

RED ROCKET SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD

SOL INVICTUS 132KV OVERHEAD POWERLINE NEAR AGGENEYS, NORTHERN CAPE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT REPORT

2021-11

DRAFT





SOL INVICTUS 132KV
OVERHEAD
POWERLINE NEAR
AGGENEYS,
NORTHERN CAPE
STAKEHOLDER
ENGAGEMENT REPORT

RED ROCKET SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD

TYPE OF DOCUMENT (VERSION)
DRAFT

PROJECT NO.: 41102909
DATE: 2021-11

WSP
THE PAVILION, 1ST FLOOR
CNR PORTSWOOD AND BEACH ROAD, WATERFRONT
CAPE TOWN, 8001
SOUTH AFRICA

T: +27 21 481 8700
F: +086 606 7121
WSP.COM

QUALITY MANAGEMENT

ISSUE/REVISION	FIRST ISSUE	REVISION 1	REVISION 2	REVISION 3
Remarks	Draft Stakeholder Engagement Report			
Date	November 2021			
Prepared by	Jennifer Green			
Signature				
Checked by	Robert Els			
Signature				
Authorised by	Ashlea Strong			
Signature				
Project number	41102909			
Report number	01			
File reference				

SIGNATURES

PREPARED BY

Jennifer Green
Consultant

REVIEWED BY

Robert Els
Principal Consultant

This report was prepared by WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) for the account of RED ROCKET SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD, in accordance with the professional services agreement. The disclosure of any information contained in this report is the sole responsibility of the intended recipient. The material in it reflects WSP's best judgement in light of the information available to it at the time of preparation. Any use which a third party makes of this report, or any reliance on or decisions to be made based on it, are the responsibility of such third parties. WSP accepts no responsibility for damages, if any, suffered by any third party as a result of decisions made or actions based on this report. This limitations statement is considered part of this report.

The original of the technology-based document sent herewith has been authenticated and will be retained by WSP for a minimum of ten years. Since the file transmitted is now out of WSP's control and its integrity can no longer be ensured, no guarantee may be given to by any modifications to be made to this document.

PRODUCTION TEAM

RED ROCKET SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD

Head of Environmental, Social & Governance Magdalena Logan

Environmental & Social Developer Janine Brasington

SOL INVICTUS (PTY) LTD

Director Matteo Brambilla

WSP

Project Director / EAP Ashlea Strong

Project Manager Robert Els

Consultant Jennifer Green

SUBCONSULTANTS

Aquatic Ecology Specialist FEN Consulting : Christel Du Preez

Bat Specialist Inkululeko Wildlife Services on behalf of the Biodiversity Company:
Dr Caroline Lötter

Heritage Specialist ACO Associates: David Halkett

Socio-economic Specialist Tony Barbour Environmental Consulting: Tony Barbour

Soils Specialist WSP: Karen King

Terrestrial Ecology (including Avifauna) Specialist The Biodiversity Company: Andrew Husted

Visual Specialist LOGIS: Lourens Du Plessis



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1	Project Background.....	1
1.2	Terms of Reference and Details of the EAP	1
1.3	Public Participation	1
1.4	Approach to Stakeholder Engagement.....	3
1.5	COVID-19 Scenario	5
1.6	Approved Public Participation Plan	5
2	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TO DATE	8
2.1	Pre-Application Consultation.....	8
2.2	Identification of Key Stakeholders.....	8
2.3	Comments Received.....	14

TABLES

TABLE 1-1:	DETAILS OF THE EAP.....	1
TABLE 1-2:	LEVEL OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AS PER PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GUIDELINE (DEA, 2017).....	3
TABLE 1-3:	APPROVED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN.....	6
TABLE 2-1:	INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES TABLE.....	8
TABLE 2-2:	DATES ON WHICH THE ADVERT WAS PUBLISHED.....	9
TABLE 2-3:	SITE NOTICE LOCATIONS.....	10
TABLE 2-4:	COMMENTS RECEIVED TO DATE.....	15

FIGURES

FIGURE 1-1:	LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED SOL INVICTUS 132KV POWERLINE AND PROPOSED AGGENEIS SUBSTATION EXPANSION.....	1
FIGURE 1-2:	CBAS IN RELATION TO THE PROPOSED SOL INVICTUS POWERLINE AND AGGENEIS SUBSTATION.....	2
FIGURE 2-1:	LOCATION OF SITE NOTICES (RED BALLOON MARKERS) PLACED ALONG THE OHPL ROUTE (GREEN LINE).....	13

APPENDICES

A	STAKEHOLDER DATABASE
B	NOTIFICATIONS
B-1	Advertisement
B-2	Site Notices
B-3	Notification Letter
C	MEETINGS
C-1	DFFE Pre-Application Meeting
D	COMMENTS

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Sol Invictus (Pty) Ltd (Sol Invictus) proposes to construct a 132 kV overhead powerline (OHPL) approximately 23 km in length to connect the proposed Sol Invictus 1 to 6 Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facility (PVSEF) onsite substation to the national grid via the existing Eskom Aggeneys substation. Furthermore, Sol Invictus proposes to expand the Eskom Aggeneys substation, involving the extension of the 400kV busbar and adding a 400/132kV 500MVA transformer and 132kV busbars. The Aggeneys substation and proposed OHPL are situated near Aggeneys in the Khâi-Ma and Nama Khoi Local Municipalities within the Namakwa District Municipality of the Northern Cape Province, South Africa (**Figure 1-1**).

The proposed Sol Invictus PVSEF cluster (1 to 6) was authorised under a separate Environmental Authorisation (EA) and will be participating in the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) Bid Window 5 procurement round. The PVSEF site is located approximately 30 km southwest of Aggeneys.

On 16 February 2018, the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), now the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), gazetted the Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ) and Strategic Transmission Corridors and procedures for the assessment of large-scale wind and solar photovoltaic energy development activities (Government Notice (GN) 114) and grid infrastructure (GN 113). The proposed Sol Invictus OHPL falls within the Northern Strategic Transmission Corridor.

The powerline route traverses Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA), according to the Namakwa Biodiversity Sector Plan (2008) and the Northern Cape CBA map (2016) (**Figure 1-2**), and falls within the Kamiesberg Bushmanland Augrabies National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES) focus area. As such, the proposed OHPL requires an EA in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998), as amended (NEMA) and the associated Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2014, as amended). WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed by Red Rocket South Africa (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of Sol Invictus, as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to facilitate the Basic Assessment (BA) process in accordance with the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended).

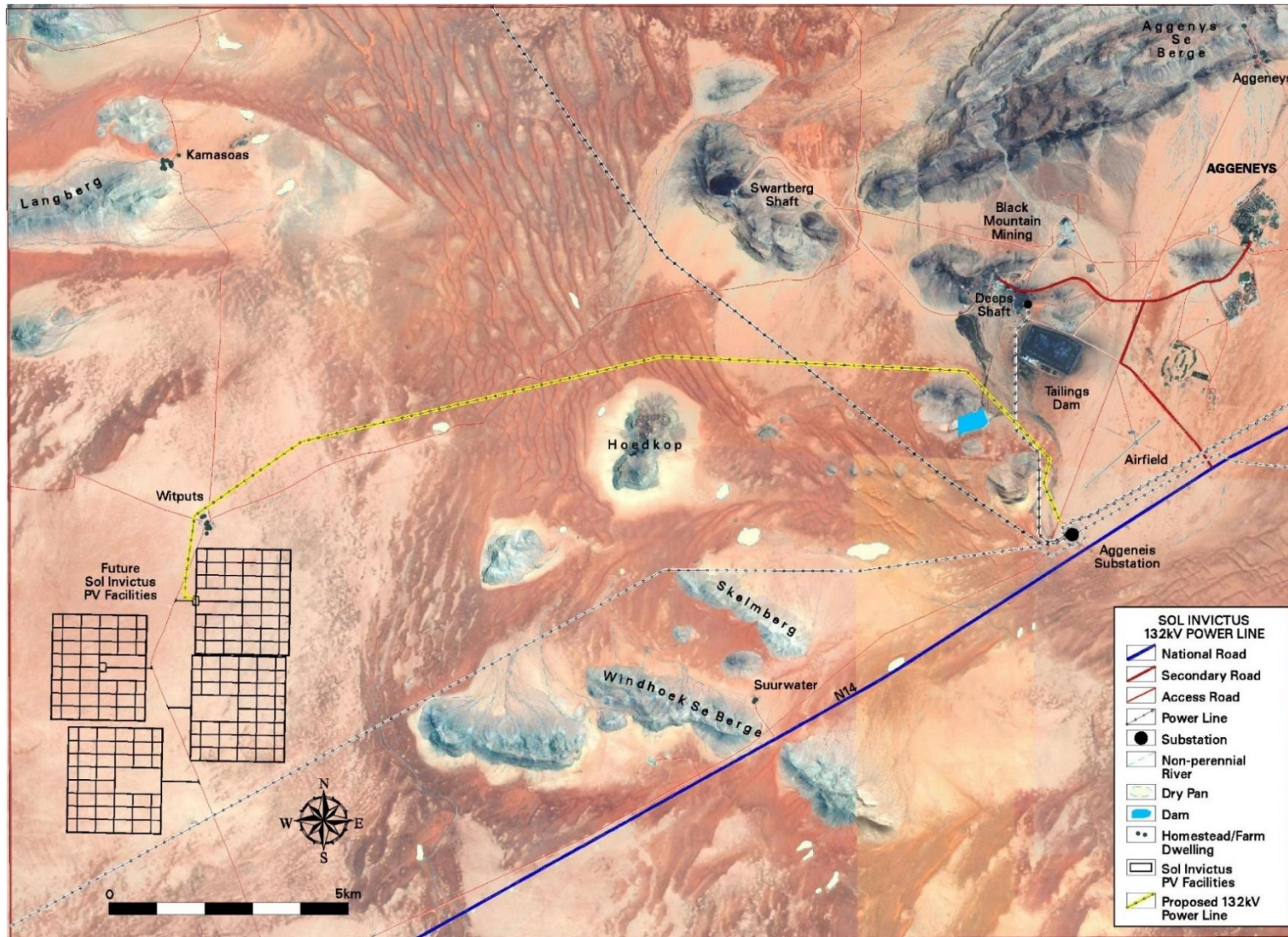


Figure 1-1: Location of the proposed Sol Invictus 132kV powerline and proposed Aggeneys substation expansion

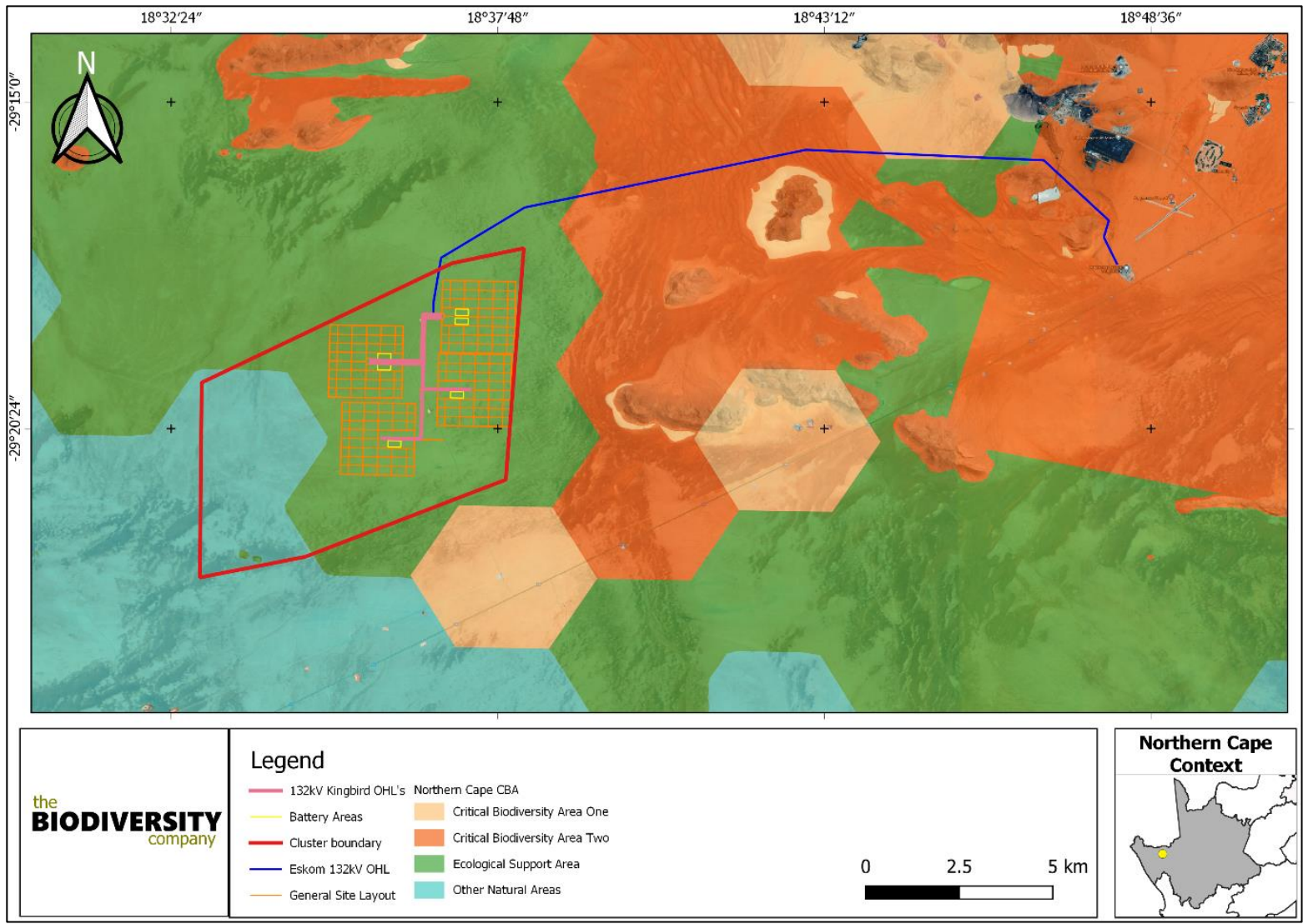


Figure 1-2: CBAs in relation to the proposed Sol Invictus Powerline and Aggeneys substation

1.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE AND DETAILS OF THE EAP

WSP was appointed in the role of Independent EAP to undertake the BA processes for the proposed Project. This Stakeholder Engagement Report was compiled as part of the BA process and must be read in conjunction with the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) in support of the EA application. The CV of the EAP is available in **Appendix A** of the BAR. The EAP declaration of interest and undertaking is included in **Appendix B** of the BAR. **Table 1-1** details the relevant contact details of the EAP.

Table 1-1: Details of the EAP

EAP	WSP GROUP AFRICA (PTY) LTD
Company Registration:	1999/008928/07
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

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 BAR.

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.

1.3 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 Basic Assessment (BA) Process:

- 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.
- The final decision is deemed informed when local knowledge and values are included and when expert knowledge is publicly examined.

1.3.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the public participation process (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 interested and affected parties (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.

1.3.2 WHAT IS AN INTERESTED AN 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 STAKEHOLDER

Registered 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 the 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;
- Register as a stakeholder;
- 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.

1.4 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 (now DFFE) 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 indicate the applicable response to the anticipated impacts. Results of the process are shown in **Table 1-2** below.

Table 1-2: 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 to 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 to 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 to 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 to 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 to 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 to 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 to EIA Regulations must be met.
Will the project impact on private land other than that of the applicant?	Consultation with the private land owner must be done, and all their concerns need to be addressed.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to 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 to 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 to 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 to 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 to EIA Regulations must be met.
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 to 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 to 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 to EIA Regulations must be met.

SCALE OF ANTICIPATED IMPACTS:	RECOMMENDED RESPONSE	
	IF “YES”	IF “NO”
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 to EIA Regulations must be met. Minimum requirements for PP in accordance to the Act must be met as well as best practices relating to PP.

1.5 COVID-19 SCENARIO

Given the spread of the COVID-19 virus to various parts of the world, including to South Africa, on 15 March 2020, in terms of Section 27 of the Disaster Management Act (Act 57 of 2002) (DMA), President Cyril Ramaphosa declared a national state of disaster in South Africa. From 01 May 2020 the Alert Level has been adjusted according to the risk-adjusted strategy, as and when required reflecting the level of risk associated with Covid-19 infections throughout the country.

Due to the restrictions imposed by the various Alert Levels, restrictions were imposed on public participation associated with COVID-19 on 31 March 2020, which meant that the PPP required by Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) could not reasonably be adhered to. On 05 June 2020, new Directions were issued by the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, “*Directions Regarding Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences*”, in respect of the undertaking and administration of EIA and related processes during Lockdown Alert Level 3. The Directions of 05 June 2020 repealed the Directions of 31 March 2020. On 09 September 2020, new Directions were again issued by the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment in respect of the undertaking and administration of EIA and related processes during Lockdown Alert Level 2 and lower.

It is now possible to proceed with public participation in accordance with the “*Directions Regarding Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences*” (GN 650) published on 05 June 2020 and the “*Directions Regarding Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences*” (GN 970) published on 09 September 2020.

Annexure 2 of the Directions require that “*At all times it must be ensured that reasonable opportunity is provided for public participation and that all administrative actions are reasonable. While the COVID-19 pandemic is a unique circumstance, the specific circumstances in each case must be considered in order to determine what will be reasonable. If in the circumstances of a particular case reasonable alternative methods to give notice to potential interested and affected parties are available, then the relevant competent authority can be approached for an agreement in this regard as provided for in regulation 41(2)(e) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.*”

In line with the Directions, a public participation plan was compiled and presented to DFFE for approval at the outset of the assessment process (as detailed in Section 1.6). Due to the risks associated with COVID-19, as far as possible, the focus of the PPP has shifted from physical public engagements to digital and electronic communication (including e-mail and websites). No provision has been made for public or focus group meetings due to current COVID-19 restrictions as well as past experience with projects of this nature. Should significant interest be obtained in this Project, a public meeting will be included as part of the PPP, should COVID-19 protocols and regulations permit.

1.6 APPROVED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

As part of the pre-application consultation meeting held with DFFE on 20 July 2021, the proposed plan for public participation was discussed. A public participation plan was subsequently submitted to DFFE, along with the meeting minutes, for approval on 21 July 2021. The meeting minutes and public participation plan were approved by DFFE on 22 July 2021. **Table 1-3** below outlines the approved Public Participation Plan for the Sol Invictus OHPL Project.

Table 1-3: Approved Public Participation Plan

SUMMARY OF PPP REQUIREMENT (GNR 326 OF EIA REGULATIONS)	PLAN/ACTIVITIES
<p>41(2) The person conducting a PPP must give notice to all potential I&APs by-</p> <p>(a) fixing a notice board at a place conspicuous to and accessible by the public at the boundary, on the fence or along the corridor of—</p> <p>(i) the site where the activity to which the application or proposed application relates is or is to be undertaken; and</p> <p>(ii) any alternative site;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Placement of six (6) site notices (in English and Afrikaans) at appropriate locations on site (at various points along the OHPL route) and in the surrounding area. — This will include the boundary/access road to the site, as well as additional public places within a 5km radius of the project area, such as grocery stores, municipality, and/or local public library.
<p>(b) giving written notice, in any of the manners provided for in section 47D of the Act, to—</p> <p>(i) the occupiers of the site and, if the proponent or applicant is not the owner or person in control of the site on which the activity is to be undertaken, the owner or person in control of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;</p> <p>(ii) owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;</p> <p>(iii) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site and alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area;</p> <p>(iv) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area;</p> <p>(v) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity; and</p> <p>(vi) any other party as required by the competent authority;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Written notification (in English and Afrikaans) will be sent to owners and occupiers on or adjacent to the proposed project site, municipality ward councillor, local and district municipality, and relevant state departments. — General communication (written notification) with stakeholders (public and government departments/authorities) throughout the Basic Assessment (BA) process. — Stakeholders will be added to the database on request as the project progresses.
<p>(c) placing an advertisement in—</p> <p>(i) one local newspaper; or</p> <p>(ii) any official Gazette that is published specifically for the purpose of providing public notice of applications or other submissions made in terms of these Regulations;</p>	<p>An advert will be published in a local newspaper (in English and Afrikaans), formally announcing the commencement of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) application process, requesting stakeholders to register their interest in the project, and informing them of the release of the Draft BAR for public review and comment.</p>
<p>(d) placing an advertisement in at least one provincial newspaper or national newspaper, if the activity has or may have an impact that extends beyond the boundaries of the metropolitan or district municipality in which it is or will be undertaken</p>	<p>It is noted that advertising in provincial and national newspapers is not required as the impact of the activities does not extend beyond the boundaries of the district municipality in which the Project will be undertaken.</p>
<p>(e) using reasonable alternative methods, as agreed to by the competent authority, in those instances where a person is desirous of but unable to participate in the process due to—</p> <p>(i) illiteracy;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The existing database for the Sol Invictus PVSEF will be verified and updated for the purposes of this BA process. As part of the verification process, existing I&APs will be contacted telephonically and asked to confirm their preferred method of communication.

**SUMMARY OF PPP REQUIREMENT
(GNR 326 OF EIA REGULATIONS)**

PLAN/ACTIVITIES

<p>(ii) disability; or (iii) any other disadvantage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The relevant ward councillor will be contacted to ensure that traditional leaders and community-based organisations are aware of the Project and can assist in distributing and communicating relevant Project information to community members. — Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and associated restrictions in place, no public meetings or focus group discussions have been provided for.
<p>(42) A proponent or applicant must ensure the opening and maintenance of a register of interested and affected parties and submit such a register to the competent authority,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Stakeholders with a potential interest in the Project will be identified at the outset of the Project. As noted above, the existing database for the Sol Invictus PVSEF will be verified and updated for the purposes of this BA process. The database will also be updated to include landowners and other stakeholders relevant to the OHPL. — All stakeholders identified will be registered on the project stakeholder database, and the database will be maintained throughout the BA process.
<p>(43) & (44) Registered Interested and affected parties (I&APs) must be given 30 days to comment on the draft Report</p>	<p>The Draft BAR will be made available to all stakeholders for a 30-day comment period. Strict adherence to all COVID-19 protocols and regulations as well as best practice measures will be ensured throughout PPP. As a result, the Draft BAR will be made available to stakeholders as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — From WSP on request — Online on the WSP website <p>At the time of disclosure, WSP will confirm the relevant COVID-19 protocols and regulations in place and, should it be permissible, a hard copy of the Draft BAR will be placed in the Aggeneys Public Library. <i>Note: WSP will confirm with the local library as to whether it is open and able to accept documents for public review prior to placement.</i></p> <p>A Comment and Response Report (CRR) will be generated for inclusion in Final BAR for consideration by the competent authority.</p>

2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TO DATE

2.1 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION

A pre-application meeting was held on 20 July 2021 with the DFFE in order to discuss the proposed Project. The minutes of this meeting are included in **Appendix C1**.

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 I&APs. 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 Table

NEMA REQUIREMENT	DISCUSSION
<i>(i) the owner or person in control of that land if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land</i>	The project activity is located on eight (8) portions of privately owned land. The landowners have been included on the stakeholder database.
<i>(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</i>	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.
<i>(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</i>	Adjacent landowner details were collected and have been included on the stakeholder database. Where applicable, occupiers have been included on the database.
<i>(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</i>	Ward Councillors of Ward 4 (Nama Khoi Local Municipality) and Ward 1 (Khâi-Ma Local Municipality) have been included on the stakeholder database.
<i>(v) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area</i>	The Nama Khoi Local Municipality and Khâi-Ma Local Municipality, which are located in the Namakwa District Municipality have been included on the stakeholder database.
<i>(vi) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity</i>	DFFE has been, and will continue to be, consulted. The Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Land Reform and Rural Development is included on the stakeholder database.
<i>(vii) any other party as required by the competent authority.</i>	All tiers of government, namely, national, provincial, local government and parastatals have been included on the stakeholder database. Inclusive of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) – Department of Environmental Affairs: Biodiversity Conservation Unit – Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) – Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) – Department of Transport – National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) – South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) – Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Land Reform and Rural Development

NEMA REQUIREMENT	DISCUSSION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Northern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works – Northern Cape Heritage Resources Authority (NCHRA) – Eskom

Appendix A provides a list of stakeholders registered on the Project database. The stakeholders along with the date on which they registered and reference to comments received, where applicable, are indicated in **Table 2-4**. The stakeholder database will be updated throughout the BA process.

2.2.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

DIRECT NOTIFICATION

Notification of the proposed Project will be issued to potential Stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e. e-mail) on 26 November 2021. The notification letter to be circulated is included in **Appendix B-3** of this report. Proof of notification will be included in the Final BA Report.

ADVERTISEMENT

Notification of the proposed Project was issued to the general public via an advertisement on 26 November 2021. The purpose of the advertisement was to notify the general public of the proposed application and provide an opportunity to register on the Project database and provide input into the process. A copy of the advertisement is included as **Appendix B-1**. The advertisement publication details are provided in **Table 2-2**.

Table 2-2: Dates on which the advert was published


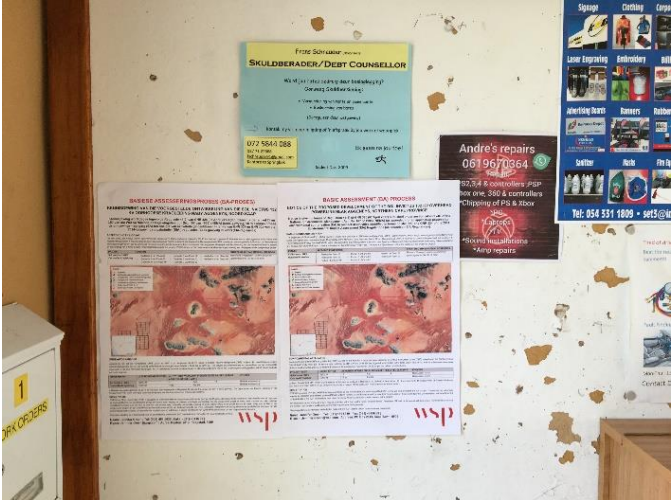

NEWSPAPER	PUBLICATION DATE	LANGUAGE
Die Gemsbok	26 November 2021	English and Afrikaans

SITE NOTICES

In accordance with GNR 326 Section 41(2)(a-b) site notices were developed (see **Appendix B-2**) and placed at four (4) strategic points along the OHPL route that are accessible by the public, as well as in three (3) public places within the town of Aggeneys. Site notices were placed on site on 03 and 04 August 2021. The purpose of the notification was to offer potential I&APs and Stakeholders the opportunity to register on the Project database and provide input into the process at a very early stage of the process (i.e. prior to the submission of the application forms) to ensure the major concerns had been considered adequately, reducing the potential for amendments to the report following formal commencement of the process.

Table 2-3 below shows details and proof of display. **Figure 2-1** shows the mapped locations of the site notice placements along the route.

Table 2-3: Site Notice Locations

LOCATION	CO-ORDINATES	PHOTOGRAPHS
Public Venues in Aggeneys		
Aggeneys Post Office Havelock Ave, Aggeneys	29°14'32.43"S 18°50'36.97"E	
OK Foods Shop No. 7 Havelock Ave, Aggeneys	29°14'32.36"S 18°50'38.87"E	
Aggeneys Clinic	29°14'33.37"S 18°50'29.74"E	

LOCATION CO-ORDINATES PHOTOGRAPHS

Strategic Points Along the OHPL Route		
Point A Farm 5/66	29°21'7.62"S 18°37'9.10"E	
Point B Witputs	29°17'42.98"S 18°37'0.36"E	
Point C Gamsberg Black Mountain Mine	29°15'52.16"S 18°48'47.80"E	

LOCATION **CO-ORDINATES** **PHOTOGRAPHS**

<p>Point D Eskom Aggeneis Substation</p>	<p>29°17'55.67"S 18°48'17.79"E</p>	
--	--	--

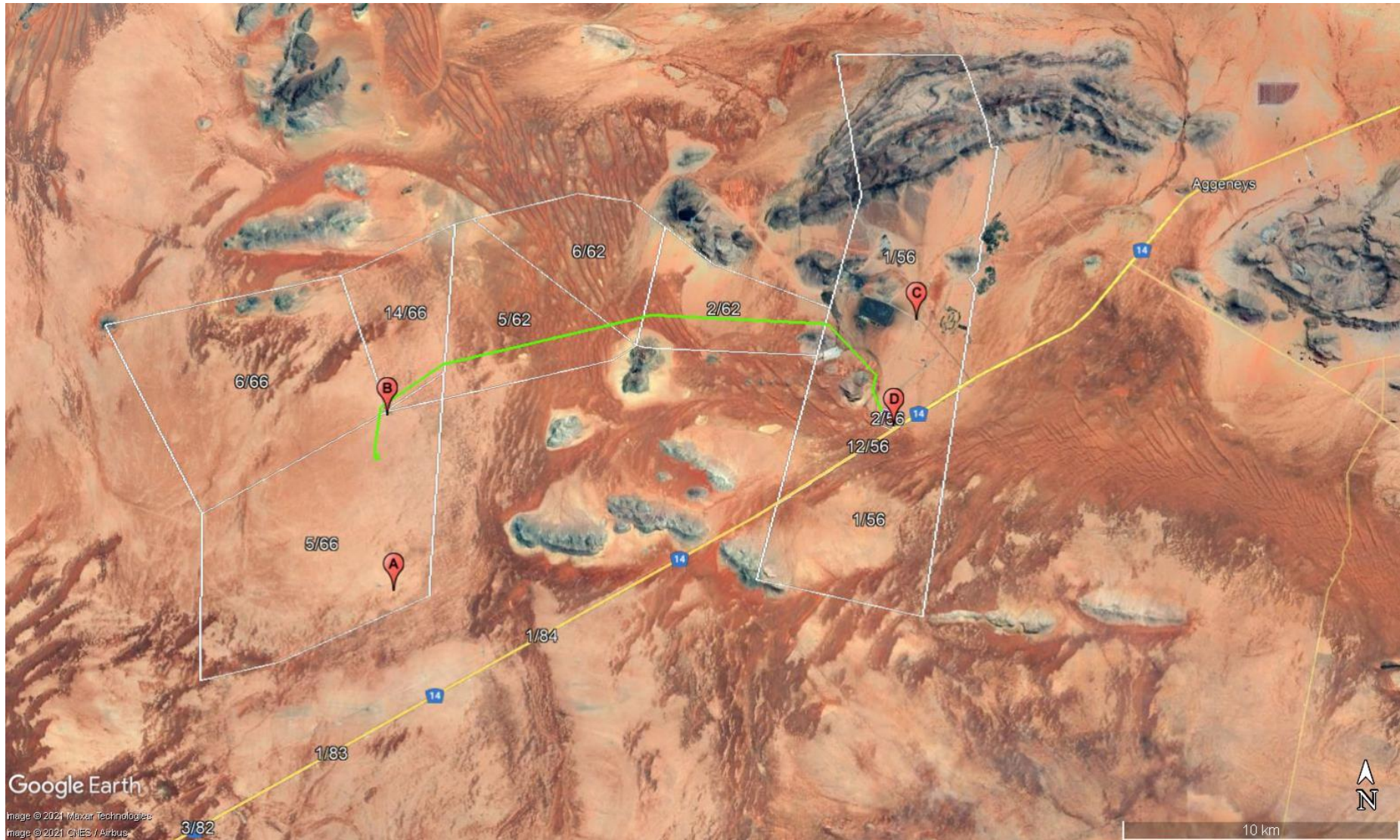


Figure 2-1: Location of Site Notices (red balloon markers) placed along the OHPL Route (green line)

AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

The Draft BA Report will be placed on public review for a period of 30 days from **26 November 2021** to **17 January 2022**, at as follows:

- Hard Copy: Aggeneys Post Office, Havelock Ave, Aggeneys, 8893 (Tel: 054 983 2264)
 - Electronic Version: WSP's website - to be accessed by the public via the following link:
<https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
-

2.2.2 STAKEHOLDER REGISTRATION

All stakeholders that either call in or send written correspondence, such as emails, fax, or post, to the EAP will be added to the database and their comments and/or queries will be responded to.

2.3 COMMENTS RECEIVED

Comments received from registered stakeholders to date have been captured and responded to within the comments and response tables included in **Table 2-4** below. The original comments and responses are included in **Appendix D**.

Table 2-4: Comments received to date

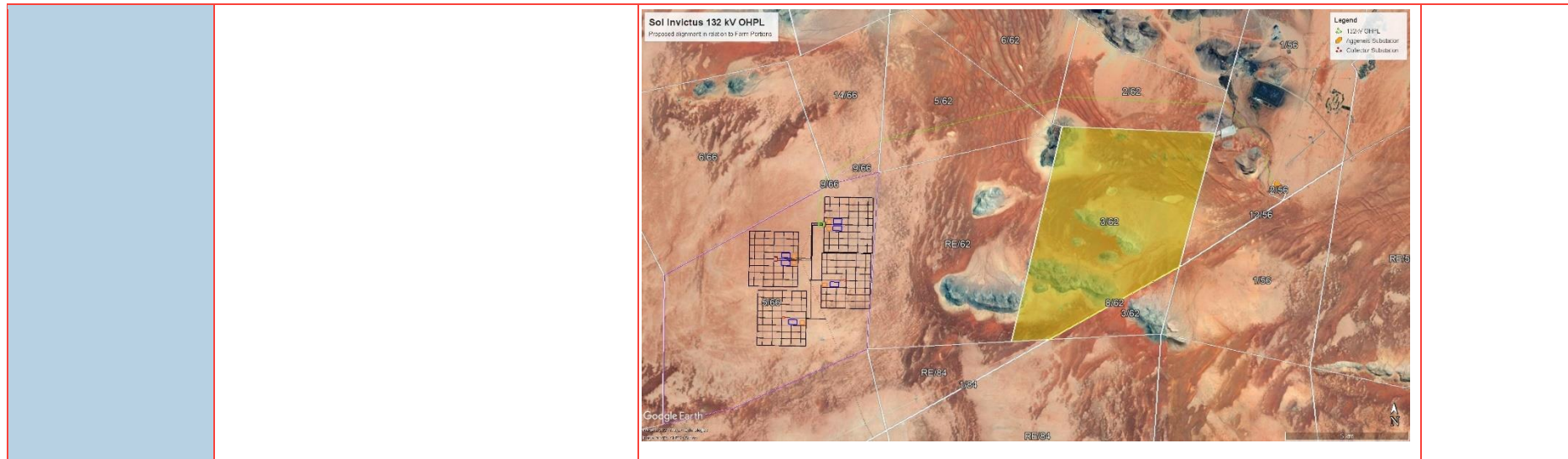
STAKEHOLDER DETAILS	COMMENT	RESPONSE	REPORT REFERENCE
Deon Maasdorp c/o Gary Ephraim (Landowner)			
<p>Deon Maasdorp c/o Gary Ephraim (Landowner) E-mail 08 September 2021</p>	<p>The e-mail was sent in response to an e-mail from WSP dated 06 September 2021 notifying landowners of the proposed Project and confirming the presence of and requesting the contact details of any occupier on the property to be included in the public participation process.</p> <p>Hi Jennifer,</p> <p>I am Gary Ephraim, son-in law of Deon Maasdorp. I would like to confirm that the farm is currently occupied by Deon Maasdorp and family.</p> <p>Please can you contact me and provide some context around this overhead powerline.</p> <p>I would like to understand a little more as below details are very vague.</p> <p>Kind Regards</p>	<p>The following e-mail was sent by WSP on 08 September 2021. Attached to the e-mail was a copy of the site notice in English and in Afrikaans (Refer to Appendix B-2) as well as a map of Farm 3/62 in relation to the proposed OHPL (see screenshot below).</p> <p>Good afternoon Gary,</p> <p>Thank you for responding to the notification. Jennifer is currently out on site, as such please accept my response in her stead.</p> <p>As per your request I have attached a copy of the site notice (English and Afrikaans versions) that has been placed in the area. The notice provides a brief project description and layout of the proposed 132 kV overhead powerline infrastructure.</p> <p>I have also attached an image indicating the proposed project layout in relation to your farther-in-laws farm (Portion 3 of Farm 62).</p> <p>Should you wish to register as an interested and affected party (IAP), to receive future project related correspondence and be notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process, please send the following information to Jennifer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • full contact details ; • disclose any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest that you may have in the granting or rejection of the application for environmental authorisation; and • your project-related comments (if any). <p>I hope you find the above in order. Should you require further clarification please don't hesitate to contact either Jennifer or myself (contact details as below).</p>	<p>Appendix D Appendix B-2</p>

**STAKEHOLDER
DETAILS**

COMMENT

RESPONSE

**REPORT
REFERENCE**



SANRAL (I&AP)

Colene Runkel
Statutory Controller
Western Cape Region
SANRAL
E-mail
07 September 2021

The e-mail was sent in response to an e-mail from WSP dated 06 September 2021 notifying landowners of the proposed Project and confirming the presence and requesting the contact details of any occupier on the property to be included in the public participation process.

Dear Jennifer

Your e-mail below has reference.

Please provide me with a locality plan of the properties in question in relation to the National road to enable me to respond to your request.

The following e-mail was sent by WSP on 07 September 2021. Attached to the e-mail was a map of the properties affected by the proposed OHPL (see screenshot below).

Dear Colene,

Please find attached a map showing the location of the proposed powerline and affected properties in relation to the N14.

Please let me know if you require any further information.

Kind regards,


Appendix D

**STAKEHOLDER
DETAILS**

COMMENT

RESPONSE

**REPORT
REFERENCE**

	<p>Kind Regards</p>		
<p>Colene Runkel Statutory Controller Western Cape Region SANRAL E-mail 07 September 2021</p>	<p>Dear Jennifer</p> <p>Thank you for the locality map and the short discussion.</p> <p>Please note that the subject powerline does not have an impact on the N14 and falls outside SANRAL's jurisdiction, which is 60m measured from the road reserve fence line. The application therefore does not affect SANRAL.</p> <p>Kind Regards</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Appendix D</p>

APPENDIX

A STAKEHOLDER DATABASE



APPENDIX

APPENDIX

B NOTIFICATIONS



APPENDIX

B-1 ADVERTISEMENT

APPENDIX

B-2 *SITE NOTICES*

APPENDIX

B-3 NOTIFICATION LETTER

APPENDIX

C MEETINGS



APPENDIX

C-1 DFFE PRE- APPLICATION MEETING

APPENDIX

D COMMENTS

