (GEMPr), must be used and submitted with the final report over and above the EMPr for the facility. This means that a GEMPr must be included for the substation and the powerline. In total, 3 EMPrs should accompany the final report.
- Further to the above, you are required to comply with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended.

General

Please refrain from creating compounded folders and file names that are too long. This affects the download and saving of documents for review.

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 SR 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 SRs in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA 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).

wh

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
Letter signed by: Mr Wayne Hector
Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Date: 27/03/23

cc:	Lance Blaine	Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Email: anthony@atlanticep.com
	Ashley Mitchell	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Email: buildingcontrol@beaufortwestmun.co.za

Govender, Megan

From: Thea Jordan <Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 11 April 2023 11:59
To: Strong, Ashlea; Govender, Megan; JMpelane@environment.gov.za; EIAAdmin
Cc: Adri La Meyer
Subject: COMMENTS ON THE DSR FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 400MW MURA 2 SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR BEAUFORT WEST
Attachments: 2023 April 11 - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 400MW MURA 2 SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR BEAUFORT WEST.pdf

Dear EAP,

Your request for comment refers.

Please find attached this Department's comment in the above regard.

Yours faithfully

Thea Jordan
Pr. Pl. (A/1237/2002)
Director: Development Facilitation
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Western Cape Government

11th Floor, Utilitas Building, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8000

Tel: +27 (0)21 483 4093
Email: Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za
Website: www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp



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Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are still operating on a "work-from-home" basis.
Should you not be able to contact the numbers above, please call +27 (0)21 483 4091
between 07:30-16:00.

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 14:51
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Commenting Authority,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Mura 1 Solar PV Facility: BA Process
- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

One Drive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review
One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder

A presentation on the summary of the proposed development has been collated. The presentation has been made available on the WSP website, Datafree website and One Drive Link.

PowerPoint Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To view and listen to the project summary presentation, please open the PowerPoint Presentation and click on the speaker icon on the left on each slide to listen to the accompanying commentary
-------------------------------	--

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
Tel: 011 361 1410

Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
2191 South Africa

wsp.com

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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References:

18/2/3/2023-2024 (Development Facilitation)

19/2/5/3/C3/2/WL0034/23 (Waste Management)

19/3/2/4/C3/1/DDF0130/22 (Pollution and Chemicals Management)

Attention: Ms Megan Govender

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 98867
Sloane Park
JOHANNESBURG
2151

Megan.Govender@wsp.com

Dear Madam

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND PLAN OF STUDY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 400MW MURA 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AND STRUCTURES (INCLUDING, *INTER ALIA*, A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM AND SUBSTATION, 2 ON-SITE SOLAR FARM SUBSTATIONS, ACCESS ROADS, SITE CAMPS, CABLING, BUILDINGS, ETC.) ON FARM LEEUWKLOOF NO. 43, PORTION 4 OF FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO. 45, AND FARM BULTFONTEIN NO. 13, BEAUFORT WEST

1. The email correspondence of 06 March 2023, informing interested and affected parties of the release of Draft Scoping Report ("DSR") for comments, the email received on the same day, providing an additional link to download the DSR and appendices, and the Department's email of 05 April 2023, informing the environmental assessment practitioner ("EAP") that the Department is unable to meet the deadline of 06 April 2023, refer.
2. The Department extends its appreciation to the EAP for extending the deadline for comments on the DSR. Please find consolidated comments from various directorates within the Department on the DSR and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") dated March 2023 that was available for download from various online platforms provided by the EAP.

3. Directorate: Development Facilitation – Ms Adri La Meyer (Email: Adri.Lameyer@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 2887):
- 3.1. This Directorate requires clarity on the extent of the development footprint and that of the proposed site (indicated as Farm Leeuwkloof No. 43, Portion 4 of Farm Duiker Kranse No. 45, and Farm Bultfontein No. 13). The DSR interchangeably refers to the total project area as 506 ha and 484 ha. On page 26 of the DSR it is indicated that *"The proposed Mura 2 Facility will be developed within a project area of approximately 484 hectares (ha), excluding the access road corridor"*, whereas on page 38 it is indicated that *"The total project area is 506 ha"* and that *"The total development envelope for project installation is approximately 484 ha"*. Assuming that the proposed 400MW solar field will be constructed on 484 ha; the proposed battery energy storage system ("BESS") and BESS substation will be developed on ~ 4 ha; internal gravel access roads will have a development footprint of 17 ha; and up to two 2.2 ha site camps / laydown areas (i.e., 4.4 ha in total) will be developed, then more than 509 ha is required for the proposed Mura 2 solar photovoltaic ("PV") facility and associated structures and infrastructure. The development footprint of the associated buildings (offices, ablution facilities, operational and maintenance centre, etc.) and the two on-site solar substations were not indicated. Please ensure that the Final Scoping Report ("FSR") and the forthcoming Draft EIA Report clearly describe the size of the proposed site, the development footprint, and the individual components of the proposed solar PV development.
- 3.2. Further to the above, section 4.1.1 of the DSR deals with the site selection process. It is noted that the original five potential Mura PV development areas were further reduced to two areas (Areas 2 and 5) that were considered suitable for the Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 solar PV developments. Area 2 consist of two sites of 176 ha and 484 ha, respectively. The 484-ha area corresponds with the project area for the proposed Mura 2 solar PV facility. It is again reiterated that the 484 ha appears to only be sufficient for the proposed solar field, based on the information provided in the DSR. The FSR and the Draft EIA Report must indicate the size of the development footprint against the size of the proposed site.
- 3.3. It is noted that Activities 12, 14 and 23 of Listing Notice ("LN") 3 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are applied for. Please be advised that no systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans for the Western Cape Province have been adopted by this Department. As such, Activity 12.i.ii, Activity 14(ii)(a) and (c) i.i.(ff) and Activity 23(ii)(a) i.i.(ff) of LN 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are not applicable to the application for environmental authorisation.
- 3.4. Appendix F and Table 2-1 of the DSR list the specialist studies identified by the Screening Tool, that should be undertaken in the environmental impact reporting ("EIR") phase. The EAP has provided motivation for undertaking or not undertaking the recommended Screening Tool specialist studies, as well as the undertaking of additional specialist studies not identified by the Screening Tool. The Plan of Study for EIA (Section 10.5) lists the specialist studies that have been commissioned for the EIR phase, which are mostly aligned to section 2.2.1 of the DSR. It is however noted that the Plan of Study for EIA does not include the undertaking of a Radio Frequency Interference ("RFI") Assessment. Section 2.2.1 of the DSR notes that *"An RFI Study will not be undertaken... As this theme has been identified as high, a compliance statement will be prepared by the EAP and included in the EIA Report."* Please indicate the following:

- 3.4.1. Whether a RFI Compliance Statement will be undertaken by the EAP in the EIR phase. If so, the Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include the RFI Compliance Statement.
- 3.4.2. The Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include an Archaeological Impact Assessment as part of the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment
- 3.5. Please ensure that the specialist assessments include a cumulative assessment of the same renewable energy projects within a 30km radius of the proposed site. It is noted that the Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement compiled by 3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions dated November 2022 only refers to the *"three Nuweveld WEFs adjacent to the site have been authorised and there is also the Hoogland 1 and Hoogland 2 WEFs which have not yet been authorised and lie adjacent and to the north and west of the Nuweveld WEF site"*. Please note that the Hoogland 1 and 2 wind energy facilities ("WEFs") have received environmental authorisations. The Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Report compiled by Independent Economic Researchers dated January 2023 refers to the *"Assessment of cumulative impacts considered Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 SEFs; Hoogland 1, 2, 3 and 4 WEFs; Nuweveld North, East and West WEFs, Taaibos WEFs, Soutrivier WEFs, as well as the Mura, Hoogland, Nuweveld and Gamma Grid Corridors."* Other scoping phase specialist assessments also include reference to the Taaibos and Soutrivier WEFs. If within a 30km radius of the proposed site, these WEFs must be included in all the specialist assessments and referenced in the FSR and Draft EIA Report.
- 3.6. Please include reference to the Western Cape Noise Control Regulations promulgated in Provincial Notice 200/2013 of 20 June 2013 in the section dealing with provincial and municipal legal and regulatory framework in the Draft EIA Report.
4. Directorate: Waste Management – Mr Waleed Galvaan (Email: Waleed.Galvaan@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 8788):
- 4.1. This Directorate notes that the proposed project will not require a waste management licence, as stated on page 56 of the DSR, and that the quantity of construction and municipal waste generated by the project is not likely to contribute materially towards the greenhouse gas footprint of the project during the operational phase, as stated on page 20.
- 4.2. The forthcoming Draft EIA Report must address the management of battery waste during the operational phase. Kindly be mindful that the management of waste must under all circumstances, be done in accordance with section 16 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) ("NEM: WA") (general duty in respect of waste management). Section 16(1)(d) of the NEM: WA requires that *"A holder of waste must, within the holder's power, take all reasonable measures to manage waste in such a manner that it does not endanger health or the environment or cause a nuisance through noise, odour or visual impacts"*.
- 4.3. The DSR indicates that the project will affect about 484 ha, excluding the access road areas. This is a substantial size of area that will be covered by solar PV panels. In a rainfall event, the panels will reduce the impact of the rainwater on the ground, causing less infiltration into the ground and more stormwater runoff in the area. This may also lead to more stormwater ponding in the area. However, there may be site specific conditions that will cause the speed of the stormwater to slow down and

be absorbed by the ground and vegetation in the area. This impact must be considered and reported in the Draft EIA Report due to the large area that will be impacted on by the proposed development.

5. Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management – Ms Shehaam Brinkhuis (Email: Shehaam.Brinkhuis@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 8309):

5.1. This Directorate has no comments on the DSR and Plan of Study for EIA and awaits the Draft EIA Report (and accompanying Environmental Management Programme) to provide comment on potential pollution impacts and mitigation measures.

The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any or new information received.

Yours sincerely

Thea Jordan Digitally signed by Thea Jordan
Date: 2023.04.11 11:58:39 +02'00'

pp **HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Letter signed by:

Thea Jordan

Director: Development Facilitation

Date: 11 April 2023

CC: Mr Jay-Jay Mpelane (DFFE)

Email: JMpelane@environment.gov.za

Comments on Mura 2 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (Draft Scoping Report)

Name of IA&P:	Anthony Jefferson		
Matter: (Title of Legislation)	NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and Listing Notices of 2017		
Contact details:			
Email:	Redacted as per POPIA requirements		
Telephone:			
Submitted To:	Megan.Govender@wsp.com (WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.)		

COMMENTS:

Comment	Suggestion
<p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>The DSR omitted to include at least one comprehensive site layout plan illustrating all proposed onsite and off-site infrastructures.</p>	<p>It is suggested an updated SR or the EIR to include such a layout plan at an appropriate scale.</p>
<p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.1, indicates that solar Modules will be located on either single axis tracking structures or fixed tilt mounting structures or similar.</p>	<p>It is suggested that an updated SR or the EIR indicate the exact mounting structure technology that will be used to mount the solar PV modules. This is to ensure transparency from the outset to prevent possible 11th hour substandard technology for the Central Karoo.</p>
<p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.3, states that "The BESS will be Lithium-ion or similar solid-state technology."</p>	<p>It is suggested that an updated SR alternatively the EIR indicate the exact BESS technology. This is to ensure transparency of potential health & safety risk and to prevent 11th hour substandard technology be dumped upon the Central Karoo.</p>
<p>PV & MOUNTING SYSTEM:</p> <p>Considering the CKDM is the poorest region in the Western Cape Province and its communities are the most vulnerable in</p>	

<p>the province; but its electricity rates are higher than many if not all areas within the Cape Metro. Further, section 3.2.1, states that this Mura 2 Solar PV Facility is a large-scale system supplying power into the commercial electricity grid and not to local users. Hence, how will this proposed project impact the CKDM communities passively in a direct manner with significant reduced electricity prices? If, any direct positive impact of reduced power prices at community level, what will the expected timeline be from the time of operation?</p> <p>Section 3.2.1, only made reference to sunlight as a source whilst excluding geothermal as a potential source. Hence the two considered mounting systems is limited to single axis tracking and fixed axis mounting structures.</p>	<p>Suggestion...the municipality be subsidised by Eskom to allow it to reduce its electricity prices to communities whilst still being able to make a marginal income profit.</p> <p>It is suggested that the economic viability of geothermal heat/ power be investigated. If, it is viable, then an additional mounting technology be considered such as bifacial axis mounting structures be considered. It is assumed that the last mentioned structure would be cost effective oppose to the current two considered mounting structures.</p>
<p>Section 3.3, omitted to consider potential geothermal heat radiation that can be a viable energy source during non-sunshine days/evening periods.</p>	<p>It is suggested the following sentences be changed as follows, " Since solar and wind technology depend largely on whether the sun is shining or the wind is blowing, respectively, these technologies are more efficient when these sources are available."</p>
<p>Section 3.3.2, only indicates that, "The battery facilities...will not have any</p>	<p>It is suggested that the EMPr indicates</p>

<p>additional office/operation/maintenance infrastructure as those of the substation.</p>	<p>specific scheduled mechanical safety maintenance operations that should be conducted in terms of all applicable SA Health & Safety requirements i.e. the OSHAct and Mechanical and Ventilation Regulations; and other applicable regulatory tools as cited under section 3.3.3, of the DSR.</p>
<p>Location Map: Section 3.1, page 26-32 read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps). These sections basically addressed only the GPS co-ordinates; alternative sites particulars are scattered around in figures with no scales at times; and no credible topographical map but more of a kind of thematic map has been provided.</p>	<p>It is suggested that the following being addressed in an updated scoping report or the EIA report:</p> <p>Provide a colour location map at a larger scale of at least 1:50 000. The scale must be indicated on the map. The map must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an accurate indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any; • road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s) • a north arrow; • a legend to represent physical/natural landscapes, water features, vegetation features, constructed/cultural/man-made landscape, and transport and administration features on the map. Towns cited under section 6.3.5 should be depicted on the map.; • the prevailing wind direction (during November to April and during May to October); • Date map was printed; and • the already provided GPS Hartbeesthoek 94/WG584 co-ordinate system information.
<p>Site Plan:</p>	

Section 3.1, read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps) should provide an amended Site Plan for the preferred Mura Solar 2 project as well as each alternatives considered. These site plans should conform to the following:

Detailed site plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity and provided in an updated SR or EIAR/EIR. The site plan must contain or conform to the following:

- The detailed site plan must be at a scale preferably at a scale of 1:500 or at an appropriate scale. The scale must be indicated on the plan.
- The property boundaries and numbers of all the properties within 50m of the site must be indicated on the site plan.
- The current land use (not zoning) as well as the land use zoning of each of the adjoining properties must be indicated on the site plan.
- The position of each element of the application as well as any other structures on the site must be indicated on the site plan.
- Services, including electricity supply cables (indicate above or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and access roads that will form part of the development must be indicated on the site plan. Servitudes indicating the purpose of the servitude must be indicated on the site plan. Sensitive environmental elements within 100m of the site must be included on the site plan, including (but not limited to):
 - Watercourses/Rivers/Wetlands (including non-perennial features).
 - Flood lines (i.e. 1:10 year, 1:50 year, and 1:100 year where applicable;
 - Ridges.
 - Cultural and historical features.
 - Areas with indigenous vegetation (even

	<p>if it is degraded or infested with alien species).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Whenever the slope of the site exceeds 1:10, then a contour map of the site must be submitted.
Schematic Process/Project Drawing	<p>It is suggested a holistic schematic process drawing (project layout) of the entire solar Mura 2 project be provided. This drawing should include all the different stages with its main technology/infrastructure in a input-process-output manner.</p>
<p>Photographs:</p> <p>Section 2.4 read together with section 2.7, states that descriptions of environmental attributes were by means of combination of desktop reviews i.e. aerial imagery and site investigations done between March and October 2022, to identify sensitive features on site. It further states that "...the latest available aerial imagery for the site."</p>	<p>However a number of important information has been leftout and need to be provided in an updated SR or during the EIA phase document as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Colour photographs of the site and its surroundings (taken of the site and from the site) with a description of each photograph. The vantage points from which the photographs were taken must be indicated on the site plan; 2. Recent aerial photograph or at least dates of those aerial photographs (attach as an Appendix). The Appendix should be supplemented with additional dated onsite-photographs taken of relevant features during your stated field trips as cited under section 7.2 of the DSR. Kindly note, the aforementioned requirements must be duplicated for all alternative sites.
	<p>It is suggested a larger A3 size map as an Appendix be provided under section 6.1.3 (geology).</p>

<p>Land use character of surrounding area</p> <p>Section 6.3.5.1 read together with section 6.3.4.3 failed to adequately describe the current land uses on the proposed project site and its immediate surrounding areas. The aforementioned sections also failed to adequately describe the prominent features that occur in the immediate surrounds from the proposed project area.</p>	<p>Hence it is suggested either an updated scoping report or the EIA provides a proper description of the current land uses and/or prominent features that occur within +/- 500m radius of the proposed project area and neighbouring properties if these are located beyond 500m of the site from all directions. Further, a description of any potential impacts the proposed project may pose on the highlighted land uses or features.</p>
<p>Socio-Economic:</p>	<p>It is suggested that the Mitigation and Management Measures under section 6.3.5 relating to regional employment and contracts be included in an updated scoping report or be addressed within the EIA as follows: specifications/requirements/targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% unskilled workers must be local; • 90% semi-skilled workers from local; and • 70% skilled workers must be from local/indigent. • That the concept "local/indigent" shall mean having been born in the CKDM and having lived in the CKDM area for at least more than 10 years and having attended at least either and/or a primary or high school in the CKDM area irrespective whether the candidate is currently residing in the CKDM area or not. If not born in the CKDM area than at least one parent born in the region

	<p>but both parents must have lived in the area for more than 20 years;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That a CKDM professionals body shall be consulted for particulars of local/indigent professionals to be considered for skilled jobs and/or be willing to undergo rapid skills upgrading to occupy skilled jobs; • That CKDM Professionals Body shall have representation in all committees/forums established under this proposed project; • That local sub-contractors who did not gain from tenders in the past locally will receive preferential treatment in terms of the equity principle and a skills transfer programme be adopted by the main contractors; • That sub-contractors who previously gained tenders locally equally compete with external contractors to be main contractors; • That the income/wealth status of sub-contractors and skilled workers for all Black contenders / candidates will also be included in the specifications in addition to the standard "black" requirement under the BBBEE and EEA redress umbrella to ensure wealth does not circulate consistently amongst a few individuals.
<p>Section 3.6 " NEED AND DESIRABILITY" have very little to zero direct and possibly indirect relevance to the Central Karoo District Municipal Area. Yes it is a common fact that the district is in dire need of urgent economic development.</p>	

<p>Section 3.6, states that South Africa is the seventh highest coal producer in the world, with approximately 77% of the country's electricity generated from coal.</p> <p>Section 3.6, states also that the SA's large dependence on coal and its use also resulted in a variety of negative impacts on the environment, including the contribution to climate change. SA is also the highest emitter of GHGs in Africa; attributed to the country's energy-intensive economy that largely relies on coal-based electricity generation.</p>	<p>It is suggested a comparable spreadsheet of the aforementioned seven countries and energy mix usages be provided.</p> <p>It is suggested a western cape regional spreadsheet show casing coal dependence amongst WC district and metro municipalities. Also to include comparative WC district municipalities and metro municipality drivers and associated environmental impacts (GHG emissions, Climate Change, Health Impacts, etc.) as a result of direct/indirect coal usages. Also to include comparative data to showcase the status of energy-intensive economies that relies on coal-based electricity generation amongst the WC district municipalities and metro municipality.</p>
<p>Section 3.6 NEED AND DESIRABILITY also omits to include a dedicated subsection of WESTERN CAPE PERSPECTIVE and REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which would have outlined the energy mix in response to the growing electricity demand and the promotion of clean sources of energy within the CKDM in comparison to the province; • it would have outlined the reduction and elimination of poverty in the CKDM is more dire oppose to other regions within the province; • it would also have outlined that power shortages are most probably 	<p>Hence it is strongly suggested that mention be made about the poorest socio-economic status of the region in comparison to the rest of the province. Further it is strongly suggested that factual comparative analysed data and an objective interpretation of electricity prices communities and businesses are subjected to amongst the districts and one metro municipality in the western cape be provided.</p> <p>Further it is strongly suggested the case study of the Frankfort Municipality and Surrounding Towns Pilot/Case Study that uses four (4) Solar Energy Farms operated</p>

<p>the worse in the CKDM oppose to other regions in the province, esp the metro;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it would have outlined the socio-economic benefits available to the local communities and businesses in the CKDM area from this proposed project; and • that the project will And this premise will promote the reaching one of the National Development Plan's aims which is to reduce and eliminate poverty in South Africa by 2030 (see section 3.6.2, page 40 of the dBAR). 	<p>by Rural Maintenance (a private IPPP) that benefits specifically the local communities and businesses be used and cited.</p> <p>This is to empower people of the Central Karoo to negotiate with all IPPP'S and Eskom in the region for electricity price reductions of up to 30% (considering the region might have more than four solar and wind energy farms) and many more other benefits. Benefits to the local communities and businesses of Frankford gains from that pilot study are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity demand from the Eskom grid are reduced whilst the local communities and business still have access to electricity; • The local community and businesses saves a reduced electricity cost of 15% pricing to what they would have paid to Eskom. • Water and Sanitation Facilities operates 24/7 due to electricity flow, even though it is loadshedding; • Cable theft reduced because the local grid remained alive; • Small Power Users like residence and business are exposed to power outages in smaller durations as per their requests; • The Large Power Users are exposed to power outages of a longer duration as per their request; • Low voltages has been reduced resulting in local communities using their equipment more optimally; and • In the event of loadshedding,
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	<p>locals receives more reliable weekly schedules of specific reduced periods of loadshedding.</p>
<p>Alternatives (Location):</p> <p>Section 4.1.1 only referenced that areas were assessed from a technical perspective by considering slope, aspect, undulation, and access, and more detailed environmental perspective. Resulting in the consideration of high level solar design. No consideration was given to geothermal heat reflection capacity from the landscape such as geological structures and soil characteristics. This could have resulted in the consideration of alternative technologies such as the addition of bi-facial panels and the reconsideration of methods of elevating those bi-facial panels. Hence it is suggested the Amended dBAR or FBAR include descriptions, maps and geothermal heat radiation capacities during non-sunshining days/periods.</p>	<p>It is suggested the scoping report be updated or the EIA address all current land uses in the proposed project region, including depicting within the topographical map and a separate thematic map layers of potential future economic development resources such as geological minerals and gas.</p>
<p>Alternatives (Technology):</p>	<p>It is suggested section 4.2.1 provide a detailed consideration of bi-facial solar panels in relation to both sun radiation/heat and geothermal heat.</p>
<p>Alternatives (Operational):</p> <p>Section 4, made no provision for the consideration of Operational Aspect Alternatives. A detailed objective review and assessment of the suggested factors for consideration will equip the people of the</p>	<p>Hence it is strongly suggested that the updated scoping report or the EIA provide a detailed consideration of this aspect by considering the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments made in this Letter of Comments under the section that

<p>Central Karoo as to whether their genuine socio-economic upliftment is equally a priority as the rest of the province, but not limited to it.</p>	<p>dealt with the Frankfort Solar Energy Pilot Study;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operational and technology aspects used in the aforementioned pilot study;• Electricity costs savings Frankfort Pilot Study local community, businesses and agriculture gained as a result of not having used the Eskom grid; and incorporate objective information of other current and/or proposed/intent renewable energy projects the western cape government recently announced to take all provincial municipalities off the Eskom national grid.
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emailed

Signature

Govender, Megan

From: Stephanie Barnardt Redacted as per POPIA requirements
Sent: Friday, 14 April 2023 09:54
To: Ayanda Mdludlu; Govender, Megan
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good day Ms Govender

That is correct, the consultation for the HIA only ended 6 April and the matter was heard at the following HOMs meeting on the 11 April.

The committee endorsed and the final comment has been uploaded for signature, the final comment should be out today or Monday morning.

Apologies for the delay.

However in the meantime, please see the extract from the minutes:

Proposed Mura Electrical Grid Infrastructure, Beaufort West Magisterial District, Western Cape, S38(8)-HIA Case No.: 22101903AM1019E

Final comment:

The Committee resolved to endorse the HIA prepared by ASHA Consulting dated 15 December 2022 as meeting the requirements of Section 38 (3) of the NHRA and the following recommendations on page 42;

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
- Known sites should be avoided by the final layout;
- A pre-construction archaeological survey must be undertaken during the EMPr approval stage;
- No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Proposed Mura 1-4 Pv Facilities, Beaufort West Magisterial District, Western Cape, S38(8)-HIA

Case No.: 22101902AM1019E

Final comment:

The Committee resolved to endorse the HIA prepared by ASHA Consulting dated 15 December 2022 as meeting the requirements of Section 38 (3) of the NHRA and the following recommendations on page 60;

Mura 1 (Western Cape):

It is recommended that the proposed Mura 1 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
- No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Mura 2 (Western Cape):

It is recommended that the proposed Mura 2 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
 - No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and
- ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd | Reg. no.: 2013/220482/07 61
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Mura 4 (Western Cape):

It is recommended that the proposed Mura 4 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
- The site at waypoint 1399 should be avoided if possible but this is not required (if avoided and protected then the buffer can be reduced to 25 m); and
- Any realignment of the DR02317 within 400 m of waypoint 2000 must be checked in the field and approved by an archaeologist;
- No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Warm regards,

Kindly note: Due to volume of queries I receive I may not be able to respond to you immediately, if you have not received a reply from within ten working days, please resend your query

Any urgent Heritage Western Cape matters, please contact one of the officials:

[HWC staff contact details](#)

Stephanie-Anne Barnardt-Delport
Acting Collection Management Officer, Museological Service
Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport
Western Cape Government

3rd Floor, 48 Queen Victoria Street, Cape Town

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Website: www.westerncape.gov.za



Be 110% Green. Read from the screen.

From: Ayanda Mdludlu <Ayanda.Mdludlu@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 9:07 AM
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; Stephanie Barnardt <Stephanie.Barnardt@westerncape.gov.za>
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good day Ms Govender,

The below mentioned cases were HIAs that were discussed in HOMs of 11 April. Ms Stephanie Barnardt who is cc'd here presented them. I believe they were endorsed, however, I will give her space to confirm.

Kind regards,
Ayanda Mdludlu
Heritage Officer

Heritage Resource Management Services
Protea Assurance Building Greenmarket Square, Cape Town (currently working remotely)
Website: www.hwc.org.za / www.westerncape.gov.za



From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 12:50 PM
To: Ayanda Mdludlu <Ayanda.Mdludlu@westerncape.gov.za>

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Subject: FW: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day

I am following up on my email below. Please may you confirm if Heritage Western Cape will be sending through comments? The review period ended on Thursday 06 April 2023 but we can make an exception for Heritage Western Cape and can include comments sent before COB on 12 April 2023.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Thursday, 06 April 2023 13:32

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day

Please note the public review period for the Proposed Mura PV Development ends today. Please may you confirm if Heritage Western Cape will be sending through comments?

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Govender, Megan

Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 14:51

Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Commenting Authority,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Mura 1 Solar PV Facility: BA Process
- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

One Drive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review
One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder

A presentation on the summary of the proposed development has been collated. The presentation has been made available on the WSP website, Datafree website and One Drive Link.

PowerPoint Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To view and listen to the project summary presentation, please open the PowerPoint Presentation and click on the speaker icon on the left on each slide to listen to the accompanying commentary
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WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
Tel: 011 361 1410
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
2191 South Africa

wsp.com

WSP is a proud Level 1 B-BBEE contributor and is internationally certified for ISO 9001, 14001 & 45001

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa
Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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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: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2323

Enquiries: Mr Wayne Hector

Telephone: (012) 310 9410, **E-mail:** Whector@dffe.gov.za

Ms Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Building 1, Golder House
Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
MIDRAND
1685

Cell Number: 011 361 1392
Email Address: Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF MURA 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 400 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated April 2023 and received by the Department on 18 April 2023, refer.

The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the PoSEIA dated April 2023 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.

Please ensure that the following information forms part of the next report:

1. Listed Activities

- a) The EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- b) Please continue to ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project

wh

description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.

- c) The listed activities represented in the EIAR and the application form must be the same and correct.
- d) The EIAR must assess the correct sub listed activity for each listed activity applied for.

2. **Public Participation**

- a) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR.
- b) 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 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.
- c) 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 Annexure 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.
- d) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.
- e) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- f) 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.

3. **Alternatives**

The EAP is required to provide clear assessment for each identified alternative and further provide clear motivation and reasons as to why the **preferred** alternative **proves** to be the preferred compared to other alternatives.

These alternatives includes:

- Location / Site Alternatives.
- Technology Alternatives.
- Design and Layout Alternatives.
- BESS technology alternatives.
- No-go alternative.

4. **The layout map must indicate the following:**

All supporting onsite infrastructure such as follows:

- All supporting onsite infrastructure that will support the proposed 400MW photovoltaic solar facility e.g., roads (existing and proposed, fencing, BESS area, etc.).
- Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network; and
- All existing infrastructure on the site, including neighbouring villages (if any), etc.
- The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
- Buffer areas; and
- All “no-go” areas.

wh

5. **Specialist assessments**

Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of Substation, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.

- a) 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.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) 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.
- e) The screening tool output:
 - The screening tool and the gazetted protocols (GN R320 of 20 March 2020 and GN R 1150 of 30 October 2020) require a site sensitivity verification to be completed to either confirm or dispute the findings and sensitivity ratings of the screening tool.
 - It is the **responsibility** of the **EAP** to confirm the list of specialist assessments and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist studies including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and attached.
- f) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and were necessary, include further expertise advice.
- g) Please include a table that shows the proposed studies and the relevant specialists carrying out the study. In addition, a summary should be included of the specialist's recommendations in terms of the alternatives that are preferred based on the findings of their study.

General

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.

Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.

A construction and operational phase EMP that includes mitigation and monitoring measures must be submitted with the final EIAR.

The **comments** issued by this Department on **27/03/2023**, during the draft scoping report are still valid and must be all addressed throughout the EIA process.

wh

Should you use coordinates, please ensure that it is in the format as prescribed in the 2014 EIA NEMA Regulations, as amended.

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 & the Environment
Signed by: Mr Wayne Hector
Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Date: 12/05/2023

cc:	Lance Blaine	Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd	Email: anthony@atlanticep.com
	Gavin Benjamin	DEA&DP	Email: gavin.benjamin@westerncape.gov.za
	Ashley Mitchell	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Email: buildingcontrol@beaufortwestmun.co.za

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



OUR REFERENCE : 20/9/2/3/1/083
YOUR REFERENCE : 41103930
ENQUIRIES : Cor van der Walt/Kyle Solomons

WSP

Email: Megan.Govender@wsp.com

Att: Megan Govender

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE MURA 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY:

DIVISION BEAUFORT WEST

FARM LEEUWFLOOF NO 43

FARM BULTFONTEIN NO 13

PORTION 4 OF THE FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO 45

Your application dated March 2023 has reference.

Mura 2 (Pty) Ltd proposes the construction and operation of a 400 MW solar photovoltaic energy facility. The proposed development will have a foot print of approximately 506ha for the solar facility and associated infrastructure.

The Western Cape Department of Agriculture: Land Use Management (WCDoA: LUM) has reviewed the report and has no objection to the proposed application on condition that the proposed mitigation measures mentioned in the EMPr are implemented to prevent erosion and manage storm water during the construction and operational phases.

In order to accommodate the proposed application must be made to the WCDoA: LUM as well as the Beaufort West municipality for a change in land use, the required registering of a servitude for access roads, entrance routes and power lines as well as to register a lease agreement.

Please note:

- That this is comment to the relevant deciding authorities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act no.107 of 1998.
- That this is comment to the relevant deciding authorities in terms of the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act 70 of 1970.
- Kindly quote the above-mentioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.
- The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received.

Yours sincerely



Mr. CJ van der Walt

LANDUSE MANAGER: LANDUSE MANAGEMENT

2023-05-12

Copies:

Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning

Private Bag X6509

GEORGE

6530

Beaufort West Municipality

Private Bag 582

BEAUFORT WEST

6970

Appendix D.3

MURA 3 SOLAR PV FACILITY COMMENTS



Govender, Megan

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 March 2023 14:02
To: Govender, Megan
Cc: Constance Musemburi; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Jay-Jay Mpelane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2324

Dear Megan

14/12/16/3/3/2/2324

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 320 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES.

The Department confirms having received the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 03 March 2023. 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.

Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

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 EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za.

You are advised that this mailbox has a 48 hour response time.

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.



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: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2324

Enquiries: Mr Wayne Hector

Telephone: (012) 399 9410 **E-mail:** WHector@dfffe.gov.za

Ms Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Building 1, Golder House
Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
MIDRAND
1685

Cell Number: (011) 361 1392
Email Address: Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ms Strong.

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF UP TO 320 MW MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES.

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2023 and received by the Department on 03 March 2023, refer.

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

1. Application form:

- The applicant represented by Mr Lance Blaine, did not sign the application form. Please note that a signed application form must be submitted.
- Kindly clarify the reason why this Department is the Competent Authority (CA) in terms of Section 24C of NEMA. State clearly if the applicant intends to bid the project in terms of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP).
- Please note that the Minister is the competent authority for applications for facilities or infrastructure, that will form part of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Programmes for technologies whose procurement processes have been determined under the Electricity Regulation Act, 2006 and / or the Electricity Regulations on New Generation Capacity. If the applicant will not, or does not intend to, participate in any of the IRP programmes, the competent authority will be the MEC responsible for environmental affairs in the respective province. Be advised that this information must be clearly presented in Section 1 –Competent Authority in the application form.
- Reflecting the above, the reasons provided in Section 1 of the application form for this Department being the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA are incomplete. This must be rectified and expanded on in the application form as well as the report. Please refer to GN 779.

wh

- Please ensure that the application form is fully completed and correct. The SG codes, all farm names, and the EAP's contact details are correct.
- Please include the GPS coordinates for the onsite substation and the battery energy storage system (BESS) facility.

2. Listed Activities

- It is noted that the proposed solar facility does not fall within any renewable energy development zones. Although the application form indicates that part of the project is within the Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) as per GN 113, therefore this application will be considered as a normal EIA application.
- Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.
- You are required to confirm whether systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans are adopted by the competent authority. There are certain activities in Listing Notice 3 that requires that Bioregional Plans to be adopted.
- It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the environmental impact assessment process, as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of Listing Notice 3 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities (or proof of consultation if no comments were received) 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 final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).
- 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.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms>.

3. Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:
 - The proposed location of the PV array and associated infrastructure of the proposed up to 320MW Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility
 - The proposed grid infrastructure connecting the PV facility to the existing substation, overlain by the sensitivity map;
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed); fence, office buildings, and etc.
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
 - Buffer areas; and
 - All "no-go" areas.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure, as well as the neighbouring PV Solar Clusters.
- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

wh

4. **Public Participation Process**

- Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received on the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za, the provincial authority and the local municipality) 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 must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of the approved public participation plan and Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Take note of the timeframes required for adequate public participation.
- A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments (pre and post submission of the draft SR) 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 which reflects the details of the I&APs and date of comments received, actual comments received, and response provided. Please ensure that comments made by I&APs are comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.

5. **Specialist Assessments to be conducted in the EIA Phase**

- Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of PV arrays, 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.
- You are further required to ensure that all required specialist studies are recommended and assessed for the proposed up to 320MW Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility.
- 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. Please note further that the protocols require the specialists' to be registered with SACNASP in their respective field.
- Please include a table in the report, summarising the specialist studies required by the Department's Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted. Please note that if any of the specialists' studies and requirements/protocols recommended in the Department's Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation for such must be provided in the report per the requirements of the Protocols.

wk

6. Cumulative Assessment to be conducted in the EIA Phase

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.

7. Environmental Management Programme

The EMPr must include the following:

- It is drawn to your attention that for substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the Generic Environmental Management Programme, **must** be used and submitted with the final report over and above the EMPr for the facility. This means that a generic EMPR must be included for the substation. In total, 2 EMPrs should accompany the final report.
- Further to the above, you are required to comply with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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 SR 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 SRs in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA 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).

wh

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
Letter signed by: Mr Wayne Hector
Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Date: 29/03/23

cc:	Lance Blaine	Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Email: surina@red-cap.co.za
	Ashley Mitchell	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Email: buildingcontrol@beaufortwestmun.co.za
	MJ Penxa	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Email: jacksonp@beaufortwestmun.co.za

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 202 8660
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 20672

Date: Friday March 31, 2023
Page No: 1

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd

Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (up to 320 MW) between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces

WSP has been appointed by Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation Application for a proposed Solar Photovoltaic Facility, near Loxton, Northern Cape Province.

A Draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include solar panels, substations, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), offices, operational and maintenance buildings, warehouse/workshop, ablution facilities, converter/invertor stations, underground cabling, internal roads, fencing, storm water management infrastructure, and site camps.

Almond, J. E. 2022. Combined Desktop & Field-Based Palaeontological Heritage Study: Proposed Mura PV Solar Facilities between Loxton and Beaufort West, Beaufort West Local Municipality (Central Karoo District Municipality), Western Cape and Ubuntu Local Municipality (Pixley Ka Sema District Municipality), Northern Cape

The report combines the results for five development applications. Only the results pertaining to Mura PV 3 will be discussed below.

The proposed development is underlain by the Teekloof Formation. A total of 12 fossil sites were recorded within the proposed development area. These include reworked bone fragments, remains of small tetrapods, reedy plant stem casts and invertebrate trace fossils of Grade IIIC heritage significance, and robust tetrapod remains and sizeable ridged bone fragment of Grade IIIB significance (sampled/collected).

No recorded fossil sites of unique scientific or conservation value are likely to be directly impacted by the proposed renewable energy and electrical infrastructure developments and no further palaeontological studies or mitigation is proposed here with regard to these sites. A Chance Fossil Finds Protocol is recommended to be implemented.

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 202 8660
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 20672

Date: Friday March 31, 2023
Page No: 2

Orton, J. 2022. Heritage Impact Assessment: Proposed Mura 1-4 PV Facilities, Beaufort West Magisterial District, Western Cape and Victoria West Magisterial District, Northern Cape

The report combines the results for five development applications. Only the results pertaining to Mura PV 3 will be discussed below.

A total of two heritage resources were identified within the Mura PV 3 development area. These include a stone-walled house ruin of medium significance and a mound of rocks of very low heritage significance.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
- The site at waypoint 1402 should be avoided if possible with a 50 m buffer or else revisited to record it in detail as well as determining whether any sampling would be required;
- Any realignment of the DR02317 within 400 m of waypoint 2000 must be checked in the field and approved by an archaeologist;
- No stones may be removed from any archaeological site;
- The road construction camp location must be approved by an archaeologist and subjected to a site inspection if deemed necessary; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Interim Comment

SAHRA requests clarity regarding the permit used for the collection of fossil material in the Northern Cape Province. Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the requested clarity and the draft EIA inclusive of appendices.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 202 8660
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 20672

Date: Friday March 31, 2023
Page No: 3

Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:
Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/612928>
(DFFE, Ref:)

Govender, Megan

From: Thea Jordan <Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 11 April 2023 13:06
To: Govender, Megan; Strong, Ashlea; JMpelane@environment.gov.za; EIAAdmin
Cc: Adri La Meyer
Subject: COMMENTS ON THE DSR FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 320MW MURA 3 SOLAR PV FACILITY, BEAUFORT WEST AND UBUNTU LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES
Attachments: 2023 April 11 - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 320MW MURA 3 SOLAR PV FACILITY, BEAUFORT WEST AND UBUNTU LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES.pdf

Dear EAP,

Your request for comment refers.

Please find attached this Department's comment in the above regard.

Yours faithfully

Thea Jordan
Pr. Pl. (A/1237/2002)
Director: Development Facilitation
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Western Cape Government

11th Floor, Utilitas Building, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8000

Tel: +27 (0)21 483 4093
Email: Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za
Website: www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp



Be 110% Green. Read from the screen.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are still operating on a "work-from-home" basis. Should you not be able to contact the numbers above, please call +27 (0)21 483 4091 between 07:30-16:00.

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 14:51
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Commenting Authority,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Mura 1 Solar PV Facility: BA Process
- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

One Drive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> _Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review
One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder

A presentation on the summary of the proposed development has been collated. The presentation has been made available on the WSP website, Datafree website and One Drive Link.

PowerPoint Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To view and listen to the project summary presentation, please open the PowerPoint Presentation and click on the speaker icon on the left on each slide to listen to the accompanying commentary
-------------------------------	--

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender

Tel: 011 361 1410
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



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References:

18/2/3/2023-2024 (Development Facilitation)

19/2/5/3/C3/2/WL0035/23 (Waste Management)

19/3/2/4/C3/1/DDF0131/22 (Pollution and Chemicals Management)

Attention: Ms Megan Govender

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 98867
Sloane Park
JOHANNESBURG
2151

Megan.Govender@wsp.com

Dear Madam

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND PLAN OF STUDY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 320MW MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AND STRUCTURES (INCLUDING, *INTER ALIA*, A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM AND SUBSTATION, 2 ON-SITE SOLAR FARM SUBSTATIONS, ACCESS ROADS, SITE CAMPS, CABLING, BUILDINGS, ETC.) ON FARM LEEUWKLOOF NO. 43, REMAINDER OF FARM ABRAMS KRAAL NO. 206, PORTION 4 AND THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 3 OF FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO. 45, FARM SNEEUWKRAAL NO. 46, AND AANGRENSEND FARM ABRAMSKRAAL NO. 11, BEAUFORT WEST AND UBUNTU LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

1. The email correspondence of 06 March 2023, informing interested and affected parties of the release of Draft Scoping Report ("DSR") for comments, the email received on the same day, providing an additional link to download the DSR and appendices, and the Department's email of 05 April 2023, informing the environmental assessment practitioner ("EAP") that the Department is unable to meet the deadline of 06 April 2023, refer.
2. The Department extends its appreciation to the EAP for extending the deadline for comments on the DSR. Please find consolidated comments from various directorates within the Department on the DSR and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") dated March 2023 that was available for download from various online platforms provided by the EAP.

3. Directorate: Development Facilitation – Ms Adri La Meyer (Email: Adri.Lameyer@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 2887):
- 3.1. This Directorate requires clarity on the extent of the development footprint and that of the proposed site (indicated as Farm Leeuwkloof No. 43, Remainder of Farm Abrams Kraal No. 206, Portion 4 and the Remainder of Portion 3 of Farm Duiker Kranse No. 45, Farm Sneeuwkraal No. 46, and Aangrensend Farm Abramskraal No. 11). The DSR interchangeably refers to the total project area as 436 ha and 395 ha. On page 26 of the DSR it is indicated that *"The proposed Mura 3 Facility will be developed within a project area of approximately 395 hectares (ha), excluding the access road corridor"*, whereas on page 37 it is indicated that *"The total project area is 436 ha"* and that *"The total development envelope for project installation is approximately 395 ha"*. Assuming that the proposed 320MW solar field will be constructed on 395 ha; the proposed battery energy storage system ("BESS") and BESS substation will be developed on ~ 4 ha; internal gravel access roads will have a development footprint of 36 ha; and up to two 2.2 ha site camps / laydown areas (i.e., 4.4 ha in total) will be developed, then more than 439 ha is required for the proposed solar photovoltaic ("PV") facility and associated structures and infrastructure. The development footprint of the associated buildings (offices, ablution facilities, operational and maintenance centre, etc.) and the two on-site solar substations were not indicated. Please ensure that the Final Scoping Report ("FSR") and the forthcoming Draft EIA Report clearly describe the size of the proposed site, the development footprint, and the individual components of the proposed solar PV development.
- 3.2. Further to the above, section 4.1.1 of the DSR deals with the site selection process. It is noted that the original five potential Mura PV development areas were further reduced to two areas (Areas 2 and 5) that were considered suitable for the Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 solar PV developments. Area 5 consist of two sites of 395 ha and 425 ha, respectively. The 395-ha area corresponds with the project area for the proposed Mura 3 solar PV facility. It is again reiterated that the 395 ha appears to only be sufficient for the proposed solar field, based on the information provided in the DSR. The FSR and the Draft EIA Report must indicate the size of the development footprint against the size of the proposed site.
- 3.3. It is noted that Activities 12, 14 and 23 of Listing Notice ("LN") 3 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are applied for. Please be advised that no systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans for the Western Cape Province have been adopted by this Department. As such, Activity 12.i.ii, Activity 14(ii)(a) and (c) i.i.(ff) and Activity 23(ii)(a) i.i.(ff) of LN 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are not applicable to the application for environmental authorisation.
- 3.4. Appendix F and Table 2-1 of the DSR list the specialist studies identified by the Screening Tool, that should be undertaken in the environmental impact reporting ("EIR") phase. The EAP has provided motivation for undertaking or not undertaking the recommended Screening Tool specialist studies, as well as the undertaking of additional specialist studies not identified by the Screening Tool. Section 2.2.1 of the DSR notes that *"An RFI Study will not be undertaken... As this theme has been identified as high, a compliance statement will be prepared by the EAP and included in the EIA Report."* Please note that the Screening Tool indicated a medium (and not high) sensitivity for the Radio Frequency Interference ("RFI") theme. The Plan of Study for EIA (Section 10.5) lists the specialist studies that have been commissioned for the EIR phase, which are aligned to section 2.2.1 of the DSR. The Plan of Study

for EIA does not include the undertaking of an RFI Assessment. Please thus indicate whether an RFI Compliance Statement will be undertaken by the EAP in the EIR phase. If so, the Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include the RFI Compliance Statement.

- 3.5. The Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include an Archaeological Impact Assessment as part of the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment.
- 3.6. Please ensure that the specialist assessments include a cumulative assessment of the same renewable energy projects within a 30km radius of the proposed site. It is noted that the Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement compiled by 3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions dated November 2022 refers to the *"The three Nuweveld WEFs west of the site have been authorised and there is also the Hoogland 1 and Hoogland 2 WEFs which have not yet been authorised and lie adjacent and to the north and west of the Nuweveld site"*. Please note that the Hoogland 1 and 2 wind energy facilities ("WEFs") have received environmental authorisations. The Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Report compiled by Independent Economic Researchers dated January 2023 refers to the *"Assessment of cumulative impacts considered Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 SEFs; Hoogland 1, 2, 3 and 4 WEFs; Nuweveld North, East and West WEFs, Taaibos WEFs, Soutrivier WEFs, as well as the Mura, Hoogland, Nuweveld and Gamma Grid Corridors."* Other scoping phase specialist assessments also include reference to the Taaibos and Soutrivier WEFs. If within a 30km radius of the proposed site, these WEFs must be included in all the specialist assessments and referenced in the FSR and Draft EIA Report.
- 3.7. The Traffic Impact Assessment ("TIA") compiled by Athol Schwarz dated 30 November 2022 indicates that access to the proposed site is via the OP 08881 and an existing private road from the DR 02317. It is further noted that a site visit of the area was undertaken by the traffic engineer in September 2019. The TIA notes that *"OP 08881 is 36.9 km long, starting at the DR 02317 before ending at the farm Slangfontein. This road will be used to access Mura 3 and Mura 4. This road was not included in the site inspection. Thus, the author cannot comment on the condition or the viability of using this route."* It is crucial that this limitation/ gap in knowledge be determined during the EIR phase to confirm that OP 08881 is acceptable for traffic to and from the proposed site. Comments from the relevant road's authority on the condition or viability of the road would be acceptable.
- 3.8. Please include reference to the Western Cape Noise Control Regulations promulgated in Provincial Notice 200/2013 of 20 June 2013 in the section dealing with provincial and municipal legal and regulatory framework in the Draft EIA Report.
4. Directorate: Waste Management – Mr Hassan Parker (Email: Hassan.Parker@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 6877):
 - 4.1. It is recommended that the following aspects, among others, be taken into consideration in terms of waste management for the proposed development:
 - 4.1.1. Implementation of a solid waste management hierarchy – taking the most environmentally friendly steps to avoid resorting to illegal dumping or disposing of waste to landfill that can be diverted.
 - 4.1.2. Measures, as far as possible, for the recycling and/or recovering of materials from the solar PV infrastructure in the event of partial or complete replacement when reaching "end-of-life" or undergoing replacement or maintenance repairs.

- 4.2. This Directorate awaits the Draft EIA Report, EIR specialist studies and Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") to provide additional comment.
5. Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management – Ms Shehaam Brinkhuis (Email: Shehaam.Brinkhuis@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 8309):
- 5.1. This Directorate has no comments on the DSR and Plan of Study for EIA and awaits the Draft EIA Report (and accompanying EMPr) to provide comment on potential pollution impacts and mitigation measures.

The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any or new information received.

Yours sincerely

Thea Jordan Digitally signed by Thea Jordan
Date: 2023.04.11 13:04:38 +02'00'

pp **HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Letter signed by:

Thea Jordan

Director: Development Facilitation

Date: 11 April 2023

CC: Mr Jay-Jay Mpelane (DFFE)

Email: JMpelane@environment.gov.za

Comments on Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (Draft Scoping Report)

Name of IA&P:	Anthony Jefferson		
Matter: (Title of Legislation)	NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and Listing Notices of 2017		
Contact details:			
Email:	Redacted as per POPIA requirements		
Telephone:			
Submitted To:	Megan.Govender@wsp.com (WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.)		

COMMENTS:

Comment	Suggestion
<p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>The DSR omitted to include at least one comprehensive site layout plan illustrating all proposed onsite and off-site infrastructures.</p>	<p>It is suggested an updated SR or the EIR to include such a layout plan at an appropriate scale.</p>
<p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.1, indicates that solar Modules will be located on either single axis tracking structures or fixed tilt mounting structures or similar.</p>	<p>It is suggested that an updated SR or the EIR indicate the exact mounting structure technology that will be used to mount the solar PV modules. This is to ensure transparency from the outset to prevent possible 11th hour substandard technology for the Central Karoo.</p>
<p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.3, states that "The BESS will be Lithium-ion or similar solid-state technology."</p>	<p>It is suggested that an updated SR alternatively the EIR indicate the exact BESS technology. This is to ensure transparency of potential health & safety risk and to prevent 11th hour substandard technology be dumped upon the Central Karoo.</p>
<p>PV & MOUNTING SYSTEM:</p> <p>Considering the CKDM is the poorest region in the Western Cape Province and its communities are the most vulnerable in</p>	

<p>the province; but its electricity rates are higher than many if not all areas within the Cape Metro. Further, section 3.2.1, states that this Mura 3 Solar PV Facility is a large-scale system supplying power into the commercial electricity grid and not to local users. Hence, how will this proposed project impact the CKDM communities passively in a direct manner with significant reduced electricity prices? If, any direct positive impact of reduced power prices at community level, what will the expected timeline be from the time of operation?</p> <p>Section 3.2.1, only made reference to sunlight as a source whilst excluding geothermal as a potential source. Hence the two considered mounting systems is limited to single axis tracking and fixed axis mounting structures.</p>	<p>Suggestion...the municipality be subsidised by Eskom to allow it to reduce its electricity prices to communities whilst still being able to make a marginal income profit.</p> <p>It is suggested that the economic viability of geothermal heat/ power be investigated. If, it is viable, then an additional mounting technology be considered such as bifacial axis mounting structures be considered. It is assumed that the last mentioned structure would be cost effective oppose to the current two considered mounting structures.</p>
<p>Section 3.3, omitted to consider potential geothermal heat radiation that can be a viable energy source during non-sunshine days/evening periods.</p>	<p>It is suggested the following sentences be changed as follows, " Since solar and wind technology depend largely on whether the sun is shining or the wind is blowing, respectively, these technologies are more efficient when these sources are available."</p>
<p>Section 3.3.2, only indicates that, "The battery facilities...will not have any</p>	<p>It is suggested that the EMPr indicates</p>

<p>additional office/operation/maintenance infrastructure as those of the substation.</p>	<p>specific scheduled mechanical safety maintenance operations that should be conducted in terms of all applicable SA Health & Safety requirements i.e. the OSHAct and Mechanical and Ventilation Regulations; and other applicable regulatory tools as cited under section 3.3.3, of the DSR.</p>
<p>Location Map: Section 3.1, page 26-32 read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps). These sections basically addressed only the GPS co-ordinates; alternative sites particulars are scattered around in figures with no scales at times; and no credible topographical map but more of a kind of thematic map has been provided.</p>	<p>It is suggested that the following being addressed in an updated scoping report or the EIA report:</p> <p>Provide a colour location map at a larger scale of at least 1:50 000. The scale must be indicated on the map. The map must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an accurate indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any; • road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s) • a north arrow; • a legend to represent physical/natural landscapes, water features, vegetation features, constructed/cultural/man-made landscape, and transport and administration features on the map. Towns cited under section 6.3.5 should be depicted on the map.; • the prevailing wind direction (during November to April and during May to October); • Date map was printed; and • the already provided GPS Hartbeesthoek 94/WG584 co-ordinate system information.
<p>Site Plan:</p>	

Section 3.1, read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps) should provide an amended Site Plan for the preferred Mura Solar 3 project as well as each alternatives considered. These site plans should conform to the following:

Detailed site plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity and provided in an updated SR or EIAR/EIR. The site plan must contain or conform to the following:

- The detailed site plan must be at a scale preferably at a scale of 1:500 or at an appropriate scale. The scale must be indicated on the plan.
- The property boundaries and numbers of all the properties within 50m of the site must be indicated on the site plan.
- The current land use (not zoning) as well as the land use zoning of each of the adjoining properties must be indicated on the site plan.
- The position of each element of the application as well as any other structures on the site must be indicated on the site plan.
- Services, including electricity supply cables (indicate above or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and access roads that will form part of the development must be indicated on the site plan. Servitudes indicating the purpose of the servitude must be indicated on the site plan. Sensitive environmental elements within 100m of the site must be included on the site plan, including (but not limited to):
 - Watercourses/Rivers/Wetlands (including non-perennial features).
 - Flood lines (*i.e.* 1:10 year, 1:50 year, and 1:100 year where applicable;
 - Ridges.
 - Cultural and historical features.
 - Areas with indigenous vegetation (even

	<p>if it is degraded or infested with alien species).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Whenever the slope of the site exceeds 1:10, then a contour map of the site must be submitted.
<p>Schematic Process/Project Drawing</p>	<p>It is suggested a holistic schematic process drawing (project layout) of the entire solar Mura 3 project be provided. This drawing should include all the different stages with its main technology/infrastructure in a input-process-output manner.</p>
<p>Photographs:</p> <p>Section 2.4 read together with section 2.7, states that descriptions of environmental attributes were by means of combination of desktop reviews i.e. aerial imagery and site investigations done between March and October 2022, to identify sensitive features on site. It further states that "...the latest available aerial imagery for the site."</p>	<p>However a number of important information has been left out and need to be provided in an updated SR or during the EIA phase document as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Colour photographs of the site and its surroundings (taken of the site and from the site) with a description of each photograph. The vantage points from which the photographs were taken must be indicated on the site plan; 2. Recent aerial photograph or at least dates of those aerial photographs (attach as an Appendix). The Appendix should be supplemented with additional dated onsite-photographs taken of relevant features during your stated field trips as cited under section 7.2 of the DSR. Kindly note, the aforementioned requirements must be duplicated for all alternative sites.
	<p>It is suggested a larger A3 size map as an Appendix be provided under section 6.1.3 (geology).</p>

<p>Land use character of surrounding area</p> <p>Section 6.3.5.1 read together with section 6.3.4.3 failed to adequately describe the current land uses on the proposed project site and its immediate surrounding areas. The aforementioned sections also failed to adequately describe the prominent features that occur in the immediate surrounds from the proposed project area.</p>	<p>Hence it is suggested either an updated scoping report or the EIA provides a proper description of the current land uses and/or prominent features that occur within +/- 500m radius of the proposed project area and neighbouring properties if these are located beyond 500m of the site from all directions. Further, a description of any potential impacts the proposed project may pose on the highlighted land uses or features.</p>
<p>Socio-Economic:</p>	<p>It is suggested that the Mitigation and Management Measures under section 6.3.5 relating to regional employment and contracts be included in an updated scoping report or be addressed within the EIA as follows: specifications/requirements/targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% unskilled workers must be local; • 90% semi-skilled workers from local; and • 70% skilled workers must be from local/indigent. • That the concept "local/indigent" shall mean having been born in the CKDM and having lived in the CKDM area for at least more than 10 years and having attended at least either and/or a primary or high school in the CKDM area irrespective whether the candidate is currently residing in the CKDM area or not. If not born in the CKDM area than at least one parent born in the region

	<p>but both parents must have lived in the area for more than 20 years;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That a CKDM professionals body shall be consulted for particulars of local/indigent professionals to be considered for skilled jobs and/or be willing to undergo rapid skills upgrading to occupy skilled jobs; • That CKDM Professionals Body shall have representation in all committees/forums established under this proposed project; • That local sub-contractors who did not gain from tenders in the past locally will receive preferential treatment in terms of the equity principle and a skills transfer programme be adopted by the main contractors; • That sub-contractors who previously gained tenders locally equally compete with external contractors to be main contractors; • That the income/wealth status of sub-contractors and skilled workers for all Black contenders / candidates will also be included in the specifications in addition to the standard "black" requirement under the BBBEE and EEA redress umbrella to ensure wealth does not circulate consistently amongst a few individuals.
<p>Section 3.6 " NEED AND DESIRABILITY" have very little to zero direct and possibly indirect relevance to the Central Karoo District Municipal Area. Yes it is a common fact that the district is in dire need of urgent economic development.</p>	

<p>Section 3.6, states that South Africa is the seventh highest coal producer in the world, with approximately 77% of the country's electricity generated from coal.</p> <p>Section 3.6, states also that the SA's large dependence on coal and its use also resulted in a variety of negative impacts on the environment, including the contribution to climate change. SA is also the highest emitter of GHGs in Africa; attributed to the country's energy-intensive economy that largely relies on coal-based electricity generation.</p>	<p>It is suggested a comparable spreadsheet of the aforementioned seven countries and energy mix usages be provided.</p> <p>It is suggested a western cape regional spreadsheet show casing coal dependence amongst WC district and metro municipalities. Also to include comparative WC district municipalities and metro municipality drivers and associated environmental impacts (GHG emissions, Climate Change, Health Impacts, etc.) as a result of direct/indirect coal usages. Also to include comparative data to showcase the status of energy-intensive economies that relies on coal-based electricity generation amongst the WC district municipalities and metro municipality.</p>
<p>Section 3.6 NEED AND DESIRABILITY also omits to include a dedicated subsection of WESTERN CAPE PERSPECTIVE and REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which would have outlined the energy mix in response to the growing electricity demand and the promotion of clean sources of energy within the CKDM in comparison to the province; • it would have outlined the reduction and elimination of poverty in the CKDM is more dire oppose to other regions within the province; • it would also have outlined that power shortages are most probably 	<p>Hence it is strongly suggested that mention be made about the poorest socio-economic status of the region in comparison to the rest of the province. Further it is strongly suggested that factual comparative analysed data and an objective interpretation of electricity prices communities and businesses are subjected to amongst the districts and one metro municipality in the western cape be provided.</p> <p>Further it is strongly suggested the case study of the Frankfort Municipality and Surrounding Towns Pilot/Case Study that uses four (4) Solar Energy Farms operated</p>

<p>the worse in the CKDM oppose to other regions in the province, esp the metro;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it would have outlined the socio-economic benefits available to the local communities and businesses in the CKDM area from this proposed project; and • that the project will And this premise will promote the reaching one of the National Development Plan's aims which is to reduce and eliminate poverty in South Africa by 2030 (see section 3.6.2, page 40 of the dBAR). 	<p>by Rural Maintenance (a private IPPP) that benefits specifically the local communities and businesses be used and cited.</p> <p>This is to empower people of the Central Karoo to negotiate with all IPPP'S and Eskom in the region for electricity price reductions of up to 30% (considering the region might have more than four solar and wind energy farms) and many more other benefits. Benefits to the local communities and businesses of Frankford gains from that pilot study are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity demand from the Eskom grid are reduced whilst the local communities and business still have access to electricity; • The local community and businesses saves a reduced electricity cost of 15% pricing to what they would have paid to Eskom. • Water and Sanitation Facilities operates 24/7 due to electricity flow, even though it is loadshedding; • Cable theft reduced because the local grid remained alive; • Small Power Users like residence and business are exposed to power outages in smaller durations as per their requests; • The Large Power Users are exposed to power outages of a longer duration as per their request; • Low voltages has been reduced resulting in local communities using their equipment more optimally; and • In the event of loadshedding,
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	<p>locals receives more reliable weekly schedules of specific reduced periods of loadshedding.</p>
<p>Alternatives (Location):</p> <p>Section 4.1.1 only referenced that areas were assessed from a technical perspective by considering slope, aspect, undulation, and access, and more detailed environmental perspective. Resulting in the consideration of high level solar design. No consideration was given to geothermal heat reflection capacity from the landscape such as geological structures and soil characteristics. This could have resulted in the consideration of alternative technologies such as the addition of bi-facial panels and the reconsideration of methods of elevating those bi-facial panels. Hence it is suggested the Amended dBAR or FBAR include descriptions, maps and geothermal heat radiation capacities during non-sunshining days/periods.</p>	<p>It is suggested the scoping report be updated or the EIA address all current land uses in the proposed project region, including depicting within the topographical map and a separate thematic map layers of potential future economic development resources such as geological minerals and gas.</p>
<p>Alternatives (Technology):</p>	<p>It is suggested section 4.2.1 provide a detailed consideration of bi-facial solar panels in relation to both sun radiation/heat and geothermal heat.</p>
<p>Alternatives (Operational):</p> <p>Section 4, made no provision for the consideration of Operational Aspect Alternatives.</p> <p>A detailed objective review and assessment of the suggested factors for consideration will equip the people of the</p>	<p>Hence it is strongly suggested that the updated scoping report or the EIA provide a detailed consideration of this aspect by considering the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments made in this Letter of Comments under the section that

<p>Central Karoo as to whether their genuine socio-economic upliftment is equally a priority as the rest of the province, but not limited to it.</p>	<p>dealt with the Frankfort Solar Energy Pilot Study;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operational and technology aspects used in the aforementioned pilot study;• Electricity costs savings Frankfort Pilot Study local community, businesses and agriculture gained as a result of not having used the Eskom grid; and incorporate objective information of other current and/or proposed/intent renewable energy projects the western cape government recently announced to take all provincial municipalities off the Eskom national grid.
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emailed

Signature



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

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DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2324

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PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF UP TO 320 MW MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES.

The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated April 2023 and received by the Department on 18 April 2023, refer.

The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the PoSEIA dated April 2023 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.

Please ensure that the following information forms part of the next report:

1. Listed Activities

- a) The EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- b) Please continue to ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project

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description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.

- c) The listed activities represented in the EIAR and the application form must be the same and correct.
- d) The EIAR must assess the correct sub listed activity for each listed activity applied for.

2. **Public Participation**

- a) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR.
- b) 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 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.
- c) 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 Annexure 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.
- d) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.
- e) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- f) 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.

3. **Alternatives**

The EAP is required to provide clear assessment for each identified alternative and further provide clear motivation and reasons as to why the **preferred** alternative **proves** to be the preferred compared to other alternatives.

These alternatives includes:

- Location / Site Alternatives.
- Technology Alternatives.
- Design and Layout Alternatives.
- BESS technology alternatives.
- No-go alternative.

4. **The layout map must indicate the following:**

All supporting onsite infrastructure such as follows:

- All supporting onsite infrastructure that will support the proposed 320MW photovoltaic solar facility e.g., roads (existing and proposed, fencing, BESS area, etc.).
- Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network; and
- All existing infrastructure on the site, including neighbouring villages (if any), etc.
- The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
- Buffer areas; and
- All “no-go” areas.

wk

5. **Specialist assessments**

Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of Substation, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.

- a) 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.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) 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.
- e) The screening tool output:
 - The screening tool and the gazetted protocols (GN R320 of 20 March 2020 and GN R 1150 of 30 October 2020) require a site sensitivity verification to be completed to either confirm or dispute the findings and sensitivity ratings of the screening tool.
 - It is the **responsibility** of the **EAP** to confirm the list of specialist assessments and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist studies including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and attached.
- f) 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 expert advice.
- g) Please include a table that shows the proposed studies and the relevant specialists carrying out the study. In addition, a summary should be included of the specialist's recommendations in terms of the alternatives that are preferred based on the findings of their study.

General

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.

Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.

A construction and operational phase EMP that includes mitigation and monitoring measures must be submitted with the final EIAR.

The comments issued by this Department on 29 March 2023, during the draft scoping report are still valid and must be all addressed throughout the EIA process.

wh

Should you use coordinates, please ensure that it is in the format as prescribed in the 2014 EIA NEMA Regulations, as amended.

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 & the Environment
Signed by: Mr Wayne Hector
Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Date: 12/05/2023

cc:	Lance Blaine	Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Email: anthony@atlanticep.com
	Gavin Benjamin	DEA&DP	Email: gavin.benjamin@westerncape.gov.za
	Elsabe Swart	DENC	Email: elsabeswart.denc@gmail.com
	Ashley Mitchell	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Email: buildingcontrol@beaufortwestmun.co.za

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

Govender, Megan

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 March 2023 14:02
To: Govender, Megan
Cc: Constance Musemburi; EIAAdmin; Salome Mambane; Jay-Jay Mpelane
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2324

Dear Megan

14/12/16/3/3/2/2324

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 320 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES.

The Department confirms having received the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 03 March 2023. 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.

Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

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 EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za.

[You are advised that this mailbox has a 48 hour response time.](#)

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.



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: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2324

Enquiries: Mr Wayne Hector

Telephone: (012) 399 9410 **E-mail:** WHector@dfffe.gov.za

Ms Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Building 1, Golder House
Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
MIDRAND
1685

Cell Number: (011) 361 1392
Email Address: Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ms Strong.

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF UP TO 320 MW MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES.

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2023 and received by the Department on 03 March 2023, refer.

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

1. Application form:

- The applicant represented by Mr Lance Blaine, did not sign the application form. Please note that a signed application form must be submitted.
- Kindly clarify the reason why this Department is the Competent Authority (CA) in terms of Section 24C of NEMA. State clearly if the applicant intends to bid the project in terms of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP).
- Please note that the Minister is the competent authority for applications for facilities or infrastructure, that will form part of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Programmes for technologies whose procurement processes have been determined under the Electricity Regulation Act, 2006 and / or the Electricity Regulations on New Generation Capacity. If the applicant will not, or does not intend to, participate in any of the IRP programmes, the competent authority will be the MEC responsible for environmental affairs in the respective province. Be advised that this information must be clearly presented in Section 1 –Competent Authority in the application form.
- Reflecting the above, the reasons provided in Section 1 of the application form for this Department being the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA are incomplete. This must be rectified and expanded on in the application form as well as the report. Please refer to GN 779.

wh

- Please ensure that the application form is fully completed and correct. The SG codes, all farm names, and the EAP's contact details are correct.
- Please include the GPS coordinates for the onsite substation and the battery energy storage system (BESS) facility.

2. Listed Activities

- It is noted that the proposed solar facility does not fall within any renewable energy development zones. Although the application form indicates that part of the project is within the Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) as per GN 113, therefore this application will be considered as a normal EIA application.
- Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.
- You are required to confirm whether systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans are adopted by the competent authority. There are certain activities in Listing Notice 3 that requires that Bioregional Plans to be adopted.
- It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the environmental impact assessment process, as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of Listing Notice 3 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities (or proof of consultation if no comments were received) 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 final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).
- 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.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms>.

3. Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:
 - The proposed location of the PV array and associated infrastructure of the proposed up to 320MW Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility
 - The proposed grid infrastructure connecting the PV facility to the existing substation, overlain by the sensitivity map;
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed); fence, office buildings, and etc.
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
 - Buffer areas; and
 - All "no-go" areas.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure, as well as the neighbouring PV Solar Clusters.
- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

wh

4. **Public Participation Process**

- Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received on the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za, the provincial authority and the local municipality) 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 must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of the approved public participation plan and Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Take note of the timeframes required for adequate public participation.
- A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments (pre and post submission of the draft SR) 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 which reflects the details of the I&APs and date of comments received, actual comments received, and response provided. Please ensure that comments made by I&APs are comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.

5. **Specialist Assessments to be conducted in the EIA Phase**

- Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of PV arrays, 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.
- You are further required to ensure that all required specialist studies are recommended and assessed for the proposed up to 320MW Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility.
- 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. Please note further that the protocols require the specialists' to be registered with SACNASP in their respective field.
- Please include a table in the report, summarising the specialist studies required by the Department's Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted. Please note that if any of the specialists' studies and requirements/protocols recommended in the Department's Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation for such must be provided in the report per the requirements of the Protocols.

wk

6. Cumulative Assessment to be conducted in the EIA Phase

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.

7. Environmental Management Programme

The EMPr must include the following:

- It is drawn to your attention that for substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the Generic Environmental Management Programme, **must** be used and submitted with the final report over and above the EMPr for the facility. This means that a generic EMPR must be included for the substation. In total, 2 EMPrs should accompany the final report.
- Further to the above, you are required to comply with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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 SR 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 SRs in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA 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).

wh

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
Letter signed by: Mr Wayne Hector
Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Date: 29/03/23

cc:	Lance Blaine	Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Email: surina@red-cap.co.za
	Ashley Mitchell	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Email: buildingcontrol@beaufortwestmun.co.za
	MJ Penxa	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Email: jacksonp@beaufortwestmun.co.za

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 202 8660
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 20672

Date: Friday March 31, 2023
Page No: 1

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd

Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (up to 320 MW) between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces

WSP has been appointed by Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation Application for a proposed Solar Photovoltaic Facility, near Loxton, Northern Cape Province.

A Draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include solar panels, substations, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), offices, operational and maintenance buildings, warehouse/workshop, ablution facilities, converter/invertor stations, underground cabling, internal roads, fencing, storm water management infrastructure, and site camps.

Almond, J. E. 2022. Combined Desktop & Field-Based Palaeontological Heritage Study: Proposed Mura PV Solar Facilities between Loxton and Beaufort West, Beaufort West Local Municipality (Central Karoo District Municipality), Western Cape and Ubuntu Local Municipality (Pixley Ka Sema District Municipality), Northern Cape

The report combines the results for five development applications. Only the results pertaining to Mura PV 3 will be discussed below.

The proposed development is underlain by the Teekloof Formation. A total of 12 fossil sites were recorded within the proposed development area. These include reworked bone fragments, remains of small tetrapods, reedy plant stem casts and invertebrate trace fossils of Grade IIIC heritage significance, and robust tetrapod remains and sizeable ridged bone fragment of Grade IIIB significance (sampled/collected).

No recorded fossil sites of unique scientific or conservation value are likely to be directly impacted by the proposed renewable energy and electrical infrastructure developments and no further palaeontological studies or mitigation is proposed here with regard to these sites. A Chance Fossil Finds Protocol is recommended to be implemented.

Our Ref:



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Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 202 8660
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 20672

Date: Friday March 31, 2023
Page No: 2

Orton, J. 2022. Heritage Impact Assessment: Proposed Mura 1-4 PV Facilities, Beaufort West Magisterial District, Western Cape and Victoria West Magisterial District, Northern Cape

The report combines the results for five development applications. Only the results pertaining to Mura PV 3 will be discussed below.

A total of two heritage resources were identified within the Mura PV 3 development area. These include a stone-walled house ruin of medium significance and a mound of rocks of very low heritage significance.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
- The site at waypoint 1402 should be avoided if possible with a 50 m buffer or else revisited to record it in detail as well as determining whether any sampling would be required;
- Any realignment of the DR02317 within 400 m of waypoint 2000 must be checked in the field and approved by an archaeologist;
- No stones may be removed from any archaeological site;
- The road construction camp location must be approved by an archaeologist and subjected to a site inspection if deemed necessary; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Interim Comment

SAHRA requests clarity regarding the permit used for the collection of fossil material in the Northern Cape Province. Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the requested clarity and the draft EIA inclusive of appendices.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 202 8660
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 20672

Date: Friday March 31, 2023
Page No: 3

Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:
Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/612928>
(DFFE, Ref:)

Govender, Megan

From: Thea Jordan <Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 11 April 2023 13:06
To: Govender, Megan; Strong, Ashlea; JMpelane@environment.gov.za; EIAAdmin
Cc: Adri La Meyer
Subject: COMMENTS ON THE DSR FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 320MW MURA 3 SOLAR PV FACILITY, BEAUFORT WEST AND UBUNTU LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES
Attachments: 2023 April 11 - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 320MW MURA 3 SOLAR PV FACILITY, BEAUFORT WEST AND UBUNTU LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES.pdf

Dear EAP,

Your request for comment refers.

Please find attached this Department's comment in the above regard.

Yours faithfully

Thea Jordan
Pr. Pl. (A/1237/2002)
Director: Development Facilitation
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Western Cape Government

11th Floor, Utilitas Building, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8000

Tel: +27 (0)21 483 4093
Email: Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za
Website: www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp



Be 110% Green. Read from the screen.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are still operating on a "work-from-home" basis. Should you not be able to contact the numbers above, please call +27 (0)21 483 4091 between 07:30-16:00.

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 14:51
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Commenting Authority,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Mura 1 Solar PV Facility: BA Process
- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

One Drive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review
One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder

A presentation on the summary of the proposed development has been collated. The presentation has been made available on the WSP website, Datafree website and One Drive Link.

PowerPoint Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To view and listen to the project summary presentation, please open the PowerPoint Presentation and click on the speaker icon on the left on each slide to listen to the accompanying commentary
-------------------------------	--

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender

Tel: 011 361 1410
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300
M +27 083 228 5288



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
2191 South Africa

wsp.com

WSP is a proud Level 1 B-BBEE contributor and is internationally certified for ISO 9001, 14001 & 45001

Confidential

This message, including any document or file attached, is intended only for the addressee and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any other person is strictly prohibited from reading, using, disclosing or copying this message. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the message. Thank you.

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa
Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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References:

18/2/3/2023-2024 (Development Facilitation)

19/2/5/3/C3/2/WL0035/23 (Waste Management)

19/3/2/4/C3/1/DDF0131/22 (Pollution and Chemicals Management)

Attention: Ms Megan Govender

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 98867
Sloane Park
JOHANNESBURG
2151

Megan.Govender@wsp.com

Dear Madam

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND PLAN OF STUDY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 320MW MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AND STRUCTURES (INCLUDING, *INTER ALIA*, A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM AND SUBSTATION, 2 ON-SITE SOLAR FARM SUBSTATIONS, ACCESS ROADS, SITE CAMPS, CABLING, BUILDINGS, ETC.) ON FARM LEEUWKLOOF NO. 43, REMAINDER OF FARM ABRAMS KRAAL NO. 206, PORTION 4 AND THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 3 OF FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO. 45, FARM SNEEUWKRAAL NO. 46, AND AANGRENSEND FARM ABRAMSKRAAL NO. 11, BEAUFORT WEST AND UBUNTU LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES, WESTERN AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

1. The email correspondence of 06 March 2023, informing interested and affected parties of the release of Draft Scoping Report ("DSR") for comments, the email received on the same day, providing an additional link to download the DSR and appendices, and the Department's email of 05 April 2023, informing the environmental assessment practitioner ("EAP") that the Department is unable to meet the deadline of 06 April 2023, refer.
2. The Department extends its appreciation to the EAP for extending the deadline for comments on the DSR. Please find consolidated comments from various directorates within the Department on the DSR and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") dated March 2023 that was available for download from various online platforms provided by the EAP.

3. Directorate: Development Facilitation – Ms Adri La Meyer (Email: Adri.Lameyer@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 2887):
- 3.1. This Directorate requires clarity on the extent of the development footprint and that of the proposed site (indicated as Farm Leeuwkloof No. 43, Remainder of Farm Abrams Kraal No. 206, Portion 4 and the Remainder of Portion 3 of Farm Duiker Kranse No. 45, Farm Sneeuwkraal No. 46, and Aangrensend Farm Abramskraal No. 11). The DSR interchangeably refers to the total project area as 436 ha and 395 ha. On page 26 of the DSR it is indicated that *“The proposed Mura 3 Facility will be developed within a project area of approximately 395 hectares (ha), excluding the access road corridor”*, whereas on page 37 it is indicated that *“The total project area is 436 ha”* and that *“The total development envelope for project installation is approximately 395 ha”*. Assuming that the proposed 320MW solar field will be constructed on 395 ha; the proposed battery energy storage system (“BESS”) and BESS substation will be developed on ~ 4 ha; internal gravel access roads will have a development footprint of 36 ha; and up to two 2.2 ha site camps / laydown areas (i.e., 4.4 ha in total) will be developed, then more than 439 ha is required for the proposed solar photovoltaic (“PV”) facility and associated structures and infrastructure. The development footprint of the associated buildings (offices, ablution facilities, operational and maintenance centre, etc.) and the two on-site solar substations were not indicated. Please ensure that the Final Scoping Report (“FSR”) and the forthcoming Draft EIA Report clearly describe the size of the proposed site, the development footprint, and the individual components of the proposed solar PV development.
- 3.2. Further to the above, section 4.1.1 of the DSR deals with the site selection process. It is noted that the original five potential Mura PV development areas were further reduced to two areas (Areas 2 and 5) that were considered suitable for the Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 solar PV developments. Area 5 consist of two sites of 395 ha and 425 ha, respectively. The 395-ha area corresponds with the project area for the proposed Mura 3 solar PV facility. It is again reiterated that the 395 ha appears to only be sufficient for the proposed solar field, based on the information provided in the DSR. The FSR and the Draft EIA Report must indicate the size of the development footprint against the size of the proposed site.
- 3.3. It is noted that Activities 12, 14 and 23 of Listing Notice (“LN”) 3 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (“NEMA”) EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are applied for. Please be advised that no systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans for the Western Cape Province have been adopted by this Department. As such, Activity 12.i.ii, Activity 14(ii)(a) and (c) i.i.(ff) and Activity 23(ii)(a) i.i.(ff) of LN 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are not applicable to the application for environmental authorisation.
- 3.4. Appendix F and Table 2-1 of the DSR list the specialist studies identified by the Screening Tool, that should be undertaken in the environmental impact reporting (“EIR”) phase. The EAP has provided motivation for undertaking or not undertaking the recommended Screening Tool specialist studies, as well as the undertaking of additional specialist studies not identified by the Screening Tool. Section 2.2.1 of the DSR notes that *“An RFI Study will not be undertaken... As this theme has been identified as high, a compliance statement will be prepared by the EAP and included in the EIA Report.”* Please note that the Screening Tool indicated a medium (and not high) sensitivity for the Radio Frequency Interference (“RFI”) theme. The Plan of Study for EIA (Section 10.5) lists the specialist studies that have been commissioned for the EIR phase, which are aligned to section 2.2.1 of the DSR. The Plan of Study

for EIA does not include the undertaking of an RFI Assessment. Please thus indicate whether an RFI Compliance Statement will be undertaken by the EAP in the EIR phase. If so, the Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include the RFI Compliance Statement.

- 3.5. The Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include an Archaeological Impact Assessment as part of the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment.
- 3.6. Please ensure that the specialist assessments include a cumulative assessment of the same renewable energy projects within a 30km radius of the proposed site. It is noted that the Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement compiled by 3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions dated November 2022 refers to the *"The three Nuweveld WEFs west of the site have been authorised and there is also the Hoogland 1 and Hoogland 2 WEFs which have not yet been authorised and lie adjacent and to the north and west of the Nuweveld site"*. Please note that the Hoogland 1 and 2 wind energy facilities ("WEFs") have received environmental authorisations. The Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Report compiled by Independent Economic Researchers dated January 2023 refers to the *"Assessment of cumulative impacts considered Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 SEFs; Hoogland 1, 2, 3 and 4 WEFs; Nuweveld North, East and West WEFs, Taaibos WEFs, Soutrivier WEFs, as well as the Mura, Hoogland, Nuweveld and Gamma Grid Corridors."* Other scoping phase specialist assessments also include reference to the Taaibos and Soutrivier WEFs. If within a 30km radius of the proposed site, these WEFs must be included in all the specialist assessments and referenced in the FSR and Draft EIA Report.
- 3.7. The Traffic Impact Assessment ("TIA") compiled by Athol Schwarz dated 30 November 2022 indicates that access to the proposed site is via the OP 08881 and an existing private road from the DR 02317. It is further noted that a site visit of the area was undertaken by the traffic engineer in September 2019. The TIA notes that *"OP 08881 is 36.9 km long, starting at the DR 02317 before ending at the farm Slangfontein. This road will be used to access Mura 3 and Mura 4. This road was not included in the site inspection. Thus, the author cannot comment on the condition or the viability of using this route."* It is crucial that this limitation/ gap in knowledge be determined during the EIR phase to confirm that OP 08881 is acceptable for traffic to and from the proposed site. Comments from the relevant road's authority on the condition or viability of the road would be acceptable.
- 3.8. Please include reference to the Western Cape Noise Control Regulations promulgated in Provincial Notice 200/2013 of 20 June 2013 in the section dealing with provincial and municipal legal and regulatory framework in the Draft EIA Report.
4. Directorate: Waste Management – Mr Hassan Parker (Email: Hassan.Parker@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 6877):
 - 4.1. It is recommended that the following aspects, among others, be taken into consideration in terms of waste management for the proposed development:
 - 4.1.1. Implementation of a solid waste management hierarchy – taking the most environmentally friendly steps to avoid resorting to illegal dumping or disposing of waste to landfill that can be diverted.
 - 4.1.2. Measures, as far as possible, for the recycling and/or recovering of materials from the solar PV infrastructure in the event of partial or complete replacement when reaching "end-of-life" or undergoing replacement or maintenance repairs.

- 4.2. This Directorate awaits the Draft EIA Report, EIR specialist studies and Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") to provide additional comment.
5. Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management – Ms Shehaam Brinkhuis (Email: Shehaam.Brinkhuis@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 8309):
- 5.1. This Directorate has no comments on the DSR and Plan of Study for EIA and awaits the Draft EIA Report (and accompanying EMPr) to provide comment on potential pollution impacts and mitigation measures.

The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any or new information received.

Yours sincerely

Thea Jordan Digitally signed by Thea Jordan
Date: 2023.04.11 13:04:38 +02'00'

pp **HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Letter signed by:

Thea Jordan

Director: Development Facilitation

Date: 11 April 2023

CC: Mr Jay-Jay Mpelane (DFFE)

Email: JMpelane@environment.gov.za

Comments on Mura 3 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (Draft Scoping Report)

Name of IA&P:	Anthony Jefferson		
Matter: (Title of Legislation)	NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and Listing Notices of 2017		
Contact details:			
Email:	Jeffathon@gmail.com		
Telephone:	0768663669		
Submitted To:	Megan.Govender@wsp.com (WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.)		

COMMENTS:

Comment	Suggestion
<p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>The DSR omitted to include at least one comprehensive site layout plan illustrating all proposed onsite and off-site infrastructures.</p>	<p>It is suggested an updated SR or the EIR to include such a layout plan at an appropriate scale.</p>
<p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.1, indicates that solar Modules will be located on either single axis tracking structures or fixed tilt mounting structures or similar.</p>	<p>It is suggested that an updated SR or the EIR indicate the exact mounting structure technology that will be used to mount the solar PV modules. This is to ensure transparency from the outset to prevent possible 11th hour substandard technology for the Central Karoo.</p>
<p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.3, states that "The BESS will be Lithium-ion or similar solid-state technology."</p>	<p>It is suggested that an updated SR alternatively the EIR indicate the exact BESS technology. This is to ensure transparency of potential health & safety risk and to prevent 11th hour substandard technology be dumped upon the Central Karoo.</p>
<p>PV & MOUNTING SYSTEM:</p> <p>Considering the CKDM is the poorest region in the Western Cape Province and its communities are the most vulnerable in</p>	

<p>the province; but its electricity rates are higher than many if not all areas within the Cape Metro. Further, section 3.2.1, states that this Mura 3 Solar PV Facility is a large-scale system supplying power into the commercial electricity grid and not to local users. Hence, how will this proposed project impact the CKDM communities passively in a direct manner with significant reduced electricity prices? If, any direct positive impact of reduced power prices at community level, what will the expected timeline be from the time of operation?</p> <p>Section 3.2.1, only made reference to sunlight as a source whilst excluding geothermal as a potential source. Hence the two considered mounting systems is limited to single axis tracking and fixed axis mounting structures.</p>	<p>Suggestion...the municipality be subsidised by Eskom to allow it to reduce its electricity prices to communities whilst still being able to make a marginal income profit.</p> <p>It is suggested that the economic viability of geothermal heat/ power be investigated. If, it is viable, then an additional mounting technology be considered such as bifacial axis mounting structures be considered. It is assumed that the last mentioned structure would be cost effective oppose to the current two considered mounting structures.</p>
<p>Section 3.3, omitted to consider potential geothermal heat radiation that can be a viable energy source during non-sunshine days/evening periods.</p>	<p>It is suggested the following sentences be changed as follows, " Since solar and wind technology depend largely on whether the sun is shining or the wind is blowing, respectively, these technologies are more efficient when these sources are available."</p>
<p>Section 3.3.2, only indicates that, "The battery facilities...will not have any</p>	<p>It is suggested that the EMPr indicates</p>

<p>additional office/operation/maintenance infrastructure as those of the substation.</p>	<p>specific scheduled mechanical safety maintenance operations that should be conducted in terms of all applicable SA Health & Safety requirements i.e. the OSHAct and Mechanical and Ventilation Regulations; and other applicable regulatory tools as cited under section 3.3.3, of the DSR.</p>
<p>Location Map: Section 3.1, page 26-32 read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps). These sections basically addressed only the GPS co-ordinates; alternative sites particulars are scattered around in figures with no scales at times; and no credible topographical map but more of a kind of thematic map has been provided.</p>	<p>It is suggested that the following being addressed in an updated scoping report or the EIA report:</p> <p>Provide a colour location map at a larger scale of at least 1:50 000. The scale must be indicated on the map. The map must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an accurate indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any; • road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s) • a north arrow; • a legend to represent physical/natural landscapes, water features, vegetation features, constructed/cultural/man-made landscape, and transport and administration features on the map. Towns cited under section 6.3.5 should be depicted on the map.; • the prevailing wind direction (during November to April and during May to October); • Date map was printed; and • the already provided GPS Hartbeesthoek 94/WG584 co-ordinate system information.
<p>Site Plan:</p>	

Section 3.1, read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps) should provide an amended Site Plan for the preferred Mura Solar 3 project as well as each alternatives considered. These site plans should conform to the following:

Detailed site plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity and provided in an updated SR or EIAR/EIR. The site plan must contain or conform to the following:

- The detailed site plan must be at a scale preferably at a scale of 1:500 or at an appropriate scale. The scale must be indicated on the plan.
- The property boundaries and numbers of all the properties within 50m of the site must be indicated on the site plan.
- The current land use (not zoning) as well as the land use zoning of each of the adjoining properties must be indicated on the site plan.
- The position of each element of the application as well as any other structures on the site must be indicated on the site plan.
- Services, including electricity supply cables (indicate above or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and access roads that will form part of the development must be indicated on the site plan. Servitudes indicating the purpose of the servitude must be indicated on the site plan. Sensitive environmental elements within 100m of the site must be included on the site plan, including (but not limited to):
 - Watercourses/Rivers/Wetlands (including non-perennial features).
 - Flood lines (*i.e.* 1:10 year, 1:50 year, and 1:100 year where applicable;
 - Ridges.
 - Cultural and historical features.
 - Areas with indigenous vegetation (even

	<p>if it is degraded or infested with alien species).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Whenever the slope of the site exceeds 1:10, then a contour map of the site must be submitted.
<p>Schematic Process/Project Drawing</p>	<p>It is suggested a holistic schematic process drawing (project layout) of the entire solar Mura 3 project be provided. This drawing should include all the different stages with its main technology/infrastructure in a input-process-output manner.</p>
<p>Photographs:</p> <p>Section 2.4 read together with section 2.7, states that descriptions of environmental attributes were by means of combination of desktop reviews i.e. aerial imagery and site investigations done between March and October 2022, to identify sensitive features on site. It further states that "...the latest available aerial imagery for the site."</p>	<p>However a number of important information has been left out and need to be provided in an updated SR or during the EIA phase document as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Colour photographs of the site and its surroundings (taken of the site and from the site) with a description of each photograph. The vantage points from which the photographs were taken must be indicated on the site plan; 2. Recent aerial photograph or at least dates of those aerial photographs (attach as an Appendix). The Appendix should be supplemented with additional dated onsite-photographs taken of relevant features during your stated field trips as cited under section 7.2 of the DSR. Kindly note, the aforementioned requirements must be duplicated for all alternative sites.
	<p>It is suggested a larger A3 size map as an Appendix be provided under section 6.1.3 (geology).</p>

<p>Land use character of surrounding area</p> <p>Section 6.3.5.1 read together with section 6.3.4.3 failed to adequately describe the current land uses on the proposed project site and its immediate surrounding areas. The aforementioned sections also failed to adequately describe the prominent features that occur in the immediate surrounds from the proposed project area.</p>	<p>Hence it is suggested either an updated scoping report or the EIA provides a proper description of the current land uses and/or prominent features that occur within +/- 500m radius of the proposed project area and neighbouring properties if these are located beyond 500m of the site from all directions. Further, a description of any potential impacts the proposed project may pose on the highlighted land uses or features.</p>
<p>Socio-Economic:</p>	<p>It is suggested that the Mitigation and Management Measures under section 6.3.5 relating to regional employment and contracts be included in an updated scoping report or be addressed within the EIA as follows: specifications/requirements/targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% unskilled workers must be local; • 90% semi-skilled workers from local; and • 70% skilled workers must be from local/indigent. • That the concept "local/indigent" shall mean having been born in the CKDM and having lived in the CKDM area for at least more than 10 years and having attended at least either and/or a primary or high school in the CKDM area irrespective whether the candidate is currently residing in the CKDM area or not. If not born in the CKDM area than at least one parent born in the region

	<p>but both parents must have lived in the area for more than 20 years;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That a CKDM professionals body shall be consulted for particulars of local/indigent professionals to be considered for skilled jobs and/or be willing to undergo rapid skills upgrading to occupy skilled jobs; • That CKDM Professionals Body shall have representation in all committees/forums established under this proposed project; • That local sub-contractors who did not gain from tenders in the past locally will receive preferential treatment in terms of the equity principle and a skills transfer programme be adopted by the main contractors; • That sub-contractors who previously gained tenders locally equally compete with external contractors to be main contractors; • That the income/wealth status of sub-contractors and skilled workers for all Black contenders / candidates will also be included in the specifications in addition to the standard "black" requirement under the BBBEE and EEA redress umbrella to ensure wealth does not circulate consistently amongst a few individuals.
<p>Section 3.6 " NEED AND DESIRABILITY" have very little to zero direct and possibly indirect relevance to the Central Karoo District Municipal Area. Yes it is a common fact that the district is in dire need of urgent economic development.</p>	

<p>Section 3.6, states that South Africa is the seventh highest coal producer in the world, with approximately 77% of the country's electricity generated from coal.</p> <p>Section 3.6, states also that the SA's large dependence on coal and its use also resulted in a variety of negative impacts on the environment, including the contribution to climate change. SA is also the highest emitter of GHGs in Africa; attributed to the country's energy-intensive economy that largely relies on coal-based electricity generation.</p>	<p>It is suggested a comparable spreadsheet of the aforementioned seven countries and energy mix usages be provided.</p> <p>It is suggested a western cape regional spreadsheet show casing coal dependence amongst WC district and metro municipalities. Also to include comparative WC district municipalities and metro municipality drivers and associated environmental impacts (GHG emissions, Climate Change, Health Impacts, etc.) as a result of direct/indirect coal usages. Also to include comparative data to showcase the status of energy-intensive economies that relies on coal-based electricity generation amongst the WC district municipalities and metro municipality.</p>
<p>Section 3.6 NEED AND DESIRABILITY also omits to include a dedicated subsection of WESTERN CAPE PERSPECTIVE and REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which would have outlined the energy mix in response to the growing electricity demand and the promotion of clean sources of energy within the CKDM in comparison to the province; • it would have outlined the reduction and elimination of poverty in the CKDM is more dire oppose to other regions within the province; • it would also have outlined that power shortages are most probably 	<p>Hence it is strongly suggested that mention be made about the poorest socio-economic status of the region in comparison to the rest of the province. Further it is strongly suggested that factual comparative analysed data and an objective interpretation of electricity prices communities and businesses are subjected to amongst the districts and one metro municipality in the western cape be provided.</p> <p>Further it is strongly suggested the case study of the Frankfort Municipality and Surrounding Towns Pilot/Case Study that uses four (4) Solar Energy Farms operated</p>

<p>the worse in the CKDM oppose to other regions in the province, esp the metro;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it would have outlined the socio-economic benefits available to the local communities and businesses in the CKDM area from this proposed project; and • that the project will And this premise will promote the reaching one of the National Development Plan's aims which is to reduce and eliminate poverty in South Africa by 2030 (see section 3.6.2, page 40 of the dBAR). 	<p>by Rural Maintenance (a private IPPP) that benefits specifically the local communities and businesses be used and cited.</p> <p>This is to empower people of the Central Karoo to negotiate with all IPPP'S and Eskom in the region for electricity price reductions of up to 30% (considering the region might have more than four solar and wind energy farms) and many more other benefits. Benefits to the local communities and businesses of Frankford gains from that pilot study are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity demand from the Eskom grid are reduced whilst the local communities and business still have access to electricity; • The local community and businesses saves a reduced electricity cost of 15% pricing to what they would have paid to Eskom. • Water and Sanitation Facilities operates 24/7 due to electricity flow, even though it is loadshedding; • Cable theft reduced because the local grid remained alive; • Small Power Users like residence and business are exposed to power outages in smaller durations as per their requests; • The Large Power Users are exposed to power outages of a longer duration as per their request; • Low voltages has been reduced resulting in local communities using their equipment more optimally; and • In the event of loadshedding,
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	<p>locals receives more reliable weekly schedules of specific reduced periods of loadshedding.</p>
<p>Alternatives (Location):</p> <p>Section 4.1.1 only referenced that areas were assessed from a technical perspective by considering slope, aspect, undulation, and access, and more detailed environmental perspective. Resulting in the consideration of high level solar design. No consideration was given to geothermal heat reflection capacity from the landscape such as geological structures and soil characteristics. This could have resulted in the consideration of alternative technologies such as the addition of bi-facial panels and the reconsideration of methods of elevating those bi-facial panels. Hence it is suggested the Amended dBAR or FBAR include descriptions, maps and geothermal heat radiation capacities during non-sunshining days/periods.</p>	<p>It is suggested the scoping report be updated or the EIA address all current land uses in the proposed project region, including depicting within the topographical map and a separate thematic map layers of potential future economic development resources such as geological minerals and gas.</p>
<p>Alternatives (Technology):</p>	<p>It is suggested section 4.2.1 provide a detailed consideration of bi-facial solar panels in relation to both sun radiation/heat and geothermal heat.</p>
<p>Alternatives (Operational):</p> <p>Section 4, made no provision for the consideration of Operational Aspect Alternatives. A detailed objective review and assessment of the suggested factors for consideration will equip the people of the</p>	<p>Hence it is strongly suggested that the updated scoping report or the EIA provide a detailed consideration of this aspect by considering the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments made in this Letter of Comments under the section that

<p>Central Karoo as to whether their genuine socio-economic upliftment is equally a priority as the rest of the province, but not limited to it.</p>	<p>dealt with the Frankfort Solar Energy Pilot Study;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operational and technology aspects used in the aforementioned pilot study;• Electricity costs savings Frankfort Pilot Study local community, businesses and agriculture gained as a result of not having used the Eskom grid; and incorporate objective information of other current and/or proposed/intent renewable energy projects the western cape government recently announced to take all provincial municipalities off the Eskom national grid.
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emailed

Signature



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: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2324

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PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF UP TO 320 MW MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES.

The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated April 2023 and received by the Department on 18 April 2023, refer.

The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the PoSEIA dated April 2023 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.

Please ensure that the following information forms part of the next report:

1. Listed Activities

- a) The EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- b) Please continue to ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project

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description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.

- c) The listed activities represented in the EIAR and the application form must be the same and correct.
- d) The EIAR must assess the correct sub listed activity for each listed activity applied for.

2. **Public Participation**

- a) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR.
- b) 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 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.
- c) 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 Annexure 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.
- d) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.
- e) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- f) 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.

3. **Alternatives**

The EAP is required to provide clear assessment for each identified alternative and further provide clear motivation and reasons as to why the **preferred** alternative **proves** to be the preferred compared to other alternatives.

These alternatives includes:

- Location / Site Alternatives.
- Technology Alternatives.
- Design and Layout Alternatives.
- BESS technology alternatives.
- No-go alternative.

4. **The layout map must indicate the following:**

All supporting onsite infrastructure such as follows:

- All supporting onsite infrastructure that will support the proposed 320MW photovoltaic solar facility e.g., roads (existing and proposed, fencing, BESS area, etc.).
- Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network; and
- All existing infrastructure on the site, including neighbouring villages (if any), etc.
- The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
- Buffer areas; and
- All “no-go” areas.

wk

5. **Specialist assessments**

Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of Substation, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.

- a) 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.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) 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.
- e) The screening tool output:
 - The screening tool and the gazetted protocols (GN R320 of 20 March 2020 and GN R 1150 of 30 October 2020) require a site sensitivity verification to be completed to either confirm or dispute the findings and sensitivity ratings of the screening tool.
 - It is the **responsibility** of the **EAP** to confirm the list of specialist assessments and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist studies including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and attached.
- f) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and were necessary, include further expertise advice.
- g) Please include a table that shows the proposed studies and the relevant specialists carrying out the study. In addition, a summary should be included of the specialist's recommendations in terms of the alternatives that are preferred based on the findings of their study.

General

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.

Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.

A construction and operational phase EMP that includes mitigation and monitoring measures must be submitted with the final EIAR.

The comments issued by this Department on 29 March 2023, during the draft scoping report are still valid and must be all addressed throughout the EIA process.

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Should you use coordinates, please ensure that it is in the format as prescribed in the 2014 EIA NEMA Regulations, as amended.

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 & the Environment
Signed by: Mr Wayne Hector
Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Date: 12/05/2023

cc:	Lance Blaine	Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd	Email: anthony@atlanticep.com
	Gavin Benjamin	DEA&DP	Email: gavin.benjamin@westerncape.gov.za
	Elsabe Swart	DENC	Email: elsabeswart.denc@gmail.com
	Ashley Mitchell	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Email: buildingcontrol@beaufortwestmun.co.za

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



OUR REFERENCE : 20/9/2/3/1/083
YOUR REFERENCE : 41103930
ENQUIRIES : Cor van der Walt/Kyle Solomons

WSP

Email: Megan.Govender@wsp.com

Att: Megan Govender

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE MURA 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY:

DIVISION BEAUFORT WEST

FARM LEEUWFLOOF NO 43

FARM BULTFONTEIN NO 13

FARM SNEEUWKRAAL NO 46

FARM AANGRENSEND ABRAMSKRAAL NO 11

REMAINDER OF FARM ABRAM KRANSE NO 45

PORTION 4 OF THE FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO 45

REMAINDER OF PORTION 3 OF THE FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO 45

Your application dated March 2023 has reference.

Mura 3 (Pty) Ltd proposes the construction and operation of a 320 MW solar photovoltaic energy facility. The proposed development will have a foot print of approximately 436ha for the solar facility and associated infrastructure.

The Western Cape Department of Agriculture: Land Use Management (WCDoA: LUM) has reviewed the report and has no objection to the proposed application on condition that the proposed mitigation measures mentioned in the EMPr are implemented to prevent erosion and manage storm water during the construction and operational phases.

In order to accommodate the proposed application must be made to the WCDoA: LUM as well as the Beaufort West municipality for a change in land use, the required registering of a servitude for access roads, entrance routes and power lines as well as to register a lease agreement.

Please note:

- That this is comment to the relevant deciding authorities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act no.107 of 1998.
- That this is comment to the relevant deciding authorities in terms of the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act 70 of 1970.
- Kindly quote the above-mentioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.
- The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received.

Yours sincerely



Mr. CJ van der Walt

LANDUSE MANAGER: LANDUSE MANAGEMENT

2023-05-12

Copies:

Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning

Private Bag X6509

GEORGE

6530

Beaufort West Municipality

Private Bag 582

BEAUFORT WEST

6970

Appendix D.4

MURA 4 SOLAR PV FACILITY COMMENTS



Govender, Megan

From: Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 12:30
To: Strong, Ashlea
Cc: Azrah Essop; EIAAdmin; Ephron Maradwa
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2325

Dear Ashlea

14/12/16/3/3/2/2325

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MURA 4 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 360 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

The Department confirms having received the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 03 March 2023. 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.

Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

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 EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za.

You are advised that this mailbox has a 48 hour response time.

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email

Kind Regards,
Salome Mambane
Integrated Environmental Authorisations:
Priority Infrastructure Developments
Tel: 012 399 9385
Cell: 063 684 5431
Email: SMambane@dffe.gov.za



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: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2325

Enquiries: Ms Azrah Essop

Telephone: (012) 399 8529 **E-mail:** AEssop@dfffe.gov.za

Ms Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Building 1, Golder House
Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
MIDRAND
1685

Cell Number: (011) 361 1392
Email Address: Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ms Strong.

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED MURA 4 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (UP TO 360 MW) BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2023 and received by the Department on 03 March 2023, refer.

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

1. Application form:

- Kindly clarify the reason why this Department is the Competent Authority (CA) in terms of Section 24C of NEMA. State clearly if the applicant intends to bid the project in terms of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP).
- Please note that the Minister is the competent authority for applications for facilities or infrastructure, that will form part of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Programmes for technologies whose procurement processes have been determined under the Electricity Regulation Act, 2006 and / or the Electricity Regulations on New Generation Capacity. If the applicant will not, or does not intend to, participate in any of the IRP programmes, the competent authority will be the MEC responsible for environmental affairs in the respective province. Be advised that this information must be clearly presented in Section 1 –Competent Authority in the application form.
- Reflecting the above, the reasons provided in Section 1 of the application form for this Department being the Competent Authority in terms of S24C of NEMA are incomplete. This must be rectified and expanded on in the application form as well as the report. Please refer to GN 779.
- Ensure that the SG codes, all farm names, and numbers and the EAP's contact details are correct.

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- Include the GPS coordinates for the onsite substation and the battery energy storage system (BESS) facility.
- Ensure that the declaration of the applicant is signed.

2. Listed Activities

- It is noted that the proposed solar facility does not fall within any renewable energy development zones. Although the application form indicates that part of the project is within the Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) as per GN 113, therefore this application will be considered as a normal EIA application.
- Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.
- You are required to confirm whether systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans are adopted by the competent authority. There are certain activities in Listing Notice 3 that requires that Bioregional Plans to be adopted.
- It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the environmental impact assessment process, as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of Listing Notice 3 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities (or proof of consultation if no comments were received) 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 final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).
- 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.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms>.

3. Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:
 - The proposed location of the PV array and associated infrastructure of the proposed up to 360MW Mura 4 Solar Photovoltaic Facility
 - The proposed grid infrastructure connecting the PV facility to the existing substation, overlain by the sensitivity map;
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed); fence, office buildings, and etc.
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
 - Buffer areas; and
 - All "no-go" areas.
- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure, as well as the neighbouring PV Solar Clusters.
- Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

wk

4. **Public Participation Process**

- Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received on the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za, the provincial authority and the local municipality) 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 must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of the approved public participation plan and Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Take note of the timeframes required for adequate public participation.
- A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments (pre and post submission of the draft SR) 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 which reflects the details of the I&APs and date of comments received, actual comments received, and response provided. Please ensure that comments made by I&APs are comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.

5. **Specialist Assessments to be conducted in the EIA Phase**

- Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of PV arrays, 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 were necessary, include further expertise advice.
- You are further required to ensure that all required specialist studies are recommended and assessed for the proposed up to 360MW Mura 4 Solar Photovoltaic Facility.
- 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. Please note further that the protocols require the specialists' to be registered with SACNASP in their respective field.
- Please include a table in the report, summarising the specialist studies required by the Department's Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted. Please note that if any of the specialists' studies and requirements/protocols recommended in the Department's Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation for such must be provided in the report per the requirements of the Protocols.

wh

6. **Cumulative Assessment to be conducted in the EIA Phase**

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.

7. **Environmental Management Programme**

The EMPr must include the following:

- It is drawn to your attention that for substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the Generic Environmental Management Programme, must be used and submitted with the final report over and above the EMPr for the facility. This means that a generic EMPR must be included for the substation. In total, 2 EMPRs should accompany the final report.
- Further to the above, you are required to comply with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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 SR 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 SRs in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA 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).

wh

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
Letter signed by: Mr Wayne Hector
Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Date: 29/03/23

cc:	Lance Blaine	Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Email: surina@red-cap.co.za
	Ashley Mitchell	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Email: buildingcontrol@beaufortwestmun.co.za
	MJ Penxa	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Email: jacksonp@beaufortwestmun.co.za

Govender, Megan

From: Thea Jordan <Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 11 April 2023 14:42
To: Govender, Megan; Strong, Ashlea; JMpelane@environment.gov.za; EIAAdmin
Cc: Adri La Meyer
Subject: COMMENTS ON THE DSR FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 360MW MURA 4 SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR BEAUFORT WEST
Attachments: 2023 April 11 - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 360MW MURA 4 SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR BEAUFORT WEST.pdf

Dear EAP,

Your request for comment refers.

Please find attached this Department's comment in the above regard.

Yours faithfully

Thea Jordan
Pr. Pl. (A/1237/2002)
Director: Development Facilitation
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Western Cape Government

11th Floor, Utilitas Building, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8000

Tel: +27 (0)21 483 4093
Email: Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za
Website: www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp



Be 110% Green. Read from the screen.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are still operating on a "work-from-home" basis. Should you not be able to contact the numbers above, please call +27 (0)21 483 4091 between 07:30-16:00.

From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 14:51
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Commenting Authority,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Mura 1 Solar PV Facility: BA Process
- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

One Drive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review
One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder

A presentation on the summary of the proposed development has been collated. The presentation has been made available on the WSP website, Datafree website and One Drive Link.

PowerPoint Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To view and listen to the project summary presentation, please open the PowerPoint Presentation and click on the speaker icon on the left on each slide to listen to the accompanying commentary
-------------------------------	--

WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
Tel: 011 361 1410

Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender

Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



WSP in Africa

Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
2191 South Africa

wsp.com

WSP is a proud Level 1 B-BBEE contributor and is internationally certified for ISO 9001, 14001 & 45001

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa
Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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References:

18/2/3/2023-2024 (Development Facilitation)

19/2/5/3/C3/2/WL0036/23 (Waste Management)

19/3/2/4/C3/1/DDF0132/22 (Pollution and Chemicals Management)

Attention: Ms Megan Govender

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 98867
Sloane Park
JOHANNESBURG
2151

Megan.Govender@wsp.com

Dear Madam

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND PLAN OF STUDY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 360MW MURA 4 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AND STRUCTURES (INCLUDING, *INTER ALIA*, A BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM AND SUBSTATION, 2 ON-SITE SOLAR FARM SUBSTATIONS, ACCESS ROADS, SITE CAMPS, CABLING, BUILDINGS, ETC.) ON FARM LEEUWKLOOF NO. 43, AANGRENSEND FARM ABRAMSKRAAL NO. 11, FARM SNEEUWKRAAL NO. 46, AND PORTION 4; REMAINDER OF PORTION 3; AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO. 45, BEAUFORT WEST

1. The email correspondence of 06 March 2023, informing interested and affected parties of the release of Draft Scoping Report ("DSR") for comments, the email received on the same day, providing an additional link to download the DSR and appendices, and the Department's email of 05 April 2023, informing the environmental assessment practitioner ("EAP") that the Department is unable to meet the deadline of 06 April 2023, refer.
2. The Department extends its appreciation to the EAP for extending the deadline for comments on the DSR. Please find consolidated comments from various directorates within the Department on the DSR and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") dated March 2023 that was available for download from various online platforms provided by the EAP.

3. Directorate: Development Facilitation – Ms Adri La Meyer (Email: Adri.Lameyer@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 2887):
- 3.1. This Directorate requires clarity on the extent of the development footprint and that of the proposed site (indicated as Farm Leeuwkloof No. 43, Aangrensend Farm Abramskraal No. 11, Farm Sneeuwkraal No. 46, and Portion 4; Remainder of Portion 3; and the Remainder of Farm Duiker Kranse No. 45). The DSR interchangeably refers to the total project area as 466 ha and 425 ha. On page 26 of the DSR it is indicated that *“The proposed Mura 4 Facility will be developed within a project area of approximately 425 hectares (ha), excluding the access road corridor”*, whereas on page 38 it is indicated that *“The total project area is 466 ha”* and that *“The total development envelope for project installation is approximately 425 ha”*. Assuming that the proposed 360MW solar field will be constructed on 425 ha; the proposed 240 MWac battery energy storage system (“BESS”) and BESS substation will be developed on ~ 4 ha; internal gravel access roads will have a development footprint of 36 ha; and up to two 2.2 ha site camps / laydown areas (i.e., 4.4 ha in total) will be developed, then more than 469 ha is required for the proposed solar photovoltaic (“PV”) facility and associated structures and infrastructure. The development footprint of the associated buildings (offices, ablution facilities, operational and maintenance centre, etc.) and the two on-site solar substations were not indicated. Please ensure that the Final Scoping Report (“FSR”) and the forthcoming Draft EIA Report clearly describe the size of the proposed site, the development footprint, and the individual components of the proposed solar PV development.
- 3.2. Further to the above, section 4.1.1 of the DSR deals with the site selection process. It is noted that the original five potential Mura PV development areas were further reduced to two areas (Areas 2 and 5) that were considered suitable for the Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 solar PV developments. Area 5 consist of two sites of 395 ha and 425 ha, respectively. The 425-ha area corresponds with the project area for the proposed Mura 4 solar PV facility. It is again reiterated that the 425 ha appears to only be sufficient for the proposed solar field, based on the information provided in the DSR. The FSR and the Draft EIA Report must indicate the size of the development footprint against the size of the proposed site.
- 3.3. It is noted that Activities 12, 14 and 23 of Listing Notice (“LN”) 3 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (“NEMA”) EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are applied for. Please be advised that no systematic biodiversity plans or bioregional plans for the Western Cape Province have been adopted by this Department. As such, Activity 12.i.ii, Activity 14(ii)(a) and (c) i.i.(ff) and Activity 23(ii)(a) i.i.(ff) of LN 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) are not applicable to the application for environmental authorisation.
- 3.4. Appendix F and Table 2-1 of the DSR list the specialist studies identified by the Screening Tool, that should be undertaken in the environmental impact reporting (“EIR”) phase. The EAP has provided motivation for undertaking or not undertaking the recommended Screening Tool specialist studies, as well as the undertaking of additional specialist studies not identified by the Screening Tool. Section 2.2.1 of the DSR notes that *“An RFI Study will not be undertaken... As this theme has been identified as high, a compliance statement will be prepared by the EAP and included in the EIA Report.”* Please note that the Screening Tool indicated a medium (and not high) sensitivity for the Radio Frequency Interference (“RFI”) theme. The Plan of Study for EIA (Section 10.5) lists the specialist studies that have been commissioned for the EIR phase, which are aligned to section 2.2.1 of the DSR. The Plan of Study

for EIA does not include the undertaking of an RFI Assessment. Please thus indicate whether an RFI Compliance Statement will be undertaken by the EAP in the EIR phase. If so, the Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include the RFI Compliance Statement.

- 3.5. The Plan of Study for EIA must be amended to include an Archaeological Impact Assessment as part of the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment.
 - 3.6. Please ensure that the specialist assessments include a cumulative assessment of the same renewable energy projects within a 30km radius of the proposed site. It is noted that the Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement compiled by 3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions dated November 2022 refers to the "The three Nuweveld WEFs west of the site have been authorised and there is also the Hoogland 1 and Hoogland 2 WEFs which have not yet been authorised and lie adjacent and to the north and west of the Nuweveld site". Please note that the Hoogland 1 and 2 wind energy facilities ("WEFs") have received environmental authorisations. The Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Report compiled by Independent Economic Researchers dated January 2023 refers to the "Assessment of cumulative impacts considered Mura 1, 2, 3 and 4 SEFs; Hoogland 1, 2, 3 and 4 WEFs; Nuweveld North, East and West WEFs, Taaibos WEFs, Soutrivier WEFs, as well as the Mura, Hoogland, Nuweveld and Gamma Grid Corridors." Other scoping phase specialist assessments and section 9 of the DSR also include reference to the Taaibos and Soutrivier WEFs. If within a 30km radius of the proposed site, these WEFs must be included in all the specialist assessments and referenced in the FSR and Draft EIA Report.
 - 3.7. The DSR states that "The site will be accessed via the R381, DR02317 and existing access roads". The Traffic Impact Assessment ("TIA") compiled by Athol Schwarz dated 30 November 2022 however indicates that access to the proposed site is via the OP 08881 and an existing private road from the DR 02317. Please confirm the access to the proposed site.
 - 3.8. It is further noted that a site visit of the area was undertaken by the traffic engineer in September 2019. The TIA notes that "OP 08881 is 36.9 km long, starting at the DR 02317 before ending at the farm Slangfontein. This road will be used to access Mura 3 and Mura 4. This road was not included in the site inspection. Thus, the author cannot comment on the condition or the viability of using this route." It is crucial that this limitation/ gap in knowledge be determined during the EIR phase to confirm that OP 08881 is acceptable for traffic to and from the proposed site. Comments from the relevant road's authority on the condition or viability of the road would be acceptable.
 - 3.9. Please include reference to the Western Cape Noise Control Regulations promulgated in Provincial Notice 200/2013 of 20 June 2013 in the section dealing with provincial and municipal legal and regulatory framework in the Draft EIA Report.
4. Directorate: Waste Management – Mr Vishwanath Gianpersad (Email: Vishwanath.Gianpersad@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 8325):
 - 4.1. It is noted that the proposed project does not constitute a waste management listed activity and hence does not require a waste management licence.

- 4.2. Waste mitigation and management measures will be detailed in the forthcoming Environmental Management Programme (“EMPr”), and this will include measures for the anticipated generation of hazardous materials/waste.
- 4.3. The EMPr must also detail measures for the management and storing of plastics, which poses a possible threat to livestock if ingested.
- 4.4. The Draft EIA Report must identify the waste disposal facility/ies where waste will be disposed of, and confirmation from the relevant Municipality/ service provider must be provided regarding its capacity to accept and dispose of solid waste generated during all phases of the proposed development. Waste should then be transported to an identified licensed waste disposal facility.
- 4.5. Sufficient waste and recycle bins such as waste containers must be placed on-site for all the waste generated from daily operations, food packaging, waste oils, and lubricants for the maintenance of tractors and heavy-duty equipment.
- 4.6. Provision must be made for the collection of waste oils and greases, generated from machinery and other equipment, by a registered contractor for transport to a licensed hazardous waste management facility.
- 4.7. The EMPr's must include reference to incidents that fall within the definition of section 30(1) (a) of the NEMA, 1998.
5. Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management – Ms Shehaam Brinkhuis (Email: Shehaam.Brinkhuis@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 8309):
 - 5.1. This Directorate has no comments on the DSR and Plan of Study for EIA and awaits the Draft EIA Report (and accompanying EMPr) to provide comment on potential pollution impacts and mitigation measures.

The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any or new information received.

Yours sincerely

Thea Jordan Digitally signed by Thea Jordan
Date: 2023.04.11 14:41:14
+02'00'
pp **HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Letter signed by:

Thea Jordan

Director: Development Facilitation

Date: 11 April 2023

CC: Mr Jay-Jay Mpelane (DFFE)

Email: JMpelane@environment.gov.za

Comments on Mura 4 Solar Photovoltaic Facility (Draft Scoping Report)

Name of IA&P:	Anthony Jefferson		
Matter: (Title of Legislation)	NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and Listing Notices of 2017		
Contact details:			
Email:	Redacted as per POPIA requirements		
Telephone:			
Submitted To:	Megan.Govender@wsp.com (WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.)		

COMMENTS:

Comment	Suggestion
<p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>The DSR omitted to include at least one comprehensive site layout plan illustrating all proposed onsite and off-site infrastructures.</p>	<p>It is suggested an updated SR or the EIR to include such a layout plan at an appropriate scale.</p>
<p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.1, indicates that solar Modules will be located on either single axis tracking structures or fixed tilt mounting structures or similar.</p>	<p>It is suggested that an updated SR or the EIR indicate the exact mounting structure technology that will be used to mount the solar PV modules. This is to ensure transparency from the outset to prevent possible 11th hour substandard technology for the Central Karoo.</p>
<p>Project Infrastructure:</p> <p>Section 3.4.3, states that "The BESS will be Lithium-ion or similar solid-state technology."</p>	<p>It is suggested that an updated SR alternatively the EIR indicate the exact BESS technology. This is to ensure transparency of potential health & safety risk and to prevent 11th hour substandard technology be dumped upon the Central Karoo.</p>
<p>PV & MOUNTING SYSTEM:</p> <p>Considering the CKDM is the poorest region in the Western Cape Province and its communities are the most vulnerable in</p>	

<p>the province; but its electricity rates are higher than many if not all areas within the Cape Metro. Further, section 3.2.1, states that this Mura 4 Solar PV Facility is a large-scale system supplying power into the commercial electricity grid and not to local users. Hence, how will this proposed project impact the CKDM communities passively in a direct manner with significant reduced electricity prices? If, any direct positive impact of reduced power prices at community level, what will the expected timeline be from the time of operation?</p> <p>Section 3.2.1, only made reference to sunlight as a source whilst excluding geothermal as a potential source. Hence the two considered mounting systems is limited to single axis tracking and fixed axis mounting structures.</p>	<p>Suggestion...the municipality be subsidised by Eskom to allow it to reduce its electricity prices to communities whilst still being able to make a marginal income profit.</p> <p>It is suggested that the economic viability of geothermal heat/ power be investigated. If, it is viable, then an additional mounting technology be considered such as bifacial axis mounting structures be considered. It is assumed that the last mentioned structure would be cost effective oppose to the current two considered mounting structures.</p>
<p>Section 3.3, omitted to consider potential geothermal heat radiation that can be a viable energy source during non-sunshine days/evening periods.</p>	<p>It is suggested the following sentences be changed as follows, " Since solar and wind technology depend largely on whether the sun is shining or the wind is blowing, respectively, these technologies are more efficient when these sources are available."</p>
<p>Section 3.3.2, only indicates that, "The battery facilities...will not have any</p>	<p>It is suggested that the EMPr indicates</p>

<p>additional office/operation/maintenance infrastructure as those of the substation.</p>	<p>specific scheduled mechanical safety maintenance operations that should be conducted in terms of all applicable SA Health & Safety requirements i.e. the OSHAct and Mechanical and Ventilation Regulations; and other applicable regulatory tools as cited under section 3.3.3, of the DSR.</p>
<p>Location Map: Section 3.1, page 26-32 read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps). These sections basically addressed only the GPS co-ordinates; alternative sites particulars are scattered around in figures with no scales at times; and no credible topographical map but more of a kind of thematic map has been provided.</p>	<p>It is suggested that the following being addressed in an updated scoping report or the EIA report:</p> <p>Provide a colour location map at a larger scale of at least 1:50 000. The scale must be indicated on the map. The map must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an accurate indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any; • road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s) • a north arrow; • a legend to represent physical/natural landscapes, water features, vegetation features, constructed/cultural/man-made landscape, and transport and administration features on the map. Towns cited under section 6.3.5 should be depicted on the map.; • the prevailing wind direction (during November to April and during May to October); • Date map was printed; and • the already provided GPS Hartbeesthoek 94/WG584 co-ordinate system information.
<p>Site Plan:</p>	

Section 3.1, read together with section 4.1, read together with Appendix E (Maps) should provide an amended Site Plan for the preferred Mura Solar 4 project as well as each alternatives considered. These site plans should conform to the following:

Detailed site plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity and provided in an updated SR or EIAR/EIR. The site plan must contain or conform to the following:

- The detailed site plan must be at a scale preferably at a scale of 1:500 or at an appropriate scale. The scale must be indicated on the plan.
- The property boundaries and numbers of all the properties within 50m of the site must be indicated on the site plan.
- The current land use (not zoning) as well as the land use zoning of each of the adjoining properties must be indicated on the site plan.
- The position of each element of the application as well as any other structures on the site must be indicated on the site plan.
- Services, including electricity supply cables (indicate above or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and access roads that will form part of the development must be indicated on the site plan. Servitudes indicating the purpose of the servitude must be indicated on the site plan. Sensitive environmental elements within 100m of the site must be included on the site plan, including (but not limited to):
 - Watercourses/Rivers/Wetlands (including non-perennial features).
 - Flood lines (i.e. 1:10 year, 1:50 year, and 1:100 year where applicable;
 - Ridges.
 - Cultural and historical features.
 - Areas with indigenous vegetation (even

	<p>if it is degraded or infested with alien species).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Whenever the slope of the site exceeds 1:10, then a contour map of the site must be submitted.
Schematic Process/Project Drawing	<p>It is suggested a holistic schematic process drawing (project layout) of the entire solar Mura 4 project be provided. This drawing should include all the different stages with its main technology/infrastructure in a input-process-output manner.</p>
<p>Photographs:</p> <p>Section 2.4 read together with section 2.7, states that descriptions of environmental attributes were by means of combination of desktop reviews i.e. aerial imagery and site investigations done between March and October 2022, to identify sensitive features on site. It further states that "...the latest available aerial imagery for the site."</p>	<p>However a number of important information has been left out and need to be provided in an updated SR or during the EIA phase document as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Colour photographs of the site and its surroundings (taken of the site and from the site) with a description of each photograph. The vantage points from which the photographs were taken must be indicated on the site plan; 2. Recent aerial photograph or at least dates of those aerial photographs (attach as an Appendix). The Appendix should be supplemented with additional dated onsite-photographs taken of relevant features during your stated field trips as cited under section 7.2 of the DSR. Kindly note, the aforementioned requirements must be duplicated for all alternative sites.
	<p>It is suggested a larger A3 size map as an Appendix be provided under section 6.1.3 (geology).</p>

<p>Land use character of surrounding area</p> <p>Section 6.3.5.1 read together with section 6.3.4.3 failed to adequately describe the current land uses on the proposed project site and its immediate surrounding areas. The aforementioned sections also failed to adequately describe the prominent features that occur in the immediate surrounds from the proposed project area.</p>	<p>Hence it is suggested either an updated scoping report or the EIA provides a proper description of the current land uses and/or prominent features that occur within +/- 500m radius of the proposed project area and neighbouring properties if these are located beyond 500m of the site from all directions. Further, a description of any potential impacts the proposed project may pose on the highlighted land uses or features.</p>
<p>Socio-Economic:</p>	<p>It is suggested that the Mitigation and Management Measures under section 6.3.5 relating to regional employment and contracts be included in an updated scoping report or be addressed within the EIA as follows: specifications/requirements/targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% unskilled workers must be local; • 90% semi-skilled workers from local; and • 70% skilled workers must be from local/indigent. • That the concept "local/indigent" shall mean having been born in the CKDM and having lived in the CKDM area for at least more than 10 years and having attended at least either and/or a primary or high school in the CKDM area irrespective whether the candidate is currently residing in the CKDM area or not. If not born in the CKDM area than at least one parent born in the region

	<p>but both parents must have lived in the area for more than 20 years;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That a CKDM professionals body shall be consulted for particulars of local/indigent professionals to be considered for skilled jobs and/or be willing to undergo rapid skills upgrading to occupy skilled jobs; • That CKDM Professionals Body shall have representation in all committees/forums established under this proposed project; • That local sub-contractors who did not gain from tenders in the past locally will receive preferential treatment in terms of the equity principle and a skills transfer programme be adopted by the main contractors; • That sub-contractors who previously gained tenders locally equally compete with external contractors to be main contractors; • That the income/wealth status of sub-contractors and skilled workers for all Black contenders / candidates will also be included in the specifications in addition to the standard "black" requirement under the BBBEE and EEA redress umbrella to ensure wealth does not circulate consistently amongst a few individuals.
<p>Section 3.6 " NEED AND DESIRABILITY" have very little to zero direct and possibly indirect relevance to the Central Karoo District Municipal Area. Yes it is a common fact that the district is in dire need of urgent economic development.</p>	

<p>Section 3.6, states that South Africa is the seventh highest coal producer in the world, with approximately 77% of the country's electricity generated from coal.</p> <p>Section 3.6, states also that the SA's large dependence on coal and its use also resulted in a variety of negative impacts on the environment, including the contribution to climate change. SA is also the highest emitter of GHGs in Africa; attributed to the country's energy-intensive economy that largely relies on coal-based electricity generation.</p>	<p>It is suggested a comparable spreadsheet of the aforementioned seven countries and energy mix usages be provided.</p> <p>It is suggested a western cape regional spreadsheet show casing coal dependence amongst WC district and metro municipalities. Also to include comparative WC district municipalities and metro municipality drivers and associated environmental impacts (GHG emissions, Climate Change, Health Impacts, etc.) as a result of direct/indirect coal usages. Also to include comparative data to showcase the status of energy-intensive economies that relies on coal-based electricity generation amongst the WC district municipalities and metro municipality.</p>
<p>Section 3.6 NEED AND DESIRABILITY also omits to include a dedicated subsection of WESTERN CAPE PERSPECTIVE and REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which would have outlined the energy mix in response to the growing electricity demand and the promotion of clean sources of energy within the CKDM in comparison to the province; • it would have outlined the reduction and elimination of poverty in the CKDM is more dire oppose to other regions within the province; • it would also have outlined that power shortages are most probably 	<p>Hence it is strongly suggested that mention be made about the poorest socio-economic status of the region in comparison to the rest of the province. Further it is strongly suggested that factual comparative analysed data and an objective interpretation of electricity prices communities and businesses are subjected to amongst the districts and one metro municipality in the western cape be provided.</p> <p>Further it is strongly suggested the case study of the Frankfort Municipality and Surrounding Towns Pilot/Case Study that uses four (4) Solar Energy Farms operated</p>

<p>the worse in the CKDM oppose to other regions in the province, esp the metro;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it would have outlined the socio-economic benefits available to the local communities and businesses in the CKDM area from this proposed project; and • that the project will And this premise will promote the reaching one of the National Development Plan's aims which is to reduce and eliminate poverty in South Africa by 2030 (see section 3.6.2, page 40 of the dBAR). 	<p>by Rural Maintenance (a private IPPP) that benefits specifically the local communities and businesses be used and cited.</p> <p>This is to empower people of the Central Karoo to negotiate with all IPPP'S and Eskom in the region for electricity price reductions of up to 30% (considering the region might have more than four solar and wind energy farms) and many more other benefits. Benefits to the local communities and businesses of Frankford gains from that pilot study are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity demand from the Eskom grid are reduced whilst the local communities and business still have access to electricity; • The local community and businesses saves a reduced electricity cost of 15% pricing to what they would have paid to Eskom. • Water and Sanitation Facilities operates 24/7 due to electricity flow, even though it is loadshedding; • Cable theft reduced because the local grid remained alive; • Small Power Users like residence and business are exposed to power outages in smaller durations as per their requests; • The Large Power Users are exposed to power outages of a longer duration as per their request; • Low voltages has been reduced resulting in local communities using their equipment more optimally; and • In the event of loadshedding,
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	<p>locals receives more reliable weekly schedules of specific reduced periods of loadshedding.</p>
<p>Alternatives (Location):</p> <p>Section 4.1.1 only referenced that areas were assessed from a technical perspective by considering slope, aspect, undulation, and access, and more detailed environmental perspective. Resulting in the consideration of high level solar design. No consideration was given to geothermal heat reflection capacity from the landscape such as geological structures and soil characteristics. This could have resulted in the consideration of alternative technologies such as the addition of bi-facial panels and the reconsideration of methods of elevating those bi-facial panels. Hence it is suggested the Amended dBAR or FBAR include descriptions, maps and geothermal heat radiation capacities during non-sunshining days/periods.</p>	<p>It is suggested the scoping report be updated or the EIA address all current land uses in the proposed project region, including depicting within the topographical map and a separate thematic map layers of potential future economic development resources such as geological minerals and gas.</p>
<p>Alternatives (Technology):</p>	<p>It is suggested section 4.2.1 provide a detailed consideration of bi-facial solar panels in relation to both sun radiation/heat and geothermal heat.</p>
<p>Alternatives (Operational):</p> <p>Section 4, made no provision for the consideration of Operational Aspect Alternatives. A detailed objective review and assessment of the suggested factors for consideration will equip the people of the</p>	<p>Hence it is strongly suggested that the updated scoping report or the EIA provide a detailed consideration of this aspect by considering the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments made in this Letter of Comments under the section that

<p>Central Karoo as to whether their genuine socio-economic upliftment is equally a priority as the rest of the province, but not limited to it.</p>	<p>dealt with the Frankfort Solar Energy Pilot Study;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operational and technology aspects used in the aforementioned pilot study;• Electricity costs savings Frankfort Pilot Study local community, businesses and agriculture gained as a result of not having used the Eskom grid; and incorporate objective information of other current and/or proposed/intent renewable energy projects the western cape government recently announced to take all provincial municipalities off the Eskom national grid.
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emailed

Signature

Govender, Megan

From: Stephanie Barnardt Redacted as per POPIA requirements
Sent: Friday, 14 April 2023 09:54
To: Ayanda Mdludlu; Govender, Megan
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good day Ms Govender

That is correct, the consultation for the HIA only ended 6 April and the matter was heard at the following HOMs meeting on the 11 April.

The committee endorsed and the final comment has been uploaded for signature, the final comment should be out today or Monday morning.

Apologies for the delay.

However in the meantime, please see the extract from the minutes:

**Proposed Mura Electrical Grid Infrastructure, Beaufort West Magisterial District, Western Cape, S38(8)-HIA
Case No.: 22101903AM1019E**

Final comment:

The Committee resolved to endorse the HIA prepared by ASHA Consulting dated 15 December 2022 as meeting the requirements of Section 38 (3) of the NHRA and the following recommendations on page 42;

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
- Known sites should be avoided by the final layout;
- A pre-construction archaeological survey must be undertaken during the EMPr approval stage;
- No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Proposed Mura 1-4 Pv Facilities, Beaufort West Magisterial District, Western Cape, S38(8)-HIA

Case No.: 22101902AM1019E

Final comment:

The Committee resolved to endorse the HIA prepared by ASHA Consulting dated 15 December 2022 as meeting the requirements of Section 38 (3) of the NHRA and the following recommendations on page 60;

Mura 1 (Western Cape):

It is recommended that the proposed Mura 1 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
- No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Mura 2 (Western Cape):

It is recommended that the proposed Mura 2 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
 - No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and
- ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd | Reg. no.: 2013/220482/07 61
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Mura 4 (Western Cape):

It is recommended that the proposed Mura 4 PV facility should be authorised but subject to the following recommendations which should be included as conditions of authorisation:

- A Fossil Chance Finds Procedure (as supplied in the palaeontological specialist study) must be included in the project EMPr;
- The site at waypoint 1399 should be avoided if possible but this is not required (if avoided and protected then the buffer can be reduced to 25 m); and
- Any realignment of the DR02317 within 400 m of waypoint 2000 must be checked in the field and approved by an archaeologist;
- No stones may be removed from any archaeological site; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Warm regards,

Kindly note: Due to volume of queries I receive I may not be able to respond to you immediately, if you have not received a reply from within ten working days, please resend your query

Any urgent Heritage Western Cape matters, please contact one of the officials:

[HWC staff contact details](#)

Stephanie-Anne Barnardt-Delport
Acting Collection Management Officer, Museological Service
Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport
Western Cape Government

3rd Floor, 48 Queen Victoria Street, Cape Town

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

Website: www.westerncape.gov.za



Be 110% Green. Read from the screen.

From: Ayanda Mdludlu [Redacted as per POPIA requirements]
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 9:07 AM
To: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; [Redacted as per POPIA requirements]
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good day Ms Govender,

The below mentioned cases were HIAs that were discussed in HOMs of 11 April. Ms Stephanie Barnardt who is cc'd here presented them. I believe they were endorsed, however, I will give her space to confirm.

**Kind regards,
Ayanda Mdludlu
Heritage Officer**

Heritage Resource Management Services
Protea Assurance Building Greenmarket Square, Cape Town (currently working remotely)
Website: www.hwc.org.za / www.westerncape.gov.za



From: Govender, Megan <Megan.Govender@wsp.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 12:50 PM
To: Ayanda Mdludlu <Ayanda.Mdludlu@westerncape.gov.za>
Cc: [Redacted as per POPIA requirements]
Subject: FW: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day

I am following up on my email below. Please may you confirm if Heritage Western Cape will be sending through comments? The review period ended on Thursday 06 April 2023 but we can make an exception for Heritage Western Cape and can include comments sent before COB on 12 April 2023.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

[Redacted as per POPIA requirements]

From: Govender, Megan
Sent: Thursday, 06 April 2023 13:32
To: ayanda.mdludlu@westerncape.gov.za
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Good Day

Please note the public review period for the Proposed Mura PV Development ends today. Please may you confirm if Heritage Western Cape will be sending through comments?

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements

From: Govender, Megan

Sent: Monday, 06 March 2023 14:51

Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MURA PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS REVIEW

Dear Commenting Authority,

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

Red Cap Energy is proposing to develop four solar facilities, namely Mura 1, Mura 2, Mura 3, and Mura 4, and an associated grid connection, collectively known as the Mura PV Development between Loxton and Beaufort West in the Beaufort West Local Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Western Cape and Northern Cape Provinces. The proposed Mura PV Development is located in close proximity to the approved Nuweveld Wind Farm Development. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes:

- Mura 1 Solar PV Facility: BA Process
- Mura 2 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 3 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura 4 Solar PV Facility: S&EIR Process
- Mura EGI Corridor: BA Process

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Basic Assessment and Scoping Reports will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 March 2023 to 06 April 2023.

Area	Venue	Street Address
Beaufort West	Beaufort West Public Library	Corner of Bird Street and Church Street
	Klein Karoo Agri	80 Donkin Street
Loxton	Loxton Library	Margaretha Prinsloo Street, Loxton
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

The report has also been made available at the link below easy access:

One Drive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Mura Solar PV Development For Public Review
One Drive Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder

A presentation on the summary of the proposed development has been collated. The presentation has been made available on the WSP website, Datafree website and One Drive Link.

PowerPoint Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To view and listen to the project summary presentation, please open the PowerPoint Presentation and click on the speaker icon on the left on each slide to listen to the accompanying commentary
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WSP contact details are:

Name: Megan Govender
Tel: 011 361 1410
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: Megan.Govender@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind Regards,



Megan Govender
Senior Consultant

T +27 011 361 1300

Redacted as per POPIA requirements



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
2191 South Africa

wsp.com

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa
Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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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: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2325

Enquiries: Ms Azrah Essop

Telephone: (012) 310 8529 **E-mail:** AEssop@dffe.gov.za

Ms Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Building 1, Golder House
Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
MIDRAND
1685

Cell Number: (011) 361-1392
Email Address: Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF UP TO 360 MW MURA 4 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY BETWEEN LOXTON AND BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated April 2023 and received by the Department on 18 April 2023, refer.

The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the PoSEIA dated April 2023 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 PoSEIA as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Please ensure that the following information forms part of the next report:

1. Listed Activities

- a) The EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- b) Please continue to ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed.

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- c) The listed activities represented in the EIAR and the application form must be the same and correct.
- d) The EIAR must assess the correct sub listed activity for each listed activity applied for.

2. **Public Participation**

- a) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR.
- b) 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 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.
- c) 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 Annexure 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.
- d) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.
- e) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- f) 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.

3. **Alternatives**

The EAP is required to provide clear assessment for each identified alternative and further provide clear motivation and reasons as to why the **preferred** alternative **proves** to be the preferred compared to other alternatives.

These alternatives include:

- Location / Site Alternatives.
- Technology Alternatives.
- Design and Layout Alternatives.
- BESS technology alternatives.
- No-go alternative.

4. **The layout map must indicate the following:**

All supporting onsite infrastructure such as follows:

- All supporting onsite infrastructure that will support the proposed 360MW photovoltaic solar facility e.g., roads (existing and proposed, fencing, BESS area, etc.).
- Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network; and
- All existing infrastructure on the site, including neighbouring villages (if any), etc.
- The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
- Buffer areas; and
- All “no-go” areas.

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5. **Specialist assessments**

Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of Substation, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.

- a) 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.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) 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.
- e) The screening tool output:
 - The screening tool and the gazetted protocols (GN R320 of 20 March 2020 and GN R 1150 of 30 October 2020) require a site sensitivity verification to be completed to either confirm or dispute the findings and sensitivity ratings of the screening tool.
 - It is the **responsibility** of the **EAP** to confirm the list of specialist assessments and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist studies including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation. The site sensitivity verification for each of the recommended studies, as per the protocols, must be compiled and attached.
- f) 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.
- g) Please include a table that shows the proposed studies and the relevant specialists conducting the study. In addition, a summary should be included of the specialist's recommendations in terms of the alternatives that are preferred based on the findings of their study.

General

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.

Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.

A construction and operational phase EMP that includes mitigation and monitoring measures must be submitted with the final EIAR.

The comments issued by this Department on 29 March 2023, during the draft scoping report are still valid and must be all addressed throughout the EIA process.

Should you use coordinates, please ensure that it is in the format as prescribed in the 2014 EIA NEMA Regulations, as amended.

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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 & the Environment
Signed by: Mr Wayne Hector
Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Date: 29/05/2023

cc:	Lance Blaine	Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd	Email: surina@red-cap.co.za
	Gavin Benjamin	DEA&DP	Email: gavin.benjamin@westerncape.gov.za
	Ashley Mitchell	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Email: buildingcontrol@beaufortwestmun.co.za

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



OUR REFERENCE : 20/9/2/3/1/083
YOUR REFERENCE : 41103930
ENQUIRIES : Cor van der Walt/Kyle Solomons

WSP

Email: Megan.Gavender@wsp.com

Att: Megan Gavender

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE MURA 4 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY:

DIVISION BEAUFORT WEST

FARM LEEUWFLOOF NO 43

FARM SNEEUWKRAAL NO 46

FARM AANGRENSEND ABRAMSKRAAL NO 11

PORTION 4 OF THE FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO 45

REMAINDER OF PORTION 3 OF THE FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO 45

REMAINDER OF THE FARM DUIKER KRANSE NO 45

Your application dated March 2023 has reference.

Mura 4 (Pty) Ltd proposes the construction and operation of a 360 MW solar photovoltaic energy facility. The proposed development will have a foot print of approximately 466ha for the solar facility and associated infrastructure.

The Western Cape Department of Agriculture: Land Use Management (WCDoA: LUM) has reviewed the report and has no objection to the proposed application on condition that the proposed mitigation measures mentioned in the EMP are implemented to prevent erosion and manage storm water during the construction and operational phases.

In order to accommodate the proposed application must be made to the WCDoA: LUM as well as the Beaufort West municipality for a change in land use, the required registering of a servitude for access roads, entrance routes and power lines as well as to register a lease agreement.

Please note:

- That this is comment to the relevant deciding authorities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act no.107 of 1998.
- That this is comment to the relevant deciding authorities in terms of the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act 70 of 1970.
- Kindly quote the above-mentioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.
- The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received.

Yours sincerely



Mr. CJ van der Wal

LANDUSE MANAGER: LANDUSE MANAGEMENT

2023-05-12

Copies:

Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning

Private Bag X6509

GEORGE

6530

Beaufort West Municipality

Private Bag 582

BEAUFORT WEST

6970



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