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DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

for

KHOI-SUN DEVELOPMENT

on

A portion of Farm 426 Skuitdrift, Northern Cape

In terms of the

National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended & Environmental Impact Regulations 2010



Prepared for Applicant: Khoi-Sun Development (Pty) Ltd

By: Cape EAPrac

Report Reference: KHA135/30

Department Reference: 12/12/20/2600

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Date: 5 November 2012

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PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT:

For implementation

APPLICANT:

Khoi-Sun Development (Pty) Ltd

CAPE EAPRAC REFERENCE NO:

KHA135/30

DEPARTMENT REFERENCE:

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SUBMISSION DATE

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ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

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National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended & Environmental Impact Regulations 2010

Khoi-Sun Development

A portion of Farm 426 Skuitdrift, Northern Cape

Submitted for:

Stakeholder Review & Comment

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. IN	FRODUCTION	1
1.1	EMPR APPROVAL & REVISIONS	1
1.2	CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION	1
1.3	ORGANISATIONAL REQUIREMENTS	1
1.4	PROJECT PROPOSAL	2
1.5	APPROACH TO THE EMPR	
1.5		
1.5		
1.5		
1.5	•	
	DLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	
	GISLATIVE FRAMEWORK	
3.1	THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA	
3.2	NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT (NEMA, ACT 107 OF 1998, AS AMEND	
3.3	NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: BIODIVERSITY ACT (NEMBA) (ACT 10 OF	•
3.4	NORTHERN CAPE NATURE CONSERVATION ACT (NCNCA) (No. 9 of 2009)	,
3.5	NATIONAL FORESTS ACT (NFA) (No. 84 of 1998):	
3.6	NATIONAL VELD & FOREST FIRE ACT (NVFFA) (ACT 101 OF 1998)	
3.7	Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act – CARA (Act 43 of 1983):	
3.8	NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (NHRA) (ACT 25 OF 1999)	
3.9	NATIONAL MATER ACT (NWA), NO 36 OF 1998	
3.10	GUIDELINES & STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS	
	0.1 National Waste Management Strategy	
_	0.2 Waste Minimisation Guideline Document for Environmental	
_	sessment Review (May 2003)	•
	· • •	
	0.3 National Building Regulations	
3.1	0.4 Other Guidelines considered	15
3.1 4. DE	0.4 Other Guidelines consideredSIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE	15 16
3.1 4. DE 4.1	0.4 Other Guidelines considered	15 16 16
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1	0.4 Other Guidelines considered	15 16 16
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1	0.4 Other Guidelines considered	15 16 16 16
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2	0.4 Other Guidelines considered	15 16 16 16 16
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3	0.4 Other Guidelines considered	15 16 16 16 16 17
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4	0.4 Other Guidelines considered	15 16 16 16 16 17 18
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5	0.4 Other Guidelines considered	15 16 16 16 16 17 18
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6	O.4 Other Guidelines considered. SIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE. PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING	15 16 16 16 16 17 18 18
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7	O.4 Other Guidelines considered. SIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE. PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING. .1 Ecological. .2 Heritage. PRE-CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP. ENVIRONMENTAL INDUCTION TRAINING & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION. DEMARCATION OF NO-GO AREAS. CONSTRUCTION PHASING. ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTRACTORS SITE CAMP. WATER CONSERVATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE.	15 16 16 16 16 17 18 18 18
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.7	O.4 Other Guidelines considered. SIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE. PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING	15 16 16 16 16 17 18 18 18 19
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8	O.4 Other Guidelines considered	15 16 16 16 16 17 18 18 18 19 19
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8 4.8	O.4 Other Guidelines considered	15 16 16 16 16 17 18 18 19 19 19
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8 4.8 4.8	O.4 Other Guidelines considered	15 16 16 16 17 18 18 19 19 20 21
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8 4.8 5. CO	O.4 Other Guidelines considered. SIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE. PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING	15 16 16 16 17 18 18 19 19 20 21
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8 4.8 5. CC 5.1	O.4 Other Guidelines considered. SIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE. PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING. .1 Ecological	15 16 16 16 17 18 18 19 19 20 21
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8 4.8 5. CC 5.1 5.2	O.4 Other Guidelines considered. SIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING .1 Ecological PRE-CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP ENVIRONMENTAL INDUCTION TRAINING & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION DEMARCATION OF NO-GO AREAS CONSTRUCTION PHASING ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTRACTORS SITE CAMP WATER CONSERVATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE 2.1 Ablution / Sanitation Facilities ECOLOGICAL CONTROL OFFICER 3.1 Environmental Site Agent (ESA) B.2 ECO and ESA competency DNSTRUCTION PHASE WATER SUPPLY TOPSOIL HANDLING	15 16 16 16 17 18 18 19 19 21 21
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8 4.8 5. CC 5.1 5.2 5.3	O.4 Other Guidelines considered. SIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING1 Ecological2 Heritage PRE-CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP ENVIRONMENTAL INDUCTION TRAINING & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION DEMARCATION OF NO-GO AREAS CONSTRUCTION PHASING ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTRACTORS SITE CAMP WATER CONSERVATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE 3.1 Ablution / Sanitation Facilities ECOLOGICAL CONTROL OFFICER 3.1 Environmental Site Agent (ESA) 3.2 ECO and ESA competency DINSTRUCTION PHASE WATER SUPPLY TOPSOIL HANDLING TRANSPORT & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN	15 16 16 16 17 18 18 19 19 21 21 21 21
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8 4.8 5. CC 5.1 5.2 5.3 5.3	O.4 Other Guidelines considered. SIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING .1 Ecological .2 Heritage PRE-CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP ENVIRONMENTAL INDUCTION TRAINING & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION DEMARCATION OF NO-GO AREAS CONSTRUCTION PHASING ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTRACTORS SITE CAMP WATER CONSERVATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE .1 Ablution / Sanitation Facilities ECOLOGICAL CONTROL OFFICER 3.1 Environmental Site Agent (ESA) B.2 ECO and ESA competency UNSTRUCTION PHASE WATER SUPPLY TOPSOIL HANDLING TRANSPORT & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN 3.1 Access to Site	15 16 16 16 18 18 18 19 19 21 21 21 21 22 22
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8 4.8 5. CO 5.1 5.2 5.3 5.3	0.4 Other Guidelines considered SIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING1 Ecological2 Heritage PRE-CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP ENVIRONMENTAL INDUCTION TRAINING & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION DEMARCATION OF NO-GO AREAS CONSTRUCTION PHASING ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTRACTORS SITE CAMP WATER CONSERVATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE1 Ablution / Sanitation Facilities ECOLOGICAL CONTROL OFFICER1 Environmental Site Agent (ESA)2 ECO and ESA competency DNSTRUCTION PHASE WATER SUPPLY TOPSOIL HANDLING TRANSPORT & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN1 Access to Site2 Trip Generation	15 16 16 16 18 18 18 19 19 21 21 21 21 22 22 22
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8 4.8 5. CC 5.1 5.2 5.3 5.3	0.4 Other Guidelines considered SIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING1 Ecological2 Heritage	15 16 16 16 17 18 18 19 19 21 21 21 21 22 22 22 23
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8 4.8 5. CO 5.1 5.2 5.3 5.3	0.4 Other Guidelines considered SIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING1 Ecological2 Heritage PRE-CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP ENVIRONMENTAL INDUCTION TRAINING & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION DEMARCATION OF NO-GO AREAS CONSTRUCTION PHASING ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTRACTORS SITE CAMP WATER CONSERVATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE1 Ablution / Sanitation Facilities ECOLOGICAL CONTROL OFFICER1 Environmental Site Agent (ESA)2 ECO and ESA competency DNSTRUCTION PHASE WATER SUPPLY TOPSOIL HANDLING TRANSPORT & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN1 Access to Site2 Trip Generation	15 16 16 16 17 18 18 19 19 21 21 21 21 22 22 22 23
3.1 4. DE 4.1 4.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.7 4.8 4.8 5. CC 5.1 5.2 5.3 5.3 5.3 5.3	0.4 Other Guidelines considered SIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING1 Ecological2 Heritage	15 16 16 16 18 18 18 19 19 21 21 21 21 21 22 22 22 23 24

5.7	7	MANAGEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES	
5.8	3	NOISE MANAGEMENT	26
5.9	9	DUST CONTROL & MANAGEMENT	26
5.′	10	SECURITY FENCING	27
5.1	11	BLASTING	28
5.1	12	RAMMING OPERATIONS	29
5.1	13	STORMWATER MANAGEMENT & EROSION CONTROL PLAN	
5.		PROTECTION OF HYDROLOGICAL RESOURCES	
5.		FIRE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION.	
5.′	_	SANITATION DURING CONSTRUCTION	-
_	_	FUEL STORAGE & WASTE MANAGEMENT	
_		7.1 Construction Waste Management	
		er management	
		THEFT AND OTHER CRIME	
		VEGETATION CLEARING & PLANT RESCUE PLAN	
_	-	0.1 Vegetation Clearing	
		0.2 Plant and Animal Rescue & Protection	
		RE-VEGETATION & HABITAT REHABILITATION PLAN	
		ALIEN PLANT MANAGEMENT PLAN	
		OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT PLAN	
		ERATIONAL PHASE	
		PV PANEL MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS	
		1 Cleaning of PV Panels	
	_	2 Other Operation / Maintenance Requirements	
6.2		Maintenance of Hydrological Resources During Operation	
6.3		OPERATION WASTE MANAGEMENT	
		DSURE & DECOMMISSIONING PHASE	
		SCENARIO 1: TOTAL CLOSURE & DECOMMISSIONING OF SOLAR FACILITY	
7.2		SCENARIO 2: PARTIAL DECOMMISSIONING / UPGRADE OF SOLAR FACILITY	
	_	NITORING AND AUDITING	
8.		GENERAL CONSTRUCTION MONITORING	
8.2		Additional Monitoring Requirements During Operation	
		FHOD STATEMENTS	
9.		METHOD STATEMENTS REQUIRED	
		ALTH AND SAFETY	
		NTRACTORS CODE OF CONDUCT	
		OBJECTIVES	
		ACCEPTANCE OF REQUIREMENTS	
		CONTRACTOR'S PRE-CONSTRUCTION OBLIGATIONS	_
	_	CONTRACTOR'S OBLIGATIONS DURING CONSTRUCTION	_
		LEMENTATION	
		N-COMPLIANCE	
13	.1	PROCEDURES	50
		OFFENCES AND PENALTIES	
		FERENCES	
		OTOGRAPHS, DESCRIPTIONS & CO-ORDINATES OF PROTECTED P	
		S AT KHOI-SUN DEVELOPMENT SITE	
15		Boscia foetida	
15	.2	HOODIA GORDONII	54
15	.3	ACACIA ERIOLOBA	55
		ALOE DICHOTOMA	
15	.5	CO-ORDINATES OF PROTECTED PLANT SPECIES	56
16.	PHC	OTOS & DESCRIPTION OF ALIEN PLANT SPECIES ON SITE	57

10	6.1	PROSOPI	S GL	ANDULC	SA		 	 	57	
10	6.2	ARGEMO	NE C	CHROLE	UCA		 	 	57	
									58	
17.	CHE	ECKLIST	OF	PLANT	SPECIES		 	 	58	,
18.	CHE	ECKLIST	OF	MAMM	ALS		 	 	61	
19.	CHE	ECKLIST	OF	REPTIL	_ES		 	 	64	
20.	CHE	ECKLIST	OF	AMPHI	BIANS		 	 	66	j
21.	CHE	ECKLIST	OF	BIRDS			 	 	66	į

TABLES

Table 1: EMPr Content Requirements

Table 2: Roles and responsibilities with regard to the implementation of this EMPr.

Table 3: EMPr Compliance with Section 24N of NEMA

Table 4: Quick Reference Guide to the EMPr

Table 5: Co-ordinates of Protected Plant Species

Table 6: Checklist of Plant Species

Table 7: Checklist of Mammals

Table 8: Checklist of Reptiles

Table 9: Checklist of Amphibians

Table 10: Checklist of Birds

FIGURES

Figure 1: EMPr organisational structure during the construction phase

Figure 2: EMPr organisational structure during the operation phase

Figure 3: Preferred Layout Plan

Figure 4: Conceptual Layout of Construction Laydown Area

Figure 5: Ecological Sensitivity Map (Todd, 2012)

Figure 6: Nous turn-off the N14

Figure 7: Gravel raod to Skuitdrift Farm

Figure 8: Boscia foetida

Figures 9 & 10: Hoodia gordonii Figures 11 & 12: Acacia erioloba Figure 13 & 14: Aloe dichotoma Figure 15: Prosopis glandulosa

Figure 16 & 17: Argemone ochroleuca

Figure 18 & 19: Salsola kali

ABBREVIATIONS

AC Alternating Current

Alt. Alternative

BGIS Biodiversity Geographic Information System

°C Degree Centigrade

CARA Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (43 of 1983)

CBA Critical Biodiversity Area

cctv Closed Circuit Television (camera)CDSM Chief Directorate Surveys and Mapping

cm Centimetre

DAFF Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries
DEA Department of Environmental Affairs (national)

DEA&DP Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning (Western Cape)

DEANC Department of Environmental Affairs & Nature Conservation (Northern Cape)

DEIR Draft Environmental Impact Report
DME Department of Minerals and Energy

DOE Department of Energy
DWA Department of Water Affairs
EA Environmental Authorisation
EAP Environmental Impact Practitioner

ECA Environmental Conservation Act (73 of 1989)

ECO Environmental Control Officer

ECR Environmental Control Report

EHS Environmental, Health & Safety

EIA Environmental Impact Assessment

EIP Environmental Implementation Plan

EIR Environmental Impact Report
ELC Environmental Liason Committee

ER Engineer Representative

ESA Environmental Site Agent / Ecological Support Area

EMPr Environmental Management Programme

FPA Fire Protection Association
GPS Global Positioning System

GWh Giga Watt hour

ha Hectare

HIA Heritage Impact Assessment

I&APs Interested and Affected Parties

IDP Integrated Development Plan

IFC International Finance Corporation

IPP Independent Power Producer

ISO International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO 9001)

KI / KIt Kilo Litre
Km Kilometre

Km/hKNPKaroo National Park

kV Kilo Volt

LLRC Low Level River Crossing

It Litre

LUPS Land Use Decision Support
LUPO Land Use Planning Ordinance

m Metre

m² Metres squared
 m³ Metres cubed
 MW Mega Watt

NCHRA Northern Cape Heritage Resources Authority

NCNCA Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act (9 of 2009)

NEMA National Environmental Management Act (107 of 1998, as amended in 2006)

NEMBA National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (10 of 2004)

NERSA National Energy Regulator of South Africa

NFA National Forest Act (84 of 1998)

NHRA National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999)

No. Number

NSBA National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment

NVFFA National Veld and Forest Fire Act (101 of 1998)

NWA National Water Act (36 of 1998)

pH Potential of Hydrogen

PIA Paleontological Impact Assessment

PM Post Meridiem; "Afternoon"

PV Photovoltaic

PVC Polyvinyl Chloride (piping)

REDs Road Environmental Dust Suppressant
SACAA South African Civil Aviation Authority

SAHRA South African National Heritage Resources Agency

SANBI South Africa National Biodiversity Institute

SANS South Africa National Standards
SDF Spatial Development Framework

S&EIR Scoping & Environmental Impact Reporting

SAPD South Africa Police Department
WULA Water Use Licence Application

Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) REQUIREMENTS

Table 1 below serves to confirm the content requirements of the EMPr, as specified in the Acceptance of the Final Scoping Report & Plan of Study for the Environmental Impact Assessment, issued by the national Department of Environmental Affairs on 21 September 2012.

Table 1: EMPr Content Requirements

EMPr PROVISION	Report Reference
All recommendations and mitigation measures to the recorded in the Final EIR.	Throughout
The final site layout plan.	EMPr Draft pg. 2
Measures as dictated by the final site layout plan and micro-siting.	Pg. 2 & 16
An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and	Section
features identified during the EIA process.	3.3, pg. 10
A map combining the final layout plan superimposed (overlain) on the	Section
environmental sensitivity map.	1.4, pg. 3
An alien invasive management plan to be implemented during construction and	Section
operation of the facility. The plan must include mitigation measures to reduce he	5.21,
invasion of alien species and ensure that the continuous monitoring and removal of	pg. 37
alien species is undertaken.	
A plant rescue and protection plan which allows for the maximum transplant of	Section
conservation important species from areas to be transformed. This plan must be	5.19,
compiled by a vegetation specialist familiar with the site in consultation with the	pg. 35
ECO and be implemented prior to commencement of the construction phase.	
An open space management plan to be implemented during the construction and	Sec 5.22,
operation of the facility.	pg. 37
A re-vegetation and habitat rehabilitation plan to be implemented during the	Section
construction and operation of the facility including timeframes for restoration which	5.20,
must indicate rehabilitation within the shortest possible time after completion of the	pg. 36
construction activities to reduce the amount converted at any one time and to speed up the recovery to natural habitats.	
A storm water management plan to be implemented during the construction and	Section
operation of the facility. The plan must ensure compliance with applicable	5.13,
regulations and prevent off-site migration of contaminated storm water or increased	pg. 29
soil erosion. The plan must include the construction of appropriate design	pg. 20
measures that allow surface and subsurface movement of water along drainage	
lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface flows. Drainage	
measures must promote the dissipation of storm water run-off.	
An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of all	Sections
hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use and storage.	5.17 (pg.
This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other	33) & 5.14
toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems.	(pg. 31)
An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events	Section
associated with the facility. Appropriate erosion mitigation must form part of this	5.13,
plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion.	pg. 29
A traffic management plan for the site access roads to ensure that no hazards	Section 5.3
would result from the increased truck traffic and that traffic flow would not be	pg. 22
adversely impacted. This plan must include measures to minimise impacts on local	
commuters e.g. limiting construction vehicles traveling on public roadways during the morning & late afternoon commute time and avoid using roads through densely	
populated built-up areas to not disturb existing retail & commercial operations.	
A transportation plan for the transport of PV components, main assembly cranes	Section 5.3
and other large pieces of equipment.	pg. 22
Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans,	Sections
wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas	5.14 (pg.
from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.	31) & 6.2
	(pg. 39)

1. INTRODUCTION

Cape EAPrac has been appointed by the Applicant, Khoi-Sun Development (Pty) Ltd., as the independent **Environmental Assessment Practitioner** (EAP) responsible for compilation of the **Environmental Management Programme** (EMPr).

This EMPr is submitted in compliance with the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act 107 of 1998, as amended) for the proposed development of the Khoi-Sun Development near Kakamas, Northern Cape.

Khoi-Sun Development (Pty) Ltd. has sub-leased a portion of Farm 426 Skuitdrift from the landowner, **Mr Frederik Johannes Nel**, for the purposes of developing the proposed solar facility. The total generation capacity of the solar facility will not exceed 75MW Alternating Current (AC) for input into the national Eskom grid, at the local Schuitdrift Eskom Substation.

The key purpose of this EMPr is to ensure that the remedial and mitigation requirements identified during the Scoping & Environmental Impact Reporting process are implemented during the lifespan of the project (design to decommissioning). The EMPr is thus a management tool used to minimise and mitigate the potential environmental impacts, while maximising the benefits.

A detailed description of the proposed project and a description of the affected environment are provided in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to which this EMPr is annexed.

1.1 EMPR APPROVAL & REVISIONS

This EMPr will be authorised as part of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) process. Once authorised, this document becomes a legally binding document.

The EMPr may however require amendment at certain stages through the lifespan of the project. The incidences which may require the amendment of this document include:

- Incorporation of conditions of approval contained in the Environmental Authorisation (if not already addressed in the document);
- Changes in environmental legislation;
- Results of post-construction monitoring (if required);
- · Per instruction from the competent authority; and
- Changes in technology and best practice principles.

Should a significant amendment to this EMPr be required, an application for this must be submitted to the competent authority and approved before such changes are implemented.

1.2 CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION

This EMPr must be included in ALL tender and contract documentation associated with this project. It must be noted that this EMPr is relevant and binding not only on the activities associated with the construction of the solar project, but also for all associated infrastructure upgrades required in order for this development to be undertaken, namely access road, substation, auxiliary buildings and power lines etc.

1.3 ORGANISATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

In order to ensure effective implementation of the EMPr, it is necessary to identify and define the organisational structure for the implementation of this document.

The proposed organisational structure during **construction** is as follows:

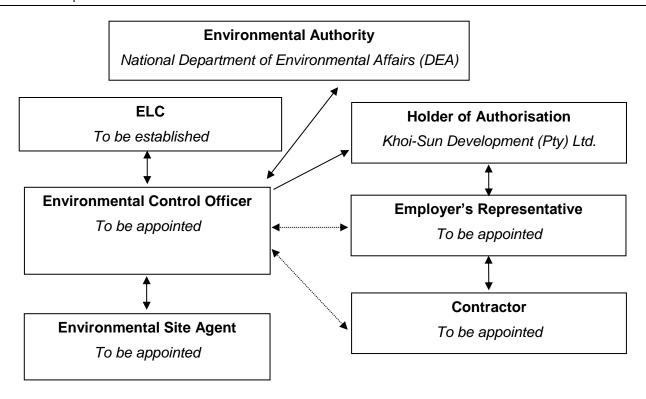


Figure 1: EMPr organisational structure during the construction phase

The proposed organisational structure during the **operation** of the facility is as follows:

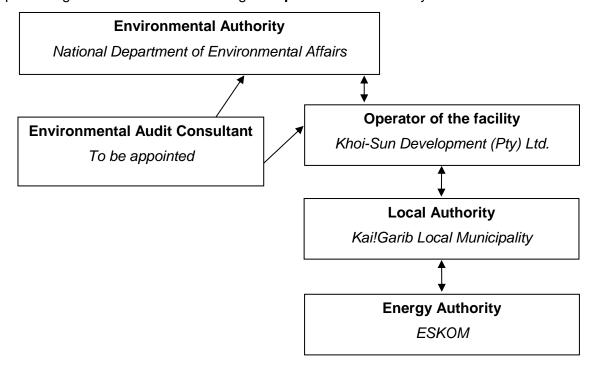


Figure 2: EMPr organisational structure during the operation phase.

Details regarding the roles and responsibilities of the various parties in these organisational structures are included in Section 2 below.

1.4 PROJECT PROPOSAL

The Khoi-Sun Development is to consist of a **Photovoltaic System** (PV), mounted onto a tracker module, which uses a **single-axis tracking system** to follow the sun's movement. This system ensures that sunlight is always directly onto the cells.

The single-axis tracker modules will be approximately 2m in height and spaced approximately 5m apart to avoid shading each other, while minimizing the footprint of the facility. The trackers will be oriented at a tilt, facing approximately North, to maximize annual solar energy yield. The total solar facility, including tracker spacing and associated infrastructure, will occupy a footprint of not exceeding 250ha. See Preferred Layout Plan as Figure 3 below.

Associated infrastructure, with an approximate footprint of 13ha, will typically include to the following:

- approximately **75 x inverter stations** (built within transporter containers, 25m² in size);
- an on-site substation (including a transformer to allow the generated power to be connected to Eskom's electricity grid);
- an overhead transmission power line to distribute the generated electricity from the on-site substation to the existing Schuitdrift Eskom substation (approximately 6km to the southeast);
- auxiliary buildings, including:
 - administration / security offices,
 - ablution & workshop and
 - storage area.
- an internal electrical reticulation network (underground cabling);
- an access road and internal road / track network;
- **temporary laydown area** for the storage and assembly of the solar infrastructure;
- 10 x 10kLt rainwater tanks; and
- parameter fencing around the solar facility.

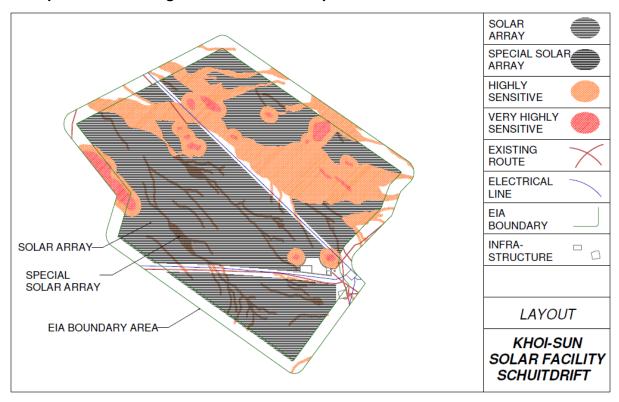


Figure 3: Preferred Layout Plan

The temporary Laydown Area is likely to be positioned between the auxiliary buildings and the onsite substation/75MWA transformer (see Figure 4 below).

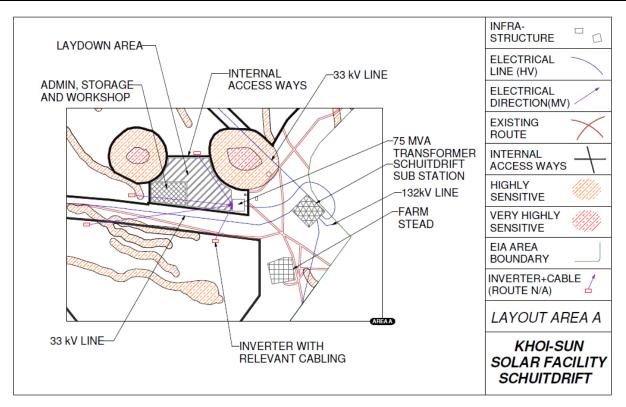


Figure 4: Conceptual Layout of the Construction Laydown Area

1.5 APPROACH TO THE EMPR

This EMPr addresses the environmental management of the four key phases of the project, namely:

- The design and pre-construction phase;
- The construction phase;
- The operation phase; and
- The closure and decommissioning phase.

1.5.1 Pre-construction Phase

The pre-construction phase of the development refers to the final layout design considerations and the site preparation (fine-scale design and placement, survey of development site and associated infrastructure, demarcation of no-go areas, establishment of site camp, vegetation clearing etc.)

1.5.2 Construction Phase

The construction phase of the development refers to the earthworks and the actual construction of the civil works (installation of the PV panel arrays, construction of internal roads, stormwater structures and auxiliary buildings etc.), as well as the external infrastructure such as power lines and access roads. The construction phase will end with the parameter fencing of the facility, landscaping and re-vegetation / rehabilitation of the site and surrounding areas.

1.5.3 Operation Phase

The operational phase commences once the facility starts providing power into the national grid. There may be a stage where both construction and operation activities overlap i.e. occur on site at the same time. The operation phase included the monitoring and maintenance activities required for the efficient functioning of the facility (e.g. cleaning and repair of solar panels, brush-cutting of large vegetation etc.), as well as health and integrity of the surrounding environment (e.g. removal alien vegetation, removal of obstacles from drainage lines, management of erosion etc.).

1.5.4 Closure and Decommissioning Phase

Closure and decommissioning refers the decommissioning of the panel arrays at the end of their operational lifespan. For the purpose of this report, two possible scenarios are considered, namely:

- The re-use, repair &/ upgrade of the facility for alternative power generation;
- The total decommissioning of the solar facility.

Solar panels that are found to be in good working order after the upgrade or decommissioning of the facility should be donated to local schools and clinics.

2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Throughout the lifespan of this project, a number of individuals and entities will fulfil various roles and responsibilities to ensure the effective implementation of this EMPr. The key roles and responsibilities are detailed in the table below.

<u>Table 2:</u> Roles and responsibilities with regard to the implementation of this EMPr.

Role	Responsibility
	- National Department of Environmental Affairs.
The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) is the competent / delegated authority responsible for compliance with the relevant environmental legislation.	 Ensure overall compliance with the Environmental Authorisation (EA) & EMPr. Review this document and any revisions thereof. Undertake site audits at their discretion. Review ECO Reports. Review Audit Reports Review Incident Reports. Enforce legal mechanisms for contraventions of this EMPr and EA.
Holder of the Author	isation – Khoi-Sun Development (Pty) Ltd.
The holder of the Authorisation is generally responsible for ensuring compliance with all statutory requirements relating to the Solar facility.	 Ensuring compliance with the conditions set out in the Environmental Authorisation issued in terms of the NEMA, as well as those prescribed by other relevant legislation and guidelines. Compliance with the requirements set out in this EMPr. Ensuring all other permits, permissions and licences from all other statutory departments are in place. E.g.: Permit from provincial Department of Environmental Affairs & Nature Conservation (DEANC) to translocate or remove Hoodia gordonii plants.
Environmental Co	ontrol Officer (ECO) – To be appointed
The ECO fulfils an advisory role to monitor, guide and report compliance with the EMPr.	 Revise, update and amend the EMPr if necessary and submit the amendments to the competent authority for consideration. Ensure all relevant persons have a copy of the EMPr and any amendments thereof. Advise the employer's representative on any additional environmental authorisations and permits that may be required. Facilitate the Environmental Education / Induction Training with the contract staff. Review and comment on Method Statements relevant to environmental management and make recommendations to the employer's representative. Report any non-compliance with the EMPr or EA to the employer's representative and competent authority if necessary. Undertake regular site inspections in compliance with this EMPr.

<u> </u>					
Role	Responsibility				
Environmental	 Monitor, audit and verify that all works comply with the EA and the EMPr. Keep record of EMPr implementation, monitoring and audits, including a full photographic record of works. Comply and submit regular Environmental Control Reports to the competent authority, as well as employer's representative &/ holder of the authorisation. Report any environmental incidents or environmental impacts immediately to the employer's representative and the competent authority if necessary. Assist the contractor and employer's representative planning for and implementing environmentally sensitive problem solving. Advise the employer's representative on suggested "stop work" orders. Site Agent (ESA) – To be appointed				
To assist the ECO with the day to day	Day to day environmental control of contractors on site				
implementation and monitoring of the environmental management actions that are taking place on site.	 during the construction phase. Monitoring of construction management activities during the construction phase. Weekly reporting to the ECO. 				
	ative – SOLEK Renewable Energy Engineers				
The Employer's representative role is likely to be fulfilled by the project engineer and assumes overall responsibility for compliance with this EMPr, the EA, the conditions of the LUPO Approval and all applicable legislation for the duration of the construction phase.	 Issue site instructions to the contractor based on the advice of the ECO. Ensure that all detailed design incorporates the requirements of the EMPr and EA. Ensure that the EMPr is included in all tender documents issued to prospective contractors and sub-contractors. Ensure the EMPr is included in final contract documents. Ensure that the Tenderers/Contractors adequately provide for compliance with the EMPr in their submissions. Ensure that the EMPr is fully implemented by the relevant persons. Ensure the contractor provides the necessary method statements. Be accountable, to the competent authority for any contravention or non-compliance by the Contractor. Assist the contractor with input from the ECO in finding environmentally responsible solutions to problems. Undertake regular site audits, site visits and inspections to ensure that the requirements of the EMPr are implemented Give instructions on any procedures and corrective actions on advice from the ECO. Report environmental incidents or non-compliance with the EA or EMPr to the environmental authority. Issue spot fines, penalties or 'stop-work' orders for contravention of the EMPr and give instructions regarding corrective actions. 				
	tractor – To be appointed				
The Contractor (main contractor) is responsible for the implementation of all construction activities associated with the Solar Facility.	 Overall project delivery for the construction of the Solar Facility to the satisfaction of the authorities and consultants. Ensuring compliance with the Health & Safety requirements for the project. Ensuring compliance with this Environmental Management Programme. Promoting job safety and environmental awareness with Employees. Ensure that all sub-contractors comply with this EMPr and all other statutory requirements. 				

other statutory requirements. Landowner - Mr Frederik Johannes Nel

The landowner is responsible for compliance with legislation applicable to

• E.g.: In terms of the National Veld & Forest Fires Act (101 of 1998) - an owner on whose land is subject to a risk of

Role	Responsibility
the management of the property as a	veldfire or whose land or part of it coincides with the border
whole.	of the Republic, must prepare and maintain a firebreak on his
	or her land as close as possible to the border.

3. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

Several pieces of legislation were considered during the development of this EMPr. These include, but are not limited to the following:

3.1 THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996) states that everyone has a right to a non-threatening environment and that reasonable measures are applied to protect the environment. This includes preventing pollution and promoting conservation and environmentally sustainable development, while promoting justifiable social and economic development.

3.2 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT (NEMA, ACT 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED)

The National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act 107 of 1998, as amended), makes provision for the identification and assessment of activities that are potentially detrimental to the environment and which require authorisation from the competent authority (in this case, the national Department of Environmental Affairs) based on the findings of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). It also embraces the notion of sustainable development as contained in the Constitution of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996) in that everyone has the right:

- to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being; and
- to have the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations through reasonable legislative and other measures.

NEMA requires that measures are taken that "prevent pollution and ecological degradation; promote conservation; and secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development." In addition:

- That the disturbance of ecosystems and loss of biological diversity are avoided, or where they
 cannot be altogether avoided, are minimised and remedied;
- That a risk-averse and cautious approach is applied, which takes into account the limits of current knowledge about the consequences of decisions and actions; and
- Sensitive, vulnerable, highly dynamic or stressed ecosystems, such as coastal shores, estuaries, wetlands, and similar systems require specific attention in management and planning procedures, especially where they are subject to significant human resource usage and development pressure.

NEMA aims to provide for co-operative environmental governance by establishing principles for decision-making on all matters relating to the environment and by means of Environmental Implementation Plans (EIP) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr).

The Applicant may not undertake activities listed in terms of the NEMA without prior authorisation.

In compliance with **Section 24N** of NEMA, this EMPr must contain the following (over and above the content requirements listed in the Table 1 above):

Table 3: Compliance with Section 24N of NEMA

EMPr Provision	Report Reference
Information on any proposed management, mitigation, protection or	This is addressed in Sections 4 ,
remedial measures that will be undertaken to address the environmental	5, 6, 7 of this EMPr

EMPr Provision	Report Reference
impacts that have been identified in a report contemplated in subsection	
24(1A), including environmental impacts in respect of planning & design.	
Information on any proposed management, mitigation, protection or	This is addressed in Sections 4
remedial measures that will be undertaken to address the environmental	& 5 of this EMPr.
impacts that have been identified in a report contemplated in subsection	
24(1A), including environmental impacts in respect of pre-construction	
and construction activities.	
Information on any proposed management, mitigation, protection or	This is addressed in Sections 4
remedial measures that will be undertaken to address the environmental	& 6 of this EMPr.
impacts that have been identified in a report contemplated in subsection	
24(1A), including environmental impacts in respect of the operation or	
undertaking the activity in question.	
Information on any proposed management, mitigation, protection or	This is addressed in section 7
remedial measures that will be undertaken to address the environmental	of this EMPr – It has been dealt
impacts that have been identified in a report contemplated in subsection	with under construction
24(1A), including environmental impacts in respect of the rehabilitation	requirements for the specific
of the environment.	reason that these works must
	take place during the
Information on any proposed management, mitigation, protection or	construction phase. This is dealt with in Sections
remedial measures that will be undertaken to address the environmental	5.13, 5.14, 5.19 & 5.20 of the
impacts that have been identified in a report contemplated in subsection	EMPr.
24(1A), including environmental impacts in respect of closure , if	
applicable	
Details and expertise of the person who prepared the EMPr.	These details are included at the
- same and saperate and person an	beginning of the report (after
	cover page and report
	conditions).
A detailed description of the aspects of the activity that are covered by	This is dealt with under the
the EMPr.	introduction in Sections 1, 4, 5,
	6 & 7 this EMPr.
Information identifying the persons who will be responsible for the	This is dealt with in Section 2,
implementation of the measures addressed in the EMPr.	Table 2 of this EMPr.
Information in respect of mechanisms proposed for monitoring	This is dealt with in Section 8 of
compliance with the EMPr and for reporting on the compliance.	this EMPr.
Measures to rehabilitate the affected environment.	This is dealt with in Sections
	5.13, 5.14, 5.19 & 5.20 of this
Description of the manner is which nativities will be prevented and	EMPr.
Description of the manner in which pollution will be prevented and remedied.	This is dealt with throughout the
remedied.	EMPr, but specifically in
	Sections 4.7, 5.4, 5.14, 5.16, 5.17, 6.2 & 6.3
The EMPR must furthermore, where appropriate;	J. 17, U.Z & U.J
Set out time periods within which measures must be implemented.	This is dealt with in Sections
Det dat anne periode mann milion modello mate de implemented.	5.19, 5.20, 5.21 & 12 of the
	EMPr.
Contain measures regulating responsibilities for any environmental	This is dealt with is Sections 1 ,
damage.	2, 12 & 13 of this EMPr.
Develop an environmental awareness plan describing the manner in	This is dealt with in Sections
which the applicant intends to inform his or her Employees of any	4.2 & 4.3 of the EMPr.
environmental risks and how to deal with these risks in order to avoid	
pollution or degradation of the environment.	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

In addition to the above, the Holder of the Authorisation is bound by "Duty of Care", as described in Section 28 of NEMA (107 of 1998, as amended), which "...obliges every person who causes, has caused or may cause significant environmental degradation to take reasonable measures to prevent such degradation from occurring, continuing or recurring". Thus, all mitigation measures recommended by the relevant authorities and specialists must be implemented to avoid occurrence, continuation or repeat of environmental degradation.

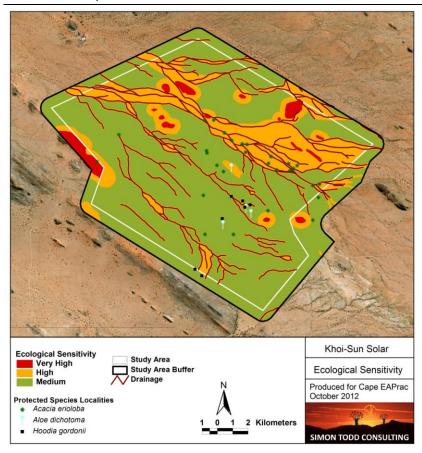
3.3 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: BIODIVERSITY ACT (NEMBA) (ACT 10 OF 2004)

This Act controls the management and conservation of South African biodiversity within the framework of NEMA. Amongst others, it deals with the protection of species and ecosystems that warrant national protection, as well as the sustainable use of indigenous biological resources. Sections 52 & 53 of this Act specifically make provision for the protection of critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable and protected ecosystems (under the ToPS Regulations - Threatened or Protected Species Regulations), that have undergone, or have a risk of undergoing significant degradation of ecological structure, function or composition as a result of human intervention through threatening processes. The conservation status and sensitivity of the ecosystem within which the proposed Khoi-Sun Development is proposed is discussed as follows:

No fine-scale conservation planning has been conducted for the area, and as a result **no Critical Biodiversity Areas have been defined** for the region. The Namakwa District Biodiversity Sector Plan includes this area as a broad-scale corridor, but since the area is outside of the planning domain of the Plan, the results cannot be considered reliable and are therefore not considered applicable to the current study. Although the site also does not fall within a National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy focus area, a focus area does occur approximately 10 km to the west of the study site. This suggests that the site itself is probably **not highly significant from a biodiversity maintenance perspective**, but that the broader area is potentially important for the maintenance of biodiversity and broad-scale ecosystem function. The development is relatively small in extent when considered in light of the overwhelmingly intact nature of the surrounding landscape. Furthermore, the proximity of the development to the existing ESKOM substation and powerlines would decrease the cumulative impact of the development on the connectivity of the landscape.

According to the national vegetation map (Mucina & Rutherford 2006), the site lies within the **Blouputs Karroid Thornveld vegetation type**, which occurs as a belt of irregular flat areas from the vicinity of Augrabies Falls in the east to Kotie se Laagte and Samoep se Laagte in the west. This vegetation type is listed as **Least Threatened** and less than 1% has been transformed. It is **well conserved (27%) within Augrabies Falls National Park**. At 607 km² it is however the smallest mapped vegetation unit within the Nama Karoo Biome.

A detailed aerial and topographical was undertaken to inform the siting of the proposed solar facility development footprint and associated infrastructure, while an ecological impact assessment was undertaken to provide recommendations to avoid and mitigate potential negative impacts associated with the development. The rocky outcrops and extensive drainage line must be maintained as a NO-GO area at all times.



A ToPS permit is required for any activities impacting on any ToPS listed plant species. In the Northern Cape this takes the form of an Integrated Permit which meets both national and provincial permitting requirements (see Section 3.4 and 15 below).

Sensitive habitats at the site include a number of rocky outcrops, as well as an extensive drainage line which traverses the site roughly east to west. A relatively large number of **protected** plant species, including Acacia erioloba. Aloe dichotoma, Hoodia gordonii and Boscia foetida distributed across the site. The loss of some individuals of these species is likely to be unavoidable and only the succulent species can be translocated.

A preconstruction survey of the final development footprint will need to be conducted to ascertain the identity and number individuals exact of protected species affected by the development. Species such as Aloe (approx. 3 plants) and Hoodia (approx. 5 plants) are suitable for translocation and should be translocated to a similar habitat outside the development footprint prior to the commencement of construction (see Sections 5.19 & 5.20 for details of the Plant Rescue, Revegetation and Rehabilitation Plans).

3.4 NORTHERN CAPE NATURE CONSERVATION ACT (NCNCA) (No. 9 of 2009)

This Act provides *inter alia* for the sustainable utilisation of wild animals, aquatic biota and plants, as well as permitting and trade regulations regarding wild fauna and flora within the province. The following section may be relevant to the parameter security fencing proposed as part of the solar development:

Manipulation of boundary fences

- 19. No Person may –
- (a) erect, alter remove or partly remove or cause to be erected, altered removed or partly removed, any fence, whether on a common boundary or on such person's own property, in such a manner that any wild animal which as a result thereof gains access or may gain access to the property or a camp on the property, cannot escape or is likely not to be able to escape therefrom;

It is recommended that only the facility itself should be fenced-off by the proposed parameter fencing which should be constructed in manner to allow for the passage of small and medium sized mammals, at least at strategic places, such as along drainage lines or other areas of dense vegetation. No electrified strands may be within 20cm of the ground (tortoises retreat into their shells when electrocuted and eventually succumb from repeated shocks) (Todd, 2012).

The Act also lists protected fauna and flora under 3 schedules ranging from Endangered (Schedule 1), Protected (Schedule 2) to Common (Schedule 3). The majority of mammals, reptiles and

10

amphibians are listed under Schedule 2. A permit is required for any activities which involve species listed under Schedule 1 or 2.

Of relevance for the Khoi-Sun Development there are a number provincially protected species within the development footprint including *Acacia erioloba*, *Aloe dichotoma* and *Boscia foetida*, as well as one nationally protected species, *Hoodia gordonii*. The loss of some individuals of these species is likely to be unavoidable and only the succulent species (*Hoodia & Aloe sp.*) can be translocated.

The co-ordinate localities of the majority of the protected plant species were found within the site have been recorded (see Section 15.5 below). However, some of the less conspicuous individuals e.g. *Hoodia* may not have been found, thus a preconstruction survey of the final development footprint will need to be conducted to ascertain the identity and exact number of individuals of protected species affected by the development. A single integrated permit, which covers nationally or provincially listed species permitting requirements, as well as meets TOPS regulations, must be obtained from the DENC permit office in Kimberly prior to the any vegetation removal or plant translocation activities (see Sections 5.19 & 5.20 for details of the Plant Rescue, Re-vegetation and Rehabilitation Plans).

In terms of fauna, a permit will not be necessary for this project as no listed mammal, reptile, amphibian or bird species are to be negatively impacted by the proposed solar development. Overall the Khoi-Sun Solar Development site is not viewed as being highly ecologically sensitive and with standard mitigation measures in place, the risk of significant environmental impact or degradation as a result of the development is likely to be very low

3.5 NATIONAL FORESTS ACT (NFA) (No. 84 of 1998):

The National Forests Act provides for the protection of forests as well as specific tree species, quoting directly from the Act: "no person may cut, disturb, damage or destroy any protected tree or possess, collect, remove, transport, export, purchase, sell, donate or in any other manner acquire or dispose of any protected tree or any forest product derived from a protected tree, except under a licence or exemption granted by the Minister to an applicant and subject to such period and conditions as may be stipulated".

Several protected tree species were observed at the Khoi-Sun Solar Development site, including *Acacia erioloba* and *Aloe dichotoma*. These individual protected trees will be avoided as far as possible, however those which need to be removed (approx. nine (9) *A.erioloba* and three (3) *A.dichotoma* trees) will require the necessary permits will be applied for from the Permit Office of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (DAFF).

3.6 NATIONAL VELD & FOREST FIRE ACT (NVFFA) (ACT 101 OF 1998)

The purpose of the National Veld and Forest Fire Act is to **prevent and combat veld, forest and mountain fires** throughout the Republic of South Africa and to provide institutions, methods and practices for achieving this purpose. Institutions include the formation bodies such as **Fire Protection Associations** (FPA's) and Working on Fire. The Act provides the guidelines and constitution for the implementation of these institutions, as well as their functions and requirements.

Every owner on whose land a veldfire may start or bum or from whose land it may spread must prepare and maintain a firebreak on his or her side of the boundary between his or her land and any adjoining land. The procedure in this regard and the role of adjoining owners and the fire protection association are dealt with within this Act. An owner on whose land is subject to a

risk of veldfire or whose land or part of it coincides with the border of the Republic, must prepare and maintain a firebreak on his or her land as close as possible to the border.

The proposed solar site is arid and given the sparse, succulent nature of the vegetation, it is highly unlikely that fires are a normal occurrence in the area, and thus fires at the site are not considered to be a significant risk. However, under exceptional circumstances, such as following years of very high rainfall, sufficient biomass may build up to carry fires, especially in the fenced-off areas. Therefore, **management of plant biomass within the site** should be part of the management of the facility. Given the risk that this would pose to the development, it would be in the operators' interests to manage plant cover at an acceptable level through grazing or alternative management practice (brush-cutting). Grazing by livestock is the simplest and most ecologically sound way to manage plant biomass and is recommended the preferred method to manage plant biomass at the site (Todd, 2012).

3.7 Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act - CARA (Act 43 of 1983):

CARA provides for the regulation of control over the utilisation of the natural agricultural resources in order to promote the maintenance of ecological health of land, combating and preventing erosion and weakening or destruction of water resources, protecting vegetation and combating weeds and invader plant species i.e. conservation of soil, water & vegetation.

The hydrological features, which occur within the Khoi-Sun Development development area, include **one large drainage line and several small washes**. This may be surprising given the arid nature of the area, but results from the fact that there is little vegetation to retard the overland flow of water and in many areas there is also little soil to absorb the rainfall, with the result that when it rains, a large amount of runoff may be generated. The smaller washes are not highly significant from an ecological perspective, because they do not receive or retain sufficient water to develop characteristic or unique plant communities. The larger drainage line however is significant as it contains large trees not found elsewhere on the site, as well as shrub and grass species which are restricted to the drainage lines. Although development could proceed with little ecological impact near or over the smaller washes, the larger drainage lines should be considered highly sensitive and a no-go area for development.

The construction of the solar facility will require limited disturbance of vegetation or soil (rammed / driven piers) and thus minimal impact on the small washes. Measures will be put in place to avoid drainage line obstruction, impeding surface and subsurface water flow and soil erosion, as well as to promote conservation of these resources (see Section 5.13 for details of the Storm Water Management Plan and the Erosion Management Plan).

The Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act defines different categories of alien plants:

- Category 1 prohibited and must be controlled;
- Category 2 must be grown within a demarcated area under permit; and
- Category 3 ornamental plants that may no longer be planted, but existing plants may remain provided that all reasonable steps are taken to prevent the spreading thereof, except within the floodlines of water courses and wetlands.

The Khoi-Sun Development development site is relatively free of alien plant species, which can be ascribed firstly to the aridity of the site, as well as the low rainfall in the period preceding the site visit. Alien plants are however likely to become an issue if the site is highly disturbed during construction or if water runoff is not properly managed. Mitigation measures have been recommended to avoid the risk of increased alien invasion during construction and operation phases of the solar facility (Todd, 2012) (see Section 5.21 for details of the Alien Invasive Management Plan).

3.8 NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (NHRA) (ACT 25 OF 1999)

The protection and management of South Africa's heritage resources are controlled by the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999), with the South African National Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) as the enforcing authority.

In terms of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, SAHRA required a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) be undertaken as part of the S&EIR process, as this renewable energy project triggered certain categories of development applicable to the Act:

- the construction of a road, wall, power line, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier exceeding 300m in length (access and internal road network, underground cabling & transmission line);
- any development or other activity which will change the character of a site exceeding 5 000 m² in extent (PV panel arrays covering an approximate area less than 270ha, including auxiliary buildings);
- the re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000m² in extent (re-zoning of approximately 350ha of land from Agricultural to Special Zone to allow for the renewable energy facility).

Furthermore, in terms of Section 34(1), no person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure, which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the SAHRA, or the responsible resources authority (**No buildings or ruins older than 60 years and heritage or cultural significance were identified within the solar development site or will be disturbed by any activity related to the solar facility)**.

Nor may anyone destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position, or otherwise disturb, any grave or burial ground older than 60 years, which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority, without a permit issued by the SAHRA, or a provincial heritage authority, in terms of Section 36 (3) (The grave sites found directly north of the solar development site are not considered to be of cultural significance and furthermore will not be affected by the proposed development (De Kock, 2012).

In terms of Section 35 (4), no person may destroy, damage, excavate, alter or remove from its original position, or collect, any archaeological material or object, without a permit issued by the SAHRA, or the responsible resources authority (**No archaeological occurrences identified to occur with the solar development site (occurrences found outside the site is to be avoided by all activities)** (Smith, 2012 & Almond, 2012).

The archaeological artefacts seen across the open veld constitute a low heritage potential. Sensitive archaeological areas include the koppies outside the solar facility footprint. A the preferred solar layout would affect these archaeological sensitivities, there would be **no inhibitors** to the solar installation from an archaeological perspective, subject to the avoidance of the quartz patches visible on and below the koppies. The palaeontological sensitivity of the Scuitdrift solar site assessed as very low. Please see Sections 4.1.2 and 9 below for further details.

3.9 National Water Act (NWA), NO 36 OF 1998

This Act controls / regulates the utilization of natural water resources and provides provisions to safe-guard the integrity of these water resources.

It is estimated that approximately 11 200kl of water in total should be required during the 18 month construction phase (an average of 24kl per day when construction is calculated at 6 days a week). In addition, 10 - 18kl of water per day (or 500 kl per month) should be required for the cleaning of solar panels (twice a month) and for other operational phase requirements.

The preferred source of water required for the construction and operation of the Solar Facility is from **existing boreholes near the solar development site**. An additional option is to get water from Southern Farms (on the Orange River) via a 7km pipeline aligned along an existing road. Southern Farm has confirmed consent, subject to the requirement of the Department of Water Affairs being met.

To supplement the abovementioned water source options, a rainwater collection (off the on-site substation and axillary building roofs) and storage system (10 x 10lt tanks) will be installed.

Due to the quaternary area within which the proposed solar facility is to be situated, authorisation is required from the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) for the use of the borehole water, by way of a **full Water Use Licence Application (WULA)**. Due to the proximity of an approved 10MW solar facility nearly which is to make use of the same boreholes, DWA recommended that a **full geo-hydrological study** must be done to ensure that the groundwater use will not affect any of the surrounding groundwater users and that this study be submitted when the Application for water use license is submitted. In addition should the Southern Farm supply to used, **the WULA will become an integrated application, to include an application in terms of Section 21(C) & (I)**, which will also be applicable to the crossing of the washes and drainage lines by the internal road network of the solar facility and the possible water pipeline from Southern Farms, should these necessitate alternations over dry river courses.

The assessment of this WULA will only be undertaken by the DWA once DEA and DAFF have issued the Environmental Authorisation (EA) and the project has been appointed as a preferred bidder by the Department of Energy (DoE). The DWA have provided the following recommendations to inform the abovementioned WULA authorisation for the Khoi-Sun Development:

- A 24-hour pump test must be undertaken on each borehole to determine the amount of water each can deliver. These pump test results must be submitted to the DWA when the application is submitted.
- The existing farm boreholes must be fitted with flow meters to measure the volumes of water abstracted (and keep record of such);
- That the water level of the **boreholes be monitored on a monthly basis** (and records kept);
- Water used for dust suppression on gravel roads must be of a quality compliant with the General Special Effluent Standards (31/03/2009): Temperature: max.25°C, pH: between 5.5 & 7.5 and conductivity: not be increased more than 15% above the intake water & not exceed 250 milli-Siemens per metre (determined at 25°C). The water used for dust suppression is likely to be borehole water, and not treated effluent. However the water quality standards mentioned will be taken note of.

These recommendations must be implemented in furtherance of and support of the Water Use Licence Application (WULA) for this solar project.

3.10 GUIDELINES & STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS

The following guidelines and strategic documents were considered during the compilation of this EMPr.

3.10.1 National Waste Management Strategy

The National Waste Management Strategy presents the South African government's strategy for integrated waste management for South Africa. It deals among others with: Integrated Waste

Management Planning, Waste Information Systems, Waste Minimisation, Recycling, Waste Collection and Transportation, Waste Treatment, Waste Disposal and Implementing Instruments.

3.10.2 Waste Minimisation Guideline Document for Environmental Impact Assessment Review (May 2003)

This guideline, although compiled on a provincial level, was considered pertinent to this EMPr. This Guideline raises awareness to waste minimisation issues and highlights waste and wastage minimization practices. Part B of this document is of particular importance, as it addresses issues of general waste and wastage minimization during construction activities.

3.10.3 National Building Regulations

The National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act as amended must be complied with. This act addresses, inter alia:

- Specifications for draftsmen, plans, documents and diagrams;
- Approval by local authorities;
- Appeal procedures;
- Prohibition or conditions with regard to erection of buildings in certain conditions;
- Demolition of buildings;
- Access to building control officers;
- Regulations and directives; and
- Liability.

3.10.4 Other Guidelines considered

In addition to those described above, the following guidelines were also considered during the compilation of this EMPr.

- DEADP (2003). Waste Minimisation Guideline for Environmental Impact Assessment reviews.
 NEMA EIA Regulations Guideline & Information Series, Department Environmental Affairs & Development Planning.
- DEAT (2004). Environmental Management Plans, Integrated Environmental management, Information Series 12, Department Environmental Affairs & Tourism
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4. DESIGN & PRE CONSTRUCTION PHASE

The following management considerations are to be adopted and implemented during the design and pre-construction phase.

4.1 PV PANEL - MICRO-SITING

Micro-siting of the individual panels within the solar facility should occur when the layout is nearing its final configuration during the detailed design phase (in approximation to the layout authorised by DEA). This micro-siting exercise involves assessing the exact footprints of the PV panels in each array row in turn on site, so that all technical and environmental features can be considered with input from the participating specialists and the ECO.

The following recommendations made by the various specialists must be considered in the micrositing exercise.

4.1.1 Ecological

The ecological specialist, Simon Todd (2012), recommended that the sensitive areas with appropriate buffers at the site (drainage line and rock-outcrops) should be demarcated by an ecologist as part of the preconstruction activities for the site. In addition, contracted ecologist should undertake a preconstruction survey of the final development footprint to ascertain the identity and exact number of individuals of protected species affected by the development. A single integrated permit, which covers nationally or provincially listed plant species permitting requirements, as well as meets TOPS regulations, must be obtained from the Department of Environmental Affairs & Nature Conservation (DEANC) permit office in Kimberly prior to the any plant rescue / transplant and/or removal activities.

An Environmental Control Officer (ECO) should be present for the site preparation and initial clearing activities to ensure the correct demarcation of no-go areas, facilitate environmental induction with construction staff and supervise any flora relocation and faunal rescue activities that may need to take place during the site clearing.

4.1.2 Heritage

The Heritage (De Kock, 2012), Archaeological (Smith, 2012) and Paleontological (Almond, 2012) specialists recommend that the **koppies** and the area surrounding them, must be **demarcated as NO-GO areas and be avoided at all times**. In addition, areas with quartz scatters must be avoided as far as possible (please see Section 9 below).

4.2 PRE-CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP

It is recommended that a pre-construction environmental compliance workshop be undertaken before any construction commences on site. This workshop can be combined with a site handover meeting, but must take place before any activities take place on site and before any plant is moved onto site. The purpose of this workshop is to ensure that all relevant personnel are familiar with the provisions of the EMPr, as well as the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation.

The following people must be present at this Environmental Compliance Workshop:

- The ECO;
- The Main Civil Contractor (including contract manager, site agent and foreman);
- The Electrical Contractor (including contract manager, site agent and foreman);
- The Consulting Engineers (electrical, civil and structural, whichever applicable); and
- Project Management.

Provision should be made in contract and tender documentation to attend a 6 hour workshop that will be chaired by the ECO.

4.3 ENVIRONMENTAL INDUCTION TRAINING & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The ECO, in consultation with the contractor and engineer, shall ensure that all construction workers receive an induction presentation, as well as on-going environmental education & awareness, on the importance and implications of the EMPr and the environmental requirements it prescribes. The presentation shall be conducted, as far as is possible, in the Employees' language of choice. The contractor should provide a translator from their staff for the purpose of translating, should this be necessary.

There are a number of protected and conservation-worthy plant species on and in proximity to the solar development site, including Acacia erioloba, Aloe dichotoma, Hoodia gordonii and Boscia sp. - the localities of these plants have been recorded (see Section 15.5 below for coordinates). Further plant species may well be identified by the ecological specialist to occur within the proposed development area during the pre-construction survey. It is important that the ECO and all construction staff be made aware of these species and how to identify them, so that they can be suitably avoided and/or protected were possible (see Section 15 of the EMPr for photographs and description of important plant species). Section 16 provides details of the alien plant species, Prosopis glandulosa, Argemone ochroleuca and Salsola kali, that will need to be removed from site on a systematic basis. It is the ECO's responsibility to print enlarged posters of these photographs and descriptions for use in the Environmental Induction / Education training sessions. It is also the ECO's responsibility to ensure that the required permit be obtained from the Kimberly DEANC office prior for the transplant and/or removal of protected plant species, as well as to provide instruction on and guide all plant rescue, transplant and rehabilitation activities (i.e. Hoodia and Aloe plants must be carefully removed and transplanted outside the development area in proximity to other *Hoodia* plants).

As further plant species of conservation value, as well as archaeological occurrences, are likely to occur in proximity of the **koppies** nearby, these must **be demarcated as NO-GO** areas and must be avoided by all staff.

As a minimum, induction training should include:

- Explanation of the importance of complying with the EMPr;
- Explanation of the importance of complying with the Environmental Authorisation;
- Discussion of the potential environmental impacts of construction activities;
- The benefits of improved personal performance;
- Employees' roles and responsibilities, including emergency preparedness (this should be combined with this induction, but presented by the contractors Health and Safety Representative);
- Explanation of the mitigation measures that must be implemented when carrying out their activities;
- Explanation of the specifics of this EMPr and its specification (no-go areas, etc.); and
- Explanation of the management structure of individuals responsible for matters pertaining to the EMPr.

Furthermore, the induction training must ensure that construction workers/staff understand that **no** form of wildlife poaching, collecting (plant or animal) or other form of disturbance will be permitted on the construction site or the adjacent areas.

Should the staff turnover be high and with additional appointment of sub-contractors, it may be necessary to conduct additional induction training sessions, as well as regular environmental education debriefings. This is at the discretion of the ECO.

The contractor must keep records of all environmental training sessions, including names, dates and the information presented. Details of the environmental induction are also to be included in the environmental control reports.

4.4 DEMARCATION OF NO-GO AREAS

The demarcation of no-go areas is of extreme importance to ensure that disturbance is restricted to the future developed area and that areas outside this demarcated area are protected and not damaged unnecessarily.

The process for this is as follows:

- The exact footprint of the construction area, including panel foundations and all roads (including access, haul and internal roads which must make use of the final road layout) and infrastructure are to be surveyed and pegged before any physical construction commences on site.
- The contractor, in conjunction with the ECO, must walk the areas determined and mark the full extent of the area to be disturbed (allowing sufficient space for the construction activity);
- All areas beyond these demarcated areas are considered as "no-go" areas (i.e. the drainage line and rock-outcrops / koppies); and
- Construction staff must be briefed as part of the environmental induction on the requirements regarding the no-go areas.

4.5 Construction Phasing

There are a number of important aspects of the construction phasing that must be implemented to ensure that the potential impact on the environment is kept to a minimum. The contractor must consider the following requirements regarding phasing, when developing the construction programme. This construction programme must be approved by the engineer's representative with input from the ECO.

- The road network to access the panel arrays should be established first and then all vehicular
 movement must be restricted to within this road network This will minimise the impact of
 construction traffic on the undeveloped portion of the property.
- Sites that will be temporarily disturbed by the construction activities (e.g. material loading, temporary storage, turning circles, etc.) must also be included in the road access network.

4.6 ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTRACTORS SITE CAMP

The Contractors Site Camp must be established in consultation with the ECO. The site camp may not be erected on any areas considered sensitive as defined by the participating specialists. The following points are applicable:

- The Contractors Site Camp must be situated within the development area. Site Camps that are allowed off-site may only be erected once written permission from the landowner is obtained and any other necessary authorisations are in place;
- Topsoil from the site camp area must be stripped and stockpiled for re-use during rehabilitation. This must be done to ensure no contamination of the topsoil while the site camp is in use;

- The site camp must be fenced off with shade netting;
- All construction material must be stored in the site camp, unless otherwise approved by the ECO. This may excludes PV panel mounting structures and panel components which will be stored at each of the assembly point, as per the manufacturer plans;
- No personnel may overnight in the site camp, except in the case of a night watchman / security;
- Fires for cooking and/or heating are only allowed within the site camp after consultation with the Health and Safety Representative;
- Fuel may only be stored in the camp site;
- Storage of waste must take place within the site camp and must be removed on a regular basis; and
- The site camp must be provided with sufficient ablution facilities (chemical toilets and potable water) of which the content must be disposed of regularly and at the suitable facilities.

4.7 WATER CONSERVATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE

The following recommendations must be considered in the design and construction of the associated structures / infrastructure (on-site substation, auxiliary buildings etc.) to be constructed as part of the PV solar development:

4.7.1 Ablution / Sanitation Facilities

The on-site substation, control and workshop buildings should be fitted with rainwater collection and storage systems to supply water to the all taps and toilets in these buildings, as well as any outdoor requirements (landscaping, washing etc.).

All toilets should be fitted with dual flush systems. Conservative estimates have shown that a saving of more than 22 000 litres per household (this could apply to the workshops that are occupied by day and night staff) can be achieved annually with the installation of dual flush toilets (Aquanotion, 2008).

All taps to be installed in the control / substation / workshop buildings must be fitted with low-flow faucets. Low flow faucets use aerators to reduce the flow of the water. These can either be built into the faucet or added as an aftermarket product. The faucets in bathrooms should have a peak flow of less than 10 litres per minute.

4.8 ECOLOGICAL CONTROL OFFICER

An Environmental Control Officer (ECO) must be appointed for this project. The appointed ECO must be suitably qualified and have experience of environmental monitoring and control on similar scale projects.

The responsibilities of the ECO include but are not limited to the following:

- Provide environmental induction training to contractors on site prior to commencing of construction activities;
- Review, maintenance and update of the EMPr;
- Liaison between the Project Proponent, Contractors, Authorities and other lead stakeholders on all environmental concerns, including the implementation of the EMPr;
- Compilation of Environmental Control Report/s (ECR) to ensure compliance with the EMPr and authorisations. Reports should be submitted to the relevant authority on a monthly basis;
- Compilation of the Environmental Audit Report or Environmental Completion Statement, six months after completion of construction or at a frequency in compliance with the

Environmental Authorisation. Reports should be submitted to the relevant authority and the Project Proponent;

- Monitor compliance with this EMPr;
- Monitor compliance with the Environmental Authorisation once issued;
- Monitor implementation of the mitigation and rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in the Environmental Authorisation, Final Basic Assessment Report, participating specialists and this EMPr.
- Recommend the issuing site instructions to the Contractor for corrective actions required (formal site instructions are to be issued by the Engineers Representative with input from the ECO);
- ECO site inspections to be undertaken once a month to ensure compliance with the EMPr. The duration of these visits may be increased or decreased at the discretion of the ECO in consultation with the Engineers Representative;
- Attendance of contractors site meetings;
- Maintain a record of environmental incidents (e.g. spills, impacts, legal transgressions etc.) as well as corrective and preventative measures taken. This information must also be included in the ECR;
- Maintain a public complaints register in which all complaints and action taken / responses must be recorded. This information must also be included in the ECR; and
- Engineers Representative (with input from the ECO) has the authority to stop work on site if he
 / she consider that any actions of excessive non-compliance of the EMPr, authorisations or
 General Duty of Care are taking place.

4.8.1 Environmental Site Agent (ESA)

An environmental site agent should be appointed for the duration of the construction period of the solar project. The Terms of Reference for the Environmental Site Agent (ESA) include, but are not limited to the following:

- To ensure compliance with the Environmental Management Plan and Environmental Authorisation;
- The ESA is required to be on site for an estimated 4 hours per day, which may be reviewed by the ECO, ESA and the applicant as construction requirements dictate;
- Assisting the contractor with environmental induction of the contractors;
- Attending all on site construction meetings (including, but not limited to, technical and contractors meetings);
- Providing the ECO with a weekly compliance report in a format defined by the ECO;
- Developing and maintaining a detailed photographic site record throughout the construction phase of the project;
- Maintaining a register of all site instructions;
- Maintaining file records of all method statements provided by the contractors;
- Management and ensuring contractor implementation with the environmental rehabilitation plan (still to be developed);
- Revision and updating the EMPr in conjunction with the ECO, if and when required;
- Maintain a record of environmental incidents (e.g. spills, impacts, legal transgressions etc.) as well as corrective and preventative measures taken. This information must also be included in the weekly reports;
- Maintain a public complaints register in which all complaints and action taken / responses must be recorded. This information must also be included in the ECR;
- In the event that the ESA observes non-compliance that requires a "stop work" order, the ECO
 must immediately be informed and will request the Engineers Representative to issue such an
 order.

4.8.2 ECO and ESA competency

The ECO must have a minimum of a tertiary level qualification in the natural sciences field, as well as at least 3 years' experience and proven competency as an ECO, preferably with experience on similar scale Developments.

The ESA must have a minimum of a tertiary level qualification, as well as at least 2 years' experience and proven competency as an ESA. The role of ESA need not be fulfilled by an external consultant and the role may be undertaken by the engineer's representative.

5. CONSTRUCTION PHASE

The items contained in this section of the EMPr must be implemented during the construction phase of the development of the Khoi-Sun Development Facility.

5.1 WATER SUPPLY

The contractor must ensure a supply of water is available on site for sanitation, drinking, dust suppression etc. It is estimated that approximately 11 200kl of water in total should be required during the 18 month construction phase (an average of 24kl per day when construction is calculated at 6 days a week).

Water used for dust suppression on gravel roads must be of a quality compliant with the General Special Effluent Standards (31/03/2009): Temperature: max.25°C, pH: between 5.5 & 7.5 and conductivity: not be increased more than 15% above the intake water & not exceed 250 milli-Siemens per metre (determined at 25°C). The water used for dust suppression is likely to be borehole water / municipal water, and not treated effluent. This item is specific to water supply during the construction phase. Water supply for the washing of panels is discussed under the operational phase requirements.

5.2 Topsoil Handling

In terms of best practice and for rehabilitation purposes, it is essential that a 150mm layer of topsoil from the building and road footprints (i.e. the on-site substation, auxiliary buildings and contractor's site camp) be stripped and stockpiled prior to the commencement of construction activities in each area. Topsoil is of utmost importance for use in rehabilitation of disturbed areas and should therefore under no circumstances be mixed with sub-soils. Since the panels are to be installed using low impact pile installation, topsoil from underneath the panel arrays must be left in situ.

The following requirements regarding topsoil handling must be considered:

- A minimum 150mm layer of topsoil from the access and internal roads, on-site substation, auxiliary buildings and contractors site camp;
- The topsoil stockpile site must be approved by the ECO and may not be within the sensitive areas as defined by the participating specialists;
- The topsoil may not be stockpiled within any of the remaining natural areas. A existing disturbed area should rather be chosen for this purpose;
- The topsoil stockpile must be protected from erosion and dust as indicated by the ECO and this EMPr; and
- The topsoil must be replaced into disturbed areas (road verges, cable trenches and contractors site camp) on completion of construction.

5.3 TRANSPORT & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

5.3.1 Access to Site

Access to the solar facility site is off the N14 National road (Nous turn-off 60km east of Pofadder; 70km west of Kakamas) via a 46km long gravel track. Transport of solar equipment and construction material will make use of the tarred national road, as well as provincial (divisional roads DR359 & DR3256) and local farm gravel roads. In some instances, these provincial and farm roads may require some alterations (e.g. widening of corners etc.) to accommodate the dimensional requirements of the loads to be transported during the construction phase (e.g. transformers of the onsite substation). Permission from the local authority, Northern Cape Roads Department and private land owners will be sought in this regard if required.





Figure 6: Nous turn-off the N14

Figure 7: Gravel road to Skuitdrift Farm

In general the surfaces of the N14 and gravel road to the Scuitdrift Farm should handle construction traffic and traffic involved in the operation phase.

The existing farm roads must be used as far as possible for the solar facility access and internal road network. Where necessary, gravel may be used to service sections of the existing road. The proposed new sections of the access road and the internal road network will either be comprised of gravel tracks or of compacted rock-fill with layer of higher quality surface stone on top. The preferred alternative is still to be confirmed. If compacted rock-fill is used, a geotechnical survey is to be undertaken to assess the strength and durability properties of the rock strata at the site. It may be necessary to strip off some of the existing vegetation and level the exposed ground surface, in order to form an access track surface. Such access tracks (less than 4m width) will form part of the less than 20ha development footprint. The exact and final layout and alignment of these internal roads must be informed by recommendations made by the ecological specialist, as well as the topographical survey. Pathways / tracks (less than 4m width) between the Solar PV panel rows will allow for ease of maintenance and cleaning of the panels.

5.3.2 Trip Generation

The PV panels will be transported to site by means of normal 2x40ft container trucks. Less than 30 containers will be required per installed MW. This will typically include all solar PV components and additional construction equipment. It is expected that approximately 1125 2x40ft container trucks will be required to deliver the approximate 2250 containers during the construction period of 16-18 months. The PV components are brought in as they are needed and thus the delivery of equipment will be spread out over this 18 month period. Roughly estimated this will amount to two 2x40ft container trucks visiting the site per day, which equates to approximately four truck trips spread over an eight hour day.

It is estimated that approximately 50 people could be employed during the construction period. It can be expected that the bulk of these workers will commute to/from the construction site via minibus taxis from Kakamas, and/or nearby communities. With an average occupancy of 12 passengers per minibus taxi this equates to **approximately 4 taxis visiting the site in the morning and afternoon peak hours (8 taxi trips)** (it is expected that approximately 6 permanent staff members will be employed at the proposed development during the operational phase. Should they all travel to work with their private vehicles, it would amount to 12 trips a day - 6 trips in morning peak hour and 6 trips out during afternoon peak hour).

Normal construction traffic will also need to be taken into account: civil engineering construction equipment will need to be transported to the site (e.g. excavators, trucks, graders, compaction equipment, cement trucks, etc.), as well as components required for the establishment of the onsite substation power line. Some of this power station equipment may be defined as abnormal loads in terms of the Road Traffic Act (Act No.29 of 1989). Much of this equipment will be kept in the site camp during the construction phase, thus a conservative estimate of **10 construction vehicles a day (20 trips).**

In total, it is estimated that there will be **approximately 32 vehicle trips to and from the solar development site per day**, 16 in the morning and 16 in the afternoon, over the estimated 18 month construction period. Based on the expected number of construction trips generated by the proposed development the existing road network has sufficient capacity to accommodate the additional trips from an operational perspective.

5.3.3 Traffic & Delivery Requirements

All construction and delivery traffic must be **restricted to the designated and approved access**, **haul and internal roads** and no vehicle may drive anywhere else on site. No construction vehicles should be allowed to drive over the vegetation – should a situation arise where a vehicle need access an area where no cleared roads are available, only a single track should be used with approval from the ECO and resident engineer i.e. multiple paths should not be formed.

The PV panels and associated equipment / material must be delivered to a central point on the site and then moved to their assemble point / final position using smaller vehicles (i.e. forklifts or bakkies). This **temporary laydown area** would be used during the construction period to store equipment and construction material before it is installed or used during the development stage of the project. The area must be near the site access, in proximity to the workshop and office areas, to avoid excessive traffic during this period while conveying equipment and materials.

The **traveling speed of all vehicles** (construction, delivery, taxi or private) must be defined and enforced in terms of the Health & Safety requirements, to minimise the generation of dust and minimise impacts on local commuters (particularly on the Divisional Roads to the site). In general, vehicle speeds shall not exceed 40km/h along dust roads or 20km/h when traversing unconsolidated and non-vegetated areas. See Section 5.9 on dust control for further mitigations in this regard.

Vehicles leaving site must be free from excess mud on the wheels and underside of the vehicle. Every effort should be made to brush this excess mud off with a hard brush/broom before water is used for this purpose.

During the construction & delivery period, landowners and land-occupiers along the access route must be informed of the expected extent and duration of the increase in traffic. The engineer must keep a photographic record of the condition of the road prior to the increase in heavy construction vehicles. If any damage is caused to the road by the delivery traffic, the contractor should be responsible for the reinstatement.

It is recommended that construction activities be confined to **normal working hours** (08:00 - 17:00 on workdays). Should the Contractor / Engineer wish to deviate from these work hours, this must be discussed during the Pre-Construction / Initial Environmental Compliance Workshop with the ECO and recorded in the necessary Method Statements.

5.4 CONCRETE MANAGEMENT

Proper concrete management is of utmost importance. Concrete works are likely to be limited to the construction of the on-site sub-station and auxiliary buildings, and are not likely to be extensive (the preferred alternative for the panel support structures will make use of a technology that does not require concrete footings, due to rammed piers/earth screws/rock anchors).

Cement powder has a high alkaline pH that may contaminate and adversely affect both soil pH and water pH negatively. A rapid change in pH can have consequences on the functioning of soil and water organisms, as well as on the botanical component.

The use of ready-mix trucks delivering concrete directly to site is recommended. Mass batching of concrete on site should be limited as far as possible.

The following must be implemented regarding the delivery of concrete to site:

- Trucks should deliver pre-mixed concrete to the site and pour the concrete directly into the prepared excavations.
- When concrete trucks have unloaded, there is a requirement to wash out the inside of the
 concrete drum. Water can be provided to the trucks for this purpose (at the discretion of the
 contractor). Concrete suppliers may NOT dispose of this wash water anywhere on site.
 Trucks should return to their depot for this purpose; and
- Any spillages of concrete outside of the excavations (including haulage routes) must be cleaned up immediately by the supplier.

Where small batching of concrete or plaster takes place on site, the following must be implemented:

- Concrete batching may only take place in areas approved by the ECO (preferably in the Site Camp);
- Concrete mixing areas must have bund walls or a settling pond in order to prevent cement run
 off;
- Once the settling ponds dry out, the concrete must be removed and dispatched to a suitable disposal site. Ideally, all concrete batching should take place on an area that is to be hard surfaced as part of the development (building floor, road or paved area);
- In order to avoid resource contamination, concrete batching should not be located within 60m of a drainage line / watercourse, within a watercourse flood plain or where there is a potential for any spilled concrete to enter a watercourse or groundwater (boreholes).
- If an area outside of the site camp is identified for batching it must first be approved by the ECO and all topsoil must be stripped and stockpiled for re-use.
- Batching at satellite sites must be done on a batching plate i.e. wood or metal sheet, to prevent soil contamination.

5.5 CABLE TRENCHES

Electric cables required to connect the PV Panels to the on-site substation within the boundaries of the Khoi-Sun Development area will be installed underground, within or parallel to the internal road network and/or paths between the panel rows, as far as possible.

Cable trench excavation, cable laying and backfill must be carried out in a systematic and continuous operation, **minimising the length of trench open at any one time** in order to reduce the risk of runoff. Cable trenches must be backfilled in such a manner as to prevent the trench from acting as a ditch or a conduit for water flow. In this regard, cable trenches, as with the internal road network, should follow the contours of the land as far as possible.

The following measures must be implemented by the contractor:

- Trenching shall be kept to a minimum through the use of single trenches for multiple service provision;
- The planning and selection of trench routes shall be undertaken in liaison with the ER and cognisance shall be given to minimising the potential for soil erosion;
- Trench routes with permitted working areas shall be clearly defined and marked with prior to excavation:
- The stripping and separation of topsoil and subsoil shall occur as stipulated by the ER. Soil shall be stockpiled for use as backfilling as directed by the ER with input from the ECO;
- Trench lengths shall be kept as short as practically possible before backfilling and compacting;
- Trenches shall be backfilled to the same level as (or slightly higher to allow for settlement) the surrounding land surface to minimise erosion. Excess soil shall be stockpiled in an area approved by the ER with input from the ECO;
- Stockpiled topsoil must be replaced at the top of excavated trenches; and
- The ER with input from the ECO may require the planting of additional vegetation along trench routes in order to speed up rehabilitation (particularly in areas that may be prone to erosion).

5.6 OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINE

Electricity transmitted to the on-site step-up substation will be transmitted via new overhead transmission power line of 132kV to the existing Schuitdrift Eskom substation, located approximately 200m south-east of the development site. The installed length of the new power line should be kept to a minimum.

Collisions and electrocution of birds from power-line infrastructure are significant causes of mortality for bustards, flamingos, eagles and vultures. The construction of new power lines is therefore a potentially significant source of impact for these species. These impacts can to a large degree be mitigated by configuring the infrastructure in a bird-friendly manner, fitting bird flappers to the new line to reduce collisions, as well as insulating the live infrastructure to avoid electrocution.

5.7 MANAGEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

From a heritage, archaeological and paleontological perspective, there would be no inhibitors to construction of the Boesmanland solar facility. The archaeologist, Smith (2012) stated that the distinct lack of any concentration of cultural material across the property implies that this is not a rich archaeological environment. However the **inselbergs / koppies** (incl. dense quartz scatters) within and outside the solar development area have been identified as potentially sensitive archaeological areas, and should be avoided during construction activities. The dense scatters of white quartz stand out (white stones), so they are easily recognisable. The **Environmental Control Officer should be made aware of the potential occurrence of archaeological resources** associated with these koppies and quartz patches, so that they can be safeguarded during construction.

Should any archaeological and/or paleontological remains, including (but not limited to) fossil bones, fossil shells, coins, indigenous ceramics, colonial ceramics, marine shell heaps, stone artefacts, bone remains, rock art, rock engravings and any antiquity be discovered during construction, the ECO should safeguard these (preferably *in situ*) and report the find immediately to the South African Heritage Resources Council (SAHRA) and the Northern Cape Heritage Resources Authority (NCHRA), so that they are not disturbed further until the necessary guidance and approval have been obtained and the appropriate action (*e.g.* recording, sampling or collection) can be taken by a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist.

5.8 Noise Management

Although the proposed development is located outside of an urban edge, the following noise management requirements are applicable to the construction phase of the Khoi-Sun Development due to its proximity to farm homesteads:

- It is recommended that noise generation be kept to a minimum and that construction activities be confined to normal working hours (08:00 - 17:00 on workdays). Should the Contractor / Engineer wish to deviate from these work hours, this must be discussed during the Pre-Construction / Initial Environmental Compliance Workshop with the ECO and recorded in the necessary Method Statements;
- Provide baffle and noise screens on noisy machines as necessary;
- Provide absorptive linings to the interior of engine compartments;
- Ensure machinery is properly maintained (fasten loose panels, replace defective silencers);
- Switch off machinery immediately when not in use; and
- Reduce impact noise by careful handling.

The Contractor shall be responsible for compliance with the relevant legislation with respect to noise *inter alia* Section 25 of ECA (73 of 1989) and standards applicable to noise nuisances in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (No. 85 of 1993).

5.9 DUST CONTROL & MANAGEMENT

Every effort to minimize dust pollution on the site must be undertaken. The contractor must implement the following measures with regards to the management of dust on site:

The most important dust control measure is achieved by maintaining as much of the vegetative cover as possible (the method of securing panels with minimal excavations supports this measure). The recommendations made with regards to the demarcation of no-go areas are important in this regard.

- Construction vehicles must adhere to speed limits and minimization of haul roads must be implemented;
- During dry, dusty periods haul roads should be kept dampened to prevent excess dust. No potable water may be used for damping haul roads;
- All vehicles used to deliver or remove loose material (sand, soil, gravel etc.) to and from site must be covered with a 60% shade cloth to avoid dust blowing from the vehicle.
- As an alternative, products such as Road Environment Dust Suppressants (REDS) would be recommended in order to minimize the use of water to control dust pollution. This is to be determined by the ECO during construction as required; and
- Exposed stockpile materials must be adequately protected against wind (covered), and should be sited in consideration of the prevailing wind conditions.

Apart from those measures detailed above, the following additional measures must be implemented:

- Dust nuisances shall comply with the applicable standards according to the Occupational Health and Safety (Act No. 85 of 1993). The contractor shall be solely responsible for the control of dust arising from the contractor's operations and for any costs against the Employer for damages resulting from dust;
- The contractor shall take all reasonable measures to minimise the generation of dust as a result of construction activities to the satisfaction of the Engineer's Representative (ER);
- Removal of vegetation shall be avoided until such time as soil stripping is required and similarly exposed surfaces shall be re-vegetated or stabilised as soon as is practically possible;
- Excavation, handling and transport of erodible materials shall be avoided under high wind conditions or when a visible dust plume is present;
- During high wind conditions the site manager, with input from the ECO, must evaluate the situation and make recommendations as to whether dust damping measures are adequate, or whether work should cease altogether until the wind speed drops to an acceptable level.
- Where possible, soil stockpiles shall be located in sheltered areas where they are not exposed
 to the erosive effects of the wind. Where erosion of stockpiles becomes a problem, erosion
 control measures shall be implemented at the discretion of the site manager.
- Vehicle speeds shall not exceed 40km/h along dust roads or 20km/h when traversing unconsolidated and non-vegetated areas.
- Appropriate dust suppression measures shall be used when dust generation is unavoidable, e.g. dampening with water or use of REDS, particularly during prolonged periods of dry weather in summer. Such measures shall also include the use of temporary stabilising measures (e.g. chemical soil binders, straw, brush packs, clipping etc.).
- Straw stabilisation shall be applied at a rate of one bale per 10m² and harrowed into the top 100mm of top material for all completed earthworks (i.e. all those areas that are not hard surfaced as part of the Solar Facility). This is only relevant to areas disturbed through the construction activities (such as cable trenches) and not areas where vegetation remains intact.
- Should water be used for dust suppression on gravel roads, it must be of a quality compliant with the General Special Effluent Standards (31/03/2009): Temperature: max.25°C, pH: between 5.5 & 7.5 and conductivity: not be increased more than 15% above the intake water & not exceed 250 milli-Siemens per metre (determined at 25°C). The water used for dust suppression is likely to be borehole water / water from Southern Farms, and not treated effluent. However the water quality standards mentioned will be taken note of.

5.10 SECURITY FENCING

During construction it may be necessary to fence in the Contractor's Site Camp (to avoid theft of construction equipment and materials) and the PV Laydown Area/s (to avoid theft of the solar panels and associated infrastructure). These temporary fencing will be restricted to these areas and be removed at the end of the construction phase. The completed solar facility will be fenced with a permanent parameter electrified fence in order to prevent theft of infrastructure during operation. Recommendations made by the ecologist applicable to the erection of this permanent fence are as follows:

• The fencing should be constructed in manner which allows for the passage of small and medium sized mammals, at least at strategic places, such as along drainage lines or other areas of dense vegetation. Steel palisade fencing (20cm gaps minimum) is a good option in this regard as it allows most medium-sized mammals to pass between the bars, but remains an effective obstacle for humans. Alternatively, the lowest strand or bottom of the fence

should be elevated to 15 cm above the ground at least at strategic places to allow for fauna to pass under the fence.

- Electrified strands should not be within 20cm of the ground, because tortoises retreat into their shells when electrocuted and eventually succumb from repeated shocks.
- Only the facility itself should be fenced-off.
- Any security lighting associated with the fencing should be kind to a minimum and be of the low-UV emitting kind that attracts less insects.

The final fencing plan should be submitted to the ECO for comments and approval.

5.11 BLASTING

Due to the fact that the PV panel mountings will be drilled / rammed into the earth and will thus not require extensive excavation for foundations, it is unlikely that blasting will be required. Should blasting however be required, the following measures must be implemented:

- No blasting may take place within 50m of a borehole without approval of a suitably qualified engineering geologist. Preventative mitigation actions could include installing PVC casing and screens in potentially affected boreholes before blasting, while damaged boreholes will have to be re-drilled (this scenario is however highly unlikely, as blasting will probably not take place);
- A current and valid authorisation shall be obtained from the relevant authorities and copied to the ER prior to any blasting activity;
- A method statement shall be required for any blasting related activities;
- All laws and regulations applicable to blasting activities shall be adhered to at all times;
- A qualified and registered blaster shall supervise all blasting and rock splitting operations at all times:
- The contractor shall ensure that appropriate pre-blast monitoring records are in place (i.e. photographic and inspection records of structures in close proximity to the blast area);
- The contractor shall allow for good quality vibration monitoring equipment and record keeping on site at all times during blasting operations;
- The contractor shall ensure that emergency services are notified, in writing, a minimum of 24 hours prior to any blasting activities commencing on site;
- The contractor shall take necessary precautions to prevent damage to special features and the general environment, which includes the removal of fly-rock. Environmental damage caused by blasting / drilling shall be repaired at the contractor's expense to the satisfaction of the ER and the ECO;
- The contractor shall ensure that adequate warning is provided immediately prior to all blasting.
 All signals shall also be clearly given;
- The contractor shall use blast mats for cover material during blasting. Topsoil may not be used as blast cover;
- During demolition, the contractor shall ensure, where possible, that trees in the area are not damaged;
- Appropriate blast shaping techniques shall be employed to aid in the landscaping of blast areas, and a method statement to be approved by the ER, shall be required in this regard; and
- At least one week prior to blasting, the relevant occupants/owners of surrounding land shall be notified by the contractor and any concerns addressed. Buildings within the potential damaging zone of the blast shall be surveyed, preferably with the owner present and any cracks or latent defects pointed out and recorded either using photographs or video.

Failing to do so shall render the contractor fully liable for any claim of whatsoever nature, which may arise. The contractor shall indemnify the employer in this regard.

5.12 RAMMING OPERATIONS

It is envisioned that ramming will be the preferred method of installing the panel support structures. The following measures must be implemented in this regard. Please refer to the engineering report for further detail in this regard.

- The contractor shall submit a method statement detailing his proposals to prevent pollution (from hydraulic fluids, fuel or oil leaks) during ramming operations. This shall be approved by the ER (with input from the ECO) prior to the onset of any ramming operations;
- The contractor shall take all reasonable measures to limit dust generation as a result of ramming operations (also see Section 5.9 addressing management of dust);
- Noise and dust nuisances shall comply with the applicable standards according to the Occupational Health and Safety (Act No. 85 of 1993);
- Any areas or structures damaged by the ramming and associated activities shall be rehabilitated by the contractor to the satisfaction of the ER with input from the ECO.

5.13 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT & EROSION CONTROL PLAN

Given the relatively flat nature of the site and the coarse sandy nature of the substrate, erosion risk is likely to be low at the Khoi-Sun Development site, and provided that vegetation clearing is kept to a minimum, few measures to combat erosion will need to be implemented (Todd, 2012).

Stormwater management is covered under the construction phase management, but aspects thereof will also be **applicable to the Operational Phase**. It is important that the engineers responsible for the detailed design of the Stormwater Systems must take requirements of this EMPr into consideration, as well as the recommendations by the participating specialists.

Due to the extremely low annual rainfall experienced in the Skuitdrift area, the risk of water erosion is relatively low. The preferred method of installing the panel mounting structure via ramming / drilling results in a small disturbance footprint, and thus allows arrays to be constructed over the wash lines and high sensitivity areas, while having a minimal effect on the vegetation, mitigating the chances of erosion. It is however important to recognise that any plant removal and soil disturbance during construction may result in erosion. In addition, the presence of the solar panel arrays, buildings and associated hard surfaces would potentially generate a large amount of runoff, which could impact the drainage patterns of the site and increase the risk of erosion. This may impact downstream riparian and wetland habitats if a lot of silt enters the drainage systems. Although the effects would probably only become apparent during the operational phase, the impact stem directly from the construction phase and suitable mitigation measures will also need to be applied at this stage. Cumulative impacts relating to erosion would only occur if alien plants are not controlled and if regular erosion monitoring and timeous rectification methods are not applied.

All buildings must be fitted with guttering to **capture all rainwater runoff off roofs to be stored in rainwater tanks**. Stormwater which cannot be captured via this system must be channelled into energy dissipating structures to spread the water and slow it down to allow infiltration into the soil and reduce the risk of erosion. Such dissipation structures may be temporary or permanent and be either moulded from precast concrete, loosely packed rock or perforated bags filled with stone.

Rainfall onto the solar panels will be welcomed due to its cleaning effect. The panel surfaces will be installed at a relatively high incline with gaps between panels, which will reduce the energy of

falling raindrops, while avoiding water build up on the panel surfaces. In addition, the tracking system on which the panels will be mounted, will ensure that raindrops leaving the solar panel surfaces will not drop onto the same ground surface / area all this time.

The following requirements/recommendations must be considered/implemented for stormwater management and erosion control (as well as those detailed under Topsoil Handling (Section 5.2), Cable Trenching (Section 5.5) and Dust Control & Management (Section 5.9) above, as well as Protection of Hydrological Resource (Section 5.14) and the Rehabilitation Plan (Section 5.20):

- Particularly near the drainage lines on the site precautions should be taken to avoid excessive disturbance and re-vegetation should take place as soon as possible after construction to avoid water and wind erosion;
- Wherever possible, roads and tracks should be constructed so as to **run along land contours**;
- All roads and tracks running down the slope must have **water diversion structures** present to redirect runoff and dissipate the energy of the water so as to reduce erosion potential;
- Sections of the access and internal road network that are to cross the washes and the drainage line, should do so by way of Low-Level-River-Crossing (LLRC) structures (causeways or drifts);
- Any extensive cleared areas that are no longer or not required for construction activities should be re-seeded with locally-sourced seed of locally-occurring indigenous species.
 Bare areas can also be packed with brush removed from other parts of the site to encourage natural vegetation regeneration and limit erosion;
- All construction vehicles should remain on properly demarcated roads. No construction vehicles should be allowed to drive over the vegetation except where no cleared roads are available. In such cases a single track should be used and multiple paths should not be formed;
- A **method statement** shall be developed and submitted to the engineer to deal with erosion mitigation and prevention prior to bulk earthworks operations commencing.
- The concentration of stormwater run-off must be avoided at all costs;
- All stormwater runoff drains alongside the access road and internal road network which may channel runoff into nearby drainages must be constructed with "erosion-proof" outlets as designed by the engineer with input from the ECO – the engineer is to determine whether formal drainage is in fact necessary;
- During construction, the contractor shall protect areas susceptible to erosion by installing
 necessary temporary and permanent drainage works, as well as anti-erosion measures in
 areas susceptible to erosion (the washes and drainage line) as soon as possible and by taking
 other measures necessary to prevent the surface water from being concentrated in streams
 and from scouring the slopes, banks or other areas.
- Any erosion channels that develop during the construction period or during the vegetation establishment period shall be backfilled and compacted and the areas restored to a proper condition.
- The principles of **sustainable urban drainage systems** should be followed for all panel footings and hard surfaces, namely:
 - o the runoff should not be concentrated by piped/trenched systems or similar, and
 - runoff should preferably be directed towards soak-aways or depressions in the ground.
- No goods, building material or equipment shall be stored in proximity to the washes / drainage lines:
- Protective measures must be installed where there are possibilities of surface water sheet flow causing erosion (compacted areas etc.);
- Stabilisation of cleared areas to prevent and control erosion shall be actively managed. The method of stabilisation shall be determined in consultation with the ECO and the ER.

Consideration and provision must be made for the following methods (or a combination thereof):

- Brush cut packing and/or mulch or chip cover;
- Straw stabilising;
- Watering;
- Re-vegetation and/or sodding;
- Hand seed-sowing and/or hydro seeding of locally-occurring indigenous species (see plant species list attached);
- Soil binders and anti-erosion compounds;
- Gabion bolsters & mattresses for flow attenuation;
- Geofabric and/or hessian covers;
- Log / pole fencing.
- Traffic and movement over stabilised areas shall be restricted and controlled and damage to stabilised areas shall be repaired and maintained to the satisfaction of the ECO.
- Anti-erosion compounds consist of all organic or inorganic material to bind soil particles together, and shall be environmentally friendly and effective products able to suppress dust and erosion. The application rate shall conform to the manufacturer's recommendations. The material used shall be approved by the ER with input from the ECO.
- During operation, regular monitoring for erosion must be undertaken (particularly in the drainage line and red dune areas) to ensure that no erosion problems are occurring at the site as a result of the roads and other infrastructure. All erosion problems observed should be rectified as soon as possible;
- All maintenance vehicles to remain on the demarcated roads.

5.14 Protection of Hydrological Resources

The is a sensitive drainage line which traverses the solar site, as well as several minor washes throughout the development area. Although the solar facility footprint avoids this sensitive drainage line with a suitable buffer and the solar arrays are to be installed on driven / rammed piers/poles over the washes, the following requirements are applicable for the long-term protection of the these watercourses (please refer to Section 5.13 above as well):

- Sections of the access and internal road network that are to cross the drainage line and washes, should do so by way of Low-Level-River-Crossing (LLRC) structures (causeways or drifts), as these structures are known to have the least possible impact on watercourses in arid areas;
- The major drainage line and its associated buffer area, to be avoided by the solar development footprint, must be demarcated by the ecologist and ECO as no-go areas, as part of the pre-construction activities for the site.
- Sections of the abovementioned major drainage line and the washes outside of the solar development area should also be demarcated as no-go areas by the ECO;
- The parameter fencing should be constructed in manner which allows for the passage of small and medium sized mammals, at least at strategic places, such as along drainage lines and washes;
- Implement practices to reduce water use during construction;
- Any wastewater generated during construction should be discharged to a temporary holding tank for disposal, and not into the drainage lines. The method of disposal of construction wastewater must be approved by the ECO;
- The spillage of fuels, lubricants and other chemicals should be prevented by providing bunded and impervious storage areas, located well away from the drainage lines;

• Temporary and permanent ablution / sanitation facilities may not be located in proximity to the on-site drainage line;

- During Operation the drainage lines within the solar facility must be regularly inspected and any impediments / obstructions removed immediately to allow natural water flow beneath the installed solar frames.
- In terms of the protection groundwater resource infrastructure, no blasting may take place within 50m of any borehole without approval of a suitably qualified engineering geologist.

5.15 FIRE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION

As mentioned above in Section 3.5 above, it is the landowner's responsibility to develop and maintain firebreaks as well as be sufficiently prepared to combat veld fires.

The solar development site is arid, with sparse vegetation cover and fires are not a natural phenomenon in the area. However, under exceptional circumstances, such as following years of very high rainfall, sufficient biomass may build up to carry fires. Therefore, management of plant biomass within the site should be part of the management of the facility. Grazing by livestock is the simplest and most ecologically sound way to manage plant biomass and is recommended the preferred method to manage plant biomass at the site. Alternative management practices include brush-cutting.

The following points must however be considered with regards to fire protection on site:

- Fires should **only be allowed within fire-safe demarcated areas** (preferably within the site camp);
- No fuelwood collection should be allowed on-site;
- The **total removal of all invasive alien vegetation** should take place in order to decrease the fire risk Although there were few invasive plants identified during the environmental process, these may establish to a degree as a result of site disturbance;
- Cigarette butts may not be thrown in the veld, but must be disposed of correctly. The
 contractor, with input from the ECO, must designate smoking areas (in compliance with the
 Tobacco Products Control Amendment Act 63 of 2008) with suitable receptacles for disposal;
- In case of an emergency, the **contact details of the local fire and emergency services** must be readily available;
- Contractors must ensure that basic fire fighting equipment and suitably qualified/experienced personal are available on site at all times, as per the specifications defined by the health and safety representative / consultant;
- The fire risk on site is a point of discussion that must take place as part of the pre-construction compliance workshop and the environmental induction training prior to commencement of construction; and
- The contractor must also comply with the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act with regards to fire protection.

5.16 SANITATION DURING CONSTRUCTION

Portable chemical ablution facilities must be made available for the use by construction staff for the duration of the construction period. The following must be implemented in this regard:

- Toilet and washing facilities must be available to the site personnel at all times;
- These facilities must be situated within the site camp and away from any washes or drainage lines:
- One toilet for every 15 personnel is required;
- The facilities must be serviced on a regular basis to prevent any overflow or spillage;

• The servicing contractor must dispose of the waste in an approved manner (e.g. via the municipal waste water treatment system);

- The ECO must be provided with the service providers' details and the service schedule for the site;
- The toilets should be secured to ensure that they do not blow over in windy conditions;
- All toilet facilities must be removed from site on completion of the contract period, and;
- Should the construction period be interrupted by a builders break, the toilets should be emptied prior to the break.

Sanitation during operation is discussed above in Section 4.7.

5.17 FUEL STORAGE & WASTE MANAGEMENT

The above ground storage of fuel is subject to authorization in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA as amended 2006) if more than 30m³ is stored on site at any one time.

Should a temporary storage of hazardous or toxic materials / liquids (chemicals, fuels, lubricants and oils) be required, the Contractor must ensure that he/she complies with legislation and that the following measures are in place:

- Temporary fuel storage must take place within the contractors site camp in an area approved by the ECO;
- No storage of fuel may take place on any other portion of the site;
- All hazardous materials should be stored in the appropriate manner to prevent contamination
 of the site. Any accidental chemical, fuel and oil spills that occur at the site should be cleaned
 up immediately in the appropriate manner, as related to the nature of the spill.
- Mobile fuel units used to refuel plant on site must make use of drip trays when refuelling;
- Storage facilities may not be located within 60m of a the on-site drainage lines or where there is a potential for any spilled fuel to enter a watercourse or groundwater;
- Fuel storage facilities should be located on flat ground. No cut and fill should take place immediately on or adjacent to fuel storage areas;
- All storage tanks should be double lined and be ISO 9001 certified;
- All storage tanks must be enclosed by bund walls:
- Bund walls must be constructed to contain at least 110% of the total capacity of the storage tanks;
- Bund walls must be constructed of impermeable material or lined to ensure that petroleum products cannot escape;
- A suitable material should be placed in the base of the bund walls to soak up any accidental spillages;
- The tanks should be locked and secured when not in use;
- Automatic shut-off nozzles are required on all dispensing units;
- Storage tanks should be drained within one week of completion of activities (only unused fuel
 can be used by the contractor on other work sites or returned to the supplier). If the
 construction program extends over the Christmas shutdown, the contractor must ensure that
 storage tanks are emptied prior to this period;
- All storage tanks, containers and related equipment should be regularly maintained to ensure safe storage and dispensing of material. The Engineer is to sign off on the condition and integrity of the storage tanks;
- Defective hoses, valves and containment structures should be promptly repaired;
- Vehicle and equipment fuelling should be undertaken on a hard impermeable surface, over drip pans or bund walls to ensure spilled fuel or toxic liquids is captured and cleaned up, and;

 The area must be totally rehabilitated on completion of the contract and all contaminated material must be carefully removed and disposed of at a licensed dumping site for that purpose.

5.17.1 Construction Waste Management

Litter management

Wind and scavenger proof bins must be installed at the Contractor Site Camp and must be emptied on a weekly basis.

Construction Rubble and Waste

All construction rubble must be disposed of at an approved site established and registered for this purpose (no construction rubble may be spoiled anywhere on site). NO construction rubble may be used as fill in landscaping or any other areas on site.

Scrap Metal

Recycling of scrap metal is recommended. Scrap metal must be disposed of off-site at suitable facilities (e.g. municipal dump registered for this purpose).

Hazardous Waste

All hazardous waste (including chemicals, bitumen, fuel, lubricants, oils, paints etc.) shall be disposed of at an approved / registered hazardous-waste landfill site. The Contractor shall provide disposal certificates to the ECO.

Used oil and grease must be removed from site to an approved used oil recycling company.

Under NO circumstances may any hazardous waste be spoiled on the site.

Where possible, the maintenance of construction and delivery vehicles should take place off-site.

5.18 THEFT AND OTHER CRIME

An increase in crime during the construction phase is often a concern. In the case of the Khoi-Sun Development, this is likely to be negligible due to the extremely remote nature of the site. Theft and other crime associated with construction sites is not only a concern for surrounding residents, but also the developer and the contractor. Considering this, contractors need to be proactive in order to curtail theft and crime on and resulting from the construction site. It is recommended that the contractor develop a **jobsite security plan** prior to commencement of construction. This jobsite security plan should take into account protection of the construction site from both internal and external crime elements, as well as the protection of surrounding communities from internal crime elements. All incidents of theft or other crime should be reported the South African Police Service, no matter how seemingly insignificant. A copy of the jobsite **security plan should be included in the first environmental control report to be submitted to the competent authority.**

It is likely that the Contractor's Site Camp and the PV Laydown area/s will be fenced with a temporary fence to avoid theft during construction. Additional security measures during construction will include cctv camera surveillance and one/two security guards.

The following considerations are relevant in this regard (refer to Section 5.10 above details of the facility permanent fencing):

- All portable construction equipment and material must be locked away within the Contractor's Site Camp overnight and during holiday periods;
- Fuel storages tanks must be locked when not in use;

• All unassembled / un-installed PV materials must be locked within the fenced Laydown areas overnight and during holiday periods.

 The minimum amount of lighting should be used at night and this should be of the low-UV emitting kind that attracts less insects.

It must be noted the **collection**, **hunting or harvesting of any plants or animals** at the site is **strictly forbidden**, and thus any person found undertaking any of these actions will be considered guilty of committing a crime. Any incidents of such crimes on nature must be reported to the ECO immediately.

5.19 VEGETATION CLEARING & PLANT RESCUE PLAN

5.19.1 Vegetation Clearing

The objective of mitigation for any development is to firstly avoid and minimise impacts where possible and where these cannot be completely avoided, to compensate for the negative impacts of the development on vegetation and animal habitats, and to maximise re-vegetation and rehabilitation of disturbed areas. Some loss of vegetation is an inevitable consequence of the development of the Khoi-Sun Development and vegetation clearing required for the PV panel laydown area, roads, buildings etc. could impact listed plant species, as well as high-biodiversity plant communities. Vegetation clearing will also lead to habitat loss for fauna and potentially the loss of sensitive faunal species, habitats and ecosystems.

A number of nationally and provincially protected species occur within the site, including *Hoodia* gordonii, Boscia foetida, Acacia erioloba and Aloe dichotoma (see photos, descriptions and location co-ordinates in Section 15). A pre-construction survey of the final development footprint will need to be conducted to ascertain the identity and exact number of individuals of protected species affected by the development and for which permits are required for their translocation or removal.

The following recommendations apply to vegetation clearing activities for the solar facility:

- A single integrated permit, which covers the removal of nationally or provincially listed species
 permitting requirements, as well as meets TOPS regulations, must be obtained from the
 Northern Cape Department of Environmental Affairs & Nature Conservation (DEANC) permit
 office in Kimberly prior to the any vegetation removal or plant translocation activities;
- Vegetation clearing must be kept to a minimum. If possible, the ground grass layer should be left intact and only the larger woody plants cleared or trimmed. All areas to be cleared should be clearly demarcated, prior to the commencement of clearing activities;
- Vegetation cleared / removed as part of the site clearing activities must be stockpiled for use during the re-vegetation and rehabilitation stage for brush-packing. The location of the vegetation stockpile can be in the same area as the topsoil stockpile, as designated in consultation with the ECO;
- Only those individuals of protected plant species directly within the development footprint should be cleared. Those which can be safely left intact (e.g. below or between the solar panel arrays) must not be disturbed;
- Any vegetation clearing that needs to take place as part of maintenance activities (during construction and operation phases) should be done in an environmentally friendly manner, using the most effective methodology suited to the target species (herbicides and/or manual clearing).

5.19.2 Plant and Animal Rescue & Protection

Considering the relatively high number of national and provincially protected plant species that may occur within the solar development area, a search and rescue operation for protected species, which could survive translocation such as *Hoodia*, *Euphorbia* and *Aloe*, should be conducted prior to construction (see Section 15 for photographs on important species).

The abovementioned integrated permit application, to be obtained from the DEANC office, must make provision for the translocation of the abovementioned listed plant species.

Rescue operations should ensure that translocatable plant species (*Hoodia* (approx.5 plants) & *Aloe sp.* (approx. 3 plants)) are carefully removed from the ground with their root systems intact, before being translocated and planted to a similar habitat outside the development footprint as soon as possible, as designated in consultation with the ecological specialist and ECO.

Any animals (including snakes, tortoises and lizards) directly threatened by the clearing or construction activities should be removed to a safe location outside of the construction area by the ECO or other suitably qualified person.

5.20 Re-Vegetation & Habitat Rehabilitation Plan

Re-vegetation and rehabilitation activities should commence at the end of the construction phase and continue into the operation phase. A rehabilitation plan must be developed within 6 months of commencement of construction and must define the rehabilitation of natural areas in the construction, operation, as well as decommissioning phases of the project. This rehabilitation plan must be developed by a suitably experienced consultant in consultation with the ecological specialist and ECO. This plan must include a detailed programme / action timeframes for the implementation of the rehabilitation plan.

This rehabilitation plan should also take the climatic and area-related water-restrictions into account, as well as conditions of the authorisation, the provisions of this EMPr and the recommendations made by all participating specialists.

Besides the rehabilitation of area disturbed during the construction phase, the plan must make provision for the rehabilitation of all areas of the site not affected by the proposed solar facility and the long term maintenance thereof. This plan must include the following recommendations, which should be updated based on site conditions and construction progress at the time:

- Bare soil should be kept to a minimum, and at least some grass or low shrub cover should be encouraged under the panels, and surrounding the auxiliary buildings;
- Any cleared areas within the development footprint that are no longer or not required during construction activities should covered be with a layer of topsoil (from the topsoil stockpile) and be brush-packed with vegetation from the vegetation stockpile (see Section 5.19 above) and/or re-seeded with locally-sourced seed of suitable species. Brush-packing with locally cleared indigenous vegetation will allow local plant seed to enter the topsoil and allow the re-establishment / re-generation of vegetation on these bare areas, as well as limit erosion (see Section 5.13 above for further details);
- The verges of completed roads and tracks must be covered with a layer of topsoil and brushpacked to encourage vegetation re-generation and limit erosion;
- Regular monitoring for erosion must be conducted across the site (particularly near constructed roads and infrastructure) to ensure that no erosion problems are occurring. Rectification of erosion problems should include the brush-packing and re-vegetation methods as far as possible;
- Due to the remote nature of the facility the screening of the facility with vegetation to minimise visual impacts / intrusion is not deemed necessary;

• Regular monitoring to ensure that alien plants do not establish or increase as a result of the disturbance (see Section 5.21 below).

5.21 ALIEN PLANT MANAGEMENT PLAN

As confirmed by the ecological specialist (Todd, 2012), the abundance of alien plant species at the solar development site is very low, which can be ascribed firstly to the aridity of the site, as well as the low rainfall in the area.

Disturbance created at the site during construction could leave the site vulnerable to alien plant invasion. The invasion of alien vegetation could result in the decrease in biodiversity of indigenous species, as well as affect ecosystem function and hydrology, especially in cases where species such as *Prosopis* reach dense levels of infestation (see attached annexure for photograph and description of this alien species for easy identification).

The following recommendations apply to the management of alien vegetation:

- Soil disturbance and vegetation clearing should be kept to minimum i.e. bare soil should be kept to a minimum and at least some grass or low shrub cover should be encouraged under the panels.
- Cleared areas that are not going to be used should be brush-packed with indigenous vegetation (clearing and stockpiled during site preparation activities) and/or re-vegetated with indigenous species.
- Regular monitoring must be conducted to ensure that alien plants are not establishing or increasing as a result of the disturbance that has taken place. Monitoring and alien clearing programme / timeframes should be as follows:
 - 8 months after start of construction;
 - o Follow-up at 3 months before end of construction, and then
 - Once annually during the operation phase.
- All alien plants found to be present at the site should be controlled using the best practice
 methods for the specific species present, as determined with guidance from the ecological
 specialist and ECO.

5.22 OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The solar facility development has been designed to be as concentrated / condensed as possible to keep it as small as is viably possible, and thereby limit the disturbance area associated with its construction and operation. As such, designated no open space areas have been included in the development design. However, the major drainage line and the rock outcrops / koppies avoided by the solar development footprint, could be considered and managed as pockets of 'open space' with the development area.

The management of these no-go / 'open space' areas should essentially include the following three aspects:

- As no-go open space areas, access through the drainage line and onto the koppies must be controlled (i.e. avoided as far as possible), in order to maintain the integrity of ecological, agriculture and archaeological resources found there. The no-go area demarcation (e.g. danger tape, signage etc.) implanted during pre-construction, must be maintained throughout the construction and rehabilitation phases.
- During the rehabilitation and operation phases alien plant invasion monitoring of these 'open space areas' must be undertaken on a 6-monthly basis and all alien plants found must be destroyed (ring-barking) and/or removed (cut down and herbicide applied).

The Low-Level-River-Crossings (LLRC) which allow the crossing of the major drainage line by
the internal road network, must be inspected on a regular (2-monthly) basis to ensure that no
erosion is occurring and that there is no obstruction of the natural water flow. Any evidence of
erosion found during this inspections must be rectified immediately and the cause of erosion
pro-actively sought and remedied to avoid recurrence

Any impacts arising from within or associated with the development footprint i.e. erosion or invasion of alien vegetation etc., and entering the open space areas outside the solar facility, must be rectified immediately. The parameter of the solar facility must be monitored on a regular basis to ensure that these impacts are timeously identified and not allowed to re-occur.

6. OPERATIONAL PHASE

The following environmental requirements are to be adopted and implemented during the operation phase:

6.1 PV PANEL MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

Due to their nature, once installed, the photovoltaic panels will not require intensive maintenance other than periodic cleaning, greasing of bearings and inspection. The key maintenance activity is the cleaning / washing of the panels in order to remove dust and maintain optimum power generation.

6.1.1 Cleaning of PV Panels

Any rainfall on the solar panels would be welcomed due to its cleaning effect, but as mentioned before, the annual predicted rainfall is very low. An estimated 10 - 18kl of water per day should be required for the cleaning of solar panels and for other operational phase requirements. This should take place using water from lawful sources on site or from the rainwater collection / storage systems. To further reduce the use of water at the solar facility, the use of alternative panel cleaning methods should be investigated. The use of robotic PV cleaners or high-pressure/low volume water cleaners, as well as compressed air can be considered, should the technology become commercially viable and available during the lifespan of the project.

No detergents may be used for washing purposes. Care should be taken that the wash-water does not cause any erosion.

As mentioned above, it is recommended that bare soil be kept to a minimum and at least some grass or low shrub cover be left intact between tracks and under and between the solar panel arrays and rows.

Indeed, water used in the cleaning process is likely to encourage the growth of natural vegetation around the panel arrays and rows, which will require routine brush-cutting / trimming / mowing to avoid vegetation shading the panels, interfering with tracking mechanisms or the risk of fires. Under no circumstances should vegetation beneath or around the panel arrays and rows be cleared / removed entirely, as this will result in significant erosion and associated sand-blasting of infrastructure. Due to stunted nature of the xerophytic vegetation, it is unlikely that this will need to be done often. Biomass produced from these trimming activities could be chipped and used as mulch under the PV panels (to increase stormwater infiltration and reduce erosion).

6.1.2 Other Operation / Maintenance Requirements

Lubricants used to grease bearing of panel tracking systems should be conservatively used to
avoid leakage or spills. Any leaks or spills that occur during maintenance operations must be
cleaned up immediately and the contaminated soil / material disposed on at a registered
disposal site for hazardous materials.

• The **tracks / pathways** (<4m width) between the PV panel rows used for cleaning and maintenance of the panels, should be maintained as single tracks and regularly brush-cut and/or mowed to allow reasonable access.

- Access roads and the internal road network must be maintained in a condition that allows for reasonable access and minimised erosion potential. All drainage, stormwater management and erosion control structures must be maintained to ensure their proper functioning.
- Regular monitoring for erosion to ensure that no erosion problems are occurring at the site as a result of the roads and other infrastructure. All erosion problems observed should be rectified as soon as possible.
- All maintenance vehicles to remain on the demarcated roads.
- The **septic tank**, associated with the ablution facilities at the on-site sub-station / maintenance buildings, must be maintained in full working condition.
- The **parameter security fence** should be routinely patrolled to ensure that is still allows for the passage of small and medium sized mammals, at least at strategic places (drainage lines etc.), and that the electrified strands are not causing animal electrocution.
- No unauthorized persons should be allowed onto the site.
- The maintenance of the transmission line infrastructure must retain the bird-friendly design features (bird-flappers and insulation). Any bird electrocution and collision events that occur should be recorded, including the species affected and the date. If repeated collisions occur within the same area, then further mitigation and avoidance measures may need to be implemented.
- Staff present during the operational phase should receive environmental education so as to ensure that that **no hunting**, **killing or harvesting of plants and animals** occurs.
- All alien plants present at the site should be controlled at least twice a year using the best practice methods for the species present.
- Bare soil should be kept to a minimum, and at least some grass or low shrub cover should be encouraged under the panels.
- No pets (cats and dogs) should be allowed within the solar facility.

6.2 Maintenance of Hydrological Resources During Operation

The following management measures associated with the on-site water resources should be implemented during the operational phase of the PV facility:

- The major drainage line, and its associated buffer area, which traverses the solar development must be maintained as a no-go area as far as possible. However, alien plant monitoring must be undertaken within this drainage line every six (6) months and all alien plants removed and/or killed. In addition, the Low-Level-River-Crossings (LLRC) which allow the crossing of the drainage line by the internal road network, must be inspected on a regular basis to ensure that no erosion is occurring and that there is no obstruction of the natural water flow. Any evidence of erosion found during this inspections must be rectified immediately and the cause of erosion pro-actively sought and remedied to avoid recurrence;
- The washes that traverse the solar facility and are straddled by the solar arrays/rows must be
 inspected on a regular, routine basis to remove any obstructions which could impede natural
 water flow or damage the solar infrastructure. As above, the LLRCs associated with the
 internal road network must be included in the inspections, and evidence of erosion found must
 be rectified immediately and the cause of erosion pro-actively sought and remedied to avoid
 recurrence;
- Implement practices to reduce water use i.e. conservation use of water used to clean panels etc.;

 Any wastewater generated during operation should be disposed of in an efficient septic tank or conservancy tank system and removed to a registered Wastewater Treatment Works on a regular basis; and

 The spillage of fuels, lubricants and other chemicals should be prevented by providing bunded and impervious storage areas. These will however be extremely limited, if any, due to the nature of Photovoltaic Power generation.

6.3 OPERATION WASTE MANAGEMENT

The following items are to be implemented with regard to waste management during the operational phase of the project.

Litter management

Wind and scavenger proof bins must be installed at the maintenance / control buildings and on-site substation and must be emptied on a weekly basis.

Scrap Metal

Recycling of scrap metal is recommended. Scrap metal must be disposed of off-site at suitable facilities.

Hazardous Waste

All hazardous waste (including bitumen, fuel, oils, paints etc.) used during the operation and maintenance of the solar facility shall be disposed of at an approved/registered hazardous-waste landfill site. The Contractor shall provide disposal certificates to the Site Manager.

Used oil and grease must be removed from site to an approved used oil recycling company.

Under NO circumstances may any hazardous waste be spoiled on the site.

Where possible, the servicing of operation/maintenance vehicles should take place off-site.

7. CLOSURE & DECOMMISSIONING PHASE

Within a period of at least 12 months prior to the decommissioning of the site a Decommissioning Method Statement or Plan must be prepared and submitted to the Local Planning Authority (Kai!Garib Municipality), as well as the Provincial and National Environmental Authorities (the Northern Cape Department of Environmental Affairs & Nature Conservation (DEANC) and the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)) for input and approval. This method statement must provide detail pertaining to site restoration, soil replacement, landscaping, pro-active conservation, and a timeframe for implementation. Furthermore, this Method Statement / Plan must comply with any legislation and guidelines that may be applicable at the time.

Two possible scenarios are considered for this decommissioning phase, as follows:

7.1 SCENARIO 1: TOTAL CLOSURE & DECOMMISSIONING OF SOLAR FACILITY

If the decision is taken at the end of the project lifespan (30-years) to totally decommission the solar facility i.e. make the land available for an alternative land use, the following should take place:

 All concrete and solar infrastructure etc. must be removed from the solar site i.e. panels, support structures etc.;

• The holes where the panel support structures are removed must be levelled and covered with subsoil and topsoil;

- Tracks that are to be utilised for the future land use operations should be left in-situ. The remainder of the tracks to be removed (ripped), topsoil replaced and brush-packed to encourage re-vegetation and minimise erosion;
- All auxiliary buildings and access points should be demolished and rubble removed, unless
 they can be used for/by the future land use. The competent authority may prescribe that the
 landscaping and underground infrastructure i.e. foundations be left in situ;
- The underground electric cables must be removed, if they cannot be used in the future land use;
- All material (cables, PV Panels etc.) must be re-used or recycled wherever possible.
 Functional panels that still produce sufficient output should be donated to local schools and clinics upon facility closure and decommissioning; and
- The site must be brush-packed, replanted and/or seeded with locally sourced indigenous vegetation (as prescribed by the competent authorities) to allow re-vegetation and rehabilitation of the site (see plant species list attached).

7.2 SCENARIO 2: PARTIAL DECOMMISSIONING / UPGRADE OF SOLAR FACILITY

Should more advanced technology become available it may be decided to continue to use the site as a renewable energy / photovoltaic / solar facility. Should this be the case, it is likely that much of the existing infrastructure will be re-used in the upgraded facility.

All infrastructure that will no longer be required for the upgraded facility must be removed as described in Scenario 1 above. The remainder of the infrastructure should remain in place or upgraded depending on the requirements of the new facility. As described for Scenario 1 above, the function PV panels that are still capable of producing sufficient output, could be donated to local schools and clinics. Any upgrades to the facility at this stage must comply with relevant legislation and guidelines.

8. MONITORING AND AUDITING

Environmental audits are fundamental in ensuring the implementation of the management actions contained within this EMPr, environmental sustainable development and maintenance of the Khoi-Sun Development. The number and reporting periods for these environmental audits will likely be prescribed by national Department of Environmental Affairs, should the Khoi-Sun Development be authorised.

The results of these audits must be submitted to:

- The operators of the facility;
- The local authority (Kai!Garib Municipality);
- The provincial environmental authority: Department of Environmental Affairs & Nature Conservation (DEANC);
- The national environmental authority: Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA); and
- Eskom.

The results of the audit must be recorded in an environmental audit report and any non-compliance must be formally recorded, along with the response-action required or undertaken. Each non-compliance incident report must be issued to the relevant person(s), so that the appropriate corrective and preventative action is taken within an agreed upon timeframe.

8.1 GENERAL CONSTRUCTION MONITORING

The ECO is responsible for environmental monitoring during construction as per the requirements of this EMPr. The monthly environmental monitoring reports compiled by the ECO, as well as the photographic record of works, must be submitted to the operators of the facility, the local authority, the provincial environmental authority, the national environmental authority and Eskom.

8.2 ADDITIONAL MONITORING REQUIREMENTS DURING OPERATION

The following additional monitoring should be undertaken during the operational phase of the facility:

- Monitoring of washes and drainage line for erosion, obstruction and diversion (any erosion, obstructions and diversions should be rectified immediately);
- The emergence invasive vegetation should be monitored. Any invasive vegetation established should be removed immediately.
- Monitoring of overhead lines for bird collisions All bird collisions must be recorded and reported to the provincial environmental authority and Birdlife Africa;

The first two points should be monitored on a 6 monthly basis and the final point monitored on a biweekly basis. The results of this monitoring should be summarised in an annual audit report that should be submitted to the Provincial Environmental Authority and the Local Municipality.

9. METHOD STATEMENTS

Method statements are written submissions by the Contractor to the Engineer and ECO in response to the requirements of this EMPr or in response to a request by the Engineer or ECO. The Contractor shall be required to prepare method statements for several specific construction activities and/or environmental management aspects.

The Contractor shall not commence the activity for which a method statement is required until the Engineer and ECO have approved the relevant method statement.

Method statements must be submitted at least five (5) working days prior to the proposed date of commencement of the activity. Failure to submit a method statement may result in suspension of the activity concerned until such time as a method statement has been submitted and approved.

An approved method statement shall not absolve the Contractor from any of his obligations or responsibilities in terms of the contract. However, any damage caused to the environment through activities undertaken without an approved method statement shall be rehabilitated at the contractor's cost.

Additional method statements can be requested at the ECO's discretion at any time during the construction phase.

The method statements should include relevant details, such as:

- Construction procedures and location on the construction site;
- Start date and duration of the specific construction procedure;
- Materials, equipment and labour to be used;
- How materials, equipment and labour would be moved to and from the development site, as well as on site during construction;
- Storage, removal and subsequent handling of all materials, excess materials and waste materials;

• Emergency procedures in case of any potential accident / incident which could occur during the procedure;

Compliance / non-compliance with an EMPr specification and motivation for proposed non-compliance.

9.1 METHOD STATEMENTS REQUIRED

Based on the specifications in this EMPr, the following method statements are likely to be required as a minimum (more method statements may be requested at any time as required under the direction of the ECO):

- Vegetation clearing & topsoil stripping, and associated stockpiling;
- Hazardous substances declaration of use, handling and storage e.g. for fuels, chemicals, oils and any other harmful / toxic / hazardous materials;
- Cement and concrete batching:
- Traffic, transport & delivery accommodation e.g. need for traffic diversion/turning circles etc.;
- Solid waste management / control procedures;
- Stormwater and wastewater management / control systems;
- Erosion remediation and stabilisation;
- Fire control and emergency procedures;
- Job site security plan;
- Blasting activities (if necessary);
- Ramming and jack hammering;
- Re-vegetation, rehabilitation and re-seeding.

10. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Occupational Health and Safety Act (No. 85 of 1993) aims to provide for / ensure the health and safety of persons at work or in connection with the activities of persons at work and to establish an advisory council for occupational health and safety.

The main Contractor must ensure compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act, as well as that all subcontractors comply with the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

The following is of key importance (Section 8 of the aforesaid Act):

General duties of employers to their employees

- (1) Every employer shall provide and maintain, as far as is reasonably practicable, a working environment that is safe and without risk to the health of his employees.
- (2) Without derogating from the generality of an employer's duties under subsection (1), the matters to which those duties refer include in particular-
 - (a) the provision and maintenance of systems of work, plant and machinery that, as far as is reasonably practicable, are safe and without risks to health;
 - **(b)** taking such steps as may be reasonably practicable to eliminate or mitigate any hazard or potential hazard to the safety or health of employees, before resorting to personal protective equipment;
 - **(c)** making arrangements for ensuring, as far as is reasonably practicable, the safety and absence of risks to health in connection with the production, processing, use, handling, storage or transport of articles or substances;

(d) establishing, as far as is reasonably practicable, what hazards to the health or safety of persons are attached to any work which is performed, any article or substance which is produced, processed, used, handled, stored or transported and any plant or machinery which is used in his business, and he shall, as far as is reasonably practicable, further establish what precautionary measures should be taken with respect to such work, article, substance, plant or machinery in order to protect the health and safety of persons, and he shall provide the necessary means to apply such precautionary measures;

- **(e)** providing such information, instructions, training and supervision as may be necessary to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the health and safety at work of his employees;
- (f) as far as is reasonably practicable, not permitting any employee to do any work or to produce, process, use, handle, store or transport any article or substance or to operate any plant or machinery, unless the precautionary measures contemplated in paragraphs (b) and (d), or any other precautionary measures which may be prescribed, have been taken;
- **(g)** taking all necessary measures to ensure that tire requirements of this Act are complied with by every person in his employment or on premises under his control where plant or machinery is used:
- (h) enforcing such measures as may be necessary in the interest of health and safety;
- (i) ensuring that work is performed and that plant or machinery is used under the general supervision of a person trained to understand the hazards associated with it and who have the authority to ensure that precautionary measures taken by the employer are implemented; and
- (j) causing all employees to be informed regarding the scope of their authority as contemplated in section 37 (1) (b).

11. CONTRACTORS CODE OF CONDUCT

The Contractor's Code of Conduct is a document to be drawn up by the solar facility Developer and provided to all contractors or subcontractors that undertake any service on site. This code of conduct should include generic conduct rules for construction and operation activities on the Khoi-Sun Development site and must be signed by all contractors. This code of conduct does not exonerate contractors from complying with this EMPr and must not be viewed as a standalone document.

The following general template is suggested for this Code of Conduct document and must be adapted and updated to include the provisions of this EMPr, recommendations of participating specialists, conditions of approval of the Environmental Authorisation, conditions imposed by the Local Authority (as part of the rezoning and consent use), as well as the all service agreements.

11.1 OBJECTIVES

To ensure compliance with the Conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), recommendations of participating specialists, conditions imposed by the Local Authority as part of the rezoning and subdivision, as well as the service agreements.

- To ensure the least possible damage to:
 - Existing infrastructure on and adjacent to the site;
 - Indigenous flora and fauna (biophysical environment); and
 - Water quality of surface and groundwater on and surrounding the site. Particularly the water quality entering and exiting the on-site washes/minor drainage lines;

• Construction and development are undertaken with due consideration to all environmental factors;

Where such damage occurs, provision is made for re-instatement and rehabilitation;

11.2 ACCEPTANCE OF REQUIREMENTS

In order to achieve these objectives, the Developer and Contractor bind themselves jointly and severally to fulfil and comply with all the obligations contained herein, as well as prescriptions and obligations contained in other documents controlling the development of the Khoi-Sun Development.

11.3 CONTRACTOR'S PRE-CONSTRUCTION OBLIGATIONS

Contractors may not commence any construction on the Khoi-Sun Development until:

- The Contractor and the ECO have carried out a joint site inspection (this is to be done as part
 of the pre-construction compliance workshop as detailed in the EMPr);
- A qualified ecologist has undertaken an inspection of the final development footprint and determined the number, species and extent of protected / listed plant species within this area;
- A permit for the removal or relocation-and-transplant of these protected / listed plant species
 has been obtained from the Kimberly office of the Northern Cape Department of
 Environmental Affairs & Nature Conservation (DEANC);
- Search and rescue of sensitive plants, particularly Hoodia gordonii and Aloe dichotoma, within
 the development footprint has been carried out and signed off by the ECO (where this is
 necessary);
- The construction and no-go areas are suitably demarcated to the satisfaction of the ECO;
- Where necessary, approval of Building / Construction Plans has been obtained from the local authority (Kai!Garib Municipality); and
- All contract staff has attended the required environmental induction training and on-going environmental education sessions, as necessary.

11.4 CONTRACTOR'S OBLIGATIONS DURING CONSTRUCTION

- The Contractor is required to comply with the necessary Health and Safety requirements as required by the Occupational Health and Safety Act of 1993;
- The Contractor must comply with the construction requirements as detailed in the EMPr, including the following plans detailed therein:
 - Transport & Traffic Management Plan,
 - Stormwater and Erosion-Control Management Plan,
 - Vegetation Clearing & Plant Rescue Plan,
 - o Re-vegetation & Rehabilitation Plan,
 - Alien Management Plan
 - Open Space Management Plan;
- The contractor must comply with all the requirements detailed in the Environmental Authorisation;
- All conditions, processes and fees as prescribed by the Local Authority must be complied with;
 and
- The Contractor shall only be permitted to erect a single signboard which must comply with legislative requirements.

12. IMPLEMENTATION

The following table is provided to assist the developer, design team, engineer and contractor with the effective implementation of this EMPr. The Table 4 below serves as a quick reference guide to the EMPr, but must be read in conjunction with the entire document.

Item	Management Action	Timing	Responsible Party	Monitoring
	Design	& Pre-Construction Phase		
Familiarisation with the contents of the EMPr & EA.	Attendance of a pre-construction environmental compliance workshop			ECO to include details of this in the first environmental control Report.
	Environmental induction of all staff.	Prior to commencement of earthworks.	ECO and all contract staff.	Contractor to keep records of all staff attending inductions.
Demarcation of Development Areas and No-Go Areas.	All areas outside of the construction / development area to be clearly demarcated. Koppie areas, and all sensitive drainage lines & vegetation outside development area are considered no-go.	Prior to commencement of site clearing & earthworks.	Contractor with input from the Engineer, ECO and participating specialists where necessary. Contractor responsible for maintaining demarcation throughout the construction phase.	ECO to maintain photographic record of demarcation.
Obtain Permit for removal / translocation of protected plant species.	Permit application to be informed be list of protected plant species found by the ecological specialist within the final facility development footprint. Permit requirements & list to inform updated plant rescue plan.	Prior to plant rescue and vegetation clearing.	ECO, ESA, Ecological Specialist & Contractor	ECO & Ecological specialist to provide photographic record of protected plant species (to be used in ongoing Environmental Education) and of plant rescue & translocation operation.
Panel and Powerline Pylon micro-siting	As defined in the EMPr	Prior to finalisation of detailed design.	Developer with input from ECO, Engineer and relevant participating specialists	ECO to include details in monthly reports.
Environmental Induction Training	As defined in the EMPr	Prior to commencement of site clearing & earthworks.	ECO & Contractor	Contractor to provide details to ECO. ECO to provide details in monthly reports.
		Construction Phase		
Minimise impact of construction vehicles	Implementation of recommendations of Transport & Traffic Plan defined in EMPr.	Throughout construction phase	Contractor	Engineer
Prevent concrete contamination	Use of delivered ready-mix concrete. Control at batching sites	Throughout construction phase	Contractor	Engineer, ESA and ECO.
Prevention of erosion of	Implementation of recommendations of	During detailed design and	Contractor	Engineer, ESA and ECO.

Item	Management Action	Timing	Responsible Party	Monitoring
cable trenches	Erosion Management Plan defined in	throughout the construction		
	EMPr.	phase.		
Protection of Archaeological	Avoidance of inselbergs / koppies within	Demarcation of sites prior to	Contractor	ESA, ECO & archaeologist.
Resources	and outside development area and	commencement of		
	quartz patches as far as possible.	earthworks. Other		
	Report archaeological occurrences	mitigations throughout the		
	found during earthworks to NCHRA & SAHRA.	construction phase.		
Protection of hydrological	As per the requirements of the EMPr.	Throughout the construction	Contractor	ECO
resources (surface &		phase.		
underground).				
Protection of all topsoil	As per the requirements of the EMPr i.e.	Throughout the construction	Contractor	ECO
resources on site.	brush/straw packing & re-seeding	phase.		
Construction of Cable	As per the requirements of this EMPr.	Throughout the construction	Contractor	ECO
Trenches		phase		
Limiting damage caused by	As per the requirements of this EMPr.	Design phase and	Design Team & Contractors	ECO & ER
the installation of overhead		throughout the construction		
lines.		phase.		
Limiting Noise Impact	As per the requirement of the EMPr.	Design, throughout the	Contractor, ER	ECO & ER
		construction and operation		
	A	phase		500 0 FD
Reduction of dust generation	As per the requirements of the EMPr.	Throughout the construction	Contractor	ECO & ER.
as a result of construction		phase		
activities.	Incompany to the foreign and incompany	Desire and acceptantian	ED 9 Control to	F00 % FD
Providing for effective	Implementing the fencing requirements	Design and construction	ER & Contractor	ECO & ER.
ecological corridors	as defined by the ecological specialist and this EMPr.	phases.		
Limit environmental damage	Implementing the requirements for	Throughout the construction	Contractor	ECO & ER.
from blasting, drilling,	blasting detailed in this EMPr.	phase.	Contractor	ECO & ER.
jackhammering and	blasting detailed in this Livir i.	priase.		
trenching activities including				
that on existing boreholes.				
Preventing of Erosion and	Implementation of Stormwater	Design phase and	Design Team, Engineer and	ECO & ER.
siltation of the wash /	Management and Erosion Control	throughout the construction	Contractors	200 % 211.
drainage lines.	Measures detailed in this EMPr, as well	phase		
3	as those made by the ecological			
	and the coological			

Item	Management Action	Timing	Responsible Party	Monitoring
	specialists.			
Protection of protected plant species and on-going revegetation & rehabilitation.	Implementation of Plant Rescue, Revegetation & Rehabilitation Plan, as well as recommendation of ecological specialist.	Design phase and throughout the construction phase.	Design Team, Engineer and Contractors	ECO & ER.
Prevention of theft and other crime.	Development of a job site security plan.	Before commencement of construction.	Contractor	ER
On-going Environmental Education	As defined in the EMPr.	During construction.	ECO & Contractor	Contractor to provide details to ECO. ECO to provide details in monthly reports.
Prevent pollution resulting from oil and fuel storage and handling.	Implement correct fuel and oil handling procedures. Implement emergency spill response plan.	Duration of the project lifespan.	ECO & Contractor	ECO, ER & Contractor
		Operational Phase		
Prevent pollution resulting from oil and fuel storage and handling.	Implement correct fuel and oil handling procedures. Implement emergency spill response plan.	Duration of the project lifespan	Facility operator	Facility manager and Environmental Authority.
Manage vegetation growth	Trimming of vegetation under panels to avoid overshadowing and fire risk.	Throughout operation	Operation & Maintenance staff.	Operation staff to report to Operator.
Prevent & manage erosion / obstruction of washes / drainage lines	Regular monitoring of wash to remove obstructions and repair erosion.	Throughout operation	Operation & Maintenance staff.	Operation staff to report to Operator.
Control of alien plants	Regular monitoring and removal of alien invasive plant species.	Throughout operation	Operation & Maintenance staff.	Operation staff to report to Operator.
On-going Environmental Education	As defined in the EMPr	During maintenance and operation.	Operation & Maintenance staff.	Operation staff to report to Operator.
		& Decommissioning Phase		
	ilities and monitoring as per construction ph			
Decommissioning of Solar facility.	Closure of facility in compliance with legislation and this EMPr.	. ,	Facility operator & Kai!Garib local municipality.	Local, provincial and national Authorities
On-going Environmental Education	As defined in the EMPr	During decommissioning.	ECO & Contractor	Contractor report to ECO. ECO to provide details in monthly reports.

13. NON-COMPLIANCE

Should any person commit an action of non-compliance he/she may be convicted of an offence, in terms of Sub-regulation (1) of the National Environmental Management Act, to imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years or to a fine not exceeding an amount prescribed in terms of the Adjustment of Fines Act, 1991 (Act No. 101 of 1991).

Apart from a fine resulting from any legal mechanism, the ECO may advise the ER to impose a penalty for non-compliance in terms of this Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). The procedure detailed below is for a spot fine in terms of this EMPr and does not detail the procedure for fining in terms of any other legal mechanism.

13.1 PROCEDURES

The contractor shall comply with the environmental specifications and requirements of this EMPr, the Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Section 28 of NEMA, on an on-going basis and any failure on his part to do so will entitle the ER to impose a penalty.

In the event of non-compliance the following recommended process shall be followed:

- The ECO shall issue a notice of non-compliance to the ER, stating the nature and magnitude of the contravention. A copy shall be provided to the Project Developer / Proponent.
- The ER will issue this notice to the Contractor.
- The Contractor shall act to correct the transgression within the period specified by the ER.
- The Contractor shall provide the ER with a written statement describing the actions to be taken to discontinue the non-compliance, the actions taken to mitigate its effects and the expected results of the actions. A copy shall be provided to the Project Developer / Proponent.
- In the case of the Contractor failing to remedy the situation within the predetermined time frame, the ER shall impose a monetary penalty (spot fine) based on the conditions of contract.
- Should the transgression be a blatant disregard of conditions of the EMPr or EA, the ER (on advice from the ECO) can at their discretion immediately issue a fine and require the remediation (without first giving the contractor a chance to remediate)
- In the case of non-compliance giving rise to physical environmental damage or destruction, the ER shall be entitled to undertake or to cause to be undertaken such remedial works as may be required to make good such damage and to recover from the Contractor the full costs incurred in doing so.
- In the event of a dispute, difference of opinion, etc. between any parties in regard to or arising
 out of interpretation of the conditions of the EMPr, disagreement regarding the implementation
 or method of implementation of conditions of the EMPr or EA etc. any party shall be entitled to
 require that the issue be referred to specialists for determination.
- The ER on advice from the ECO shall at all times have the right to stop work and/or certain activities on site in the case of non-compliance or failure to implement remediation measures.

13.2 OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

Any avoidable non-compliance with the conditions of the EMPR shall be considered sufficient ground for the imposition of a penalty.

Possible offences, which should result in the issuing of a contractual penalty, include, but are not limited to:

- Unauthorised entrance into no-go areas;
- Catching and killing of wild animals, and removal or damage to conservation-worthy plant species;

• Open fires outside of the contractor camp site and insufficient fire control;

- Unauthorised damage to natural vegetation;
- Unauthorised camp establishment (including stockpiling, storage, etc.);
- Hydrocarbons / hazardous material: negligent spills / leaks and insufficient storage;
- Ablution facilities: non-use, insufficient facilities, insufficient maintenance;
- Insufficient solid waste management (including clean-up of litter, unauthorised dumping etc.;
- Erosion due to negligence / non-performance;
- Excessive cement / concrete spillage / contamination;
- Non-induction of staff.

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15. PHOTOGRAPHS, DESCRIPTIONS & CO-ORDINATES OF PROTECTED PLANT SPECIES AT KHOI-SUN DEVELOPMENT SITE

Species of conservation concern are illustrated below. The list includes species listed as threatened under the South African Red Data List of Plants, as well as those species which are provincially protected and are either significant or suitable for search and rescue. Common species within protected genera are not illustrated, but will nevertheless need to be listed on the permit application to clear the site.

These photographs can be used for environmental education purposes during the construction phase of the project to ensure that all construction staff are made aware of the protected status of these species. This photographic record of protected plant species, particularly those suitable for rescue and translocation, will have to be updated after the pre-construction survey by the ecologist.

15.1 Boscia foetida



Status	Provincially Protected	
Suitable for search rescue	No	
Abundance at site	Occasional	
Description	Small tree, usually with white stems. Produces small green flowers and small round fruits.	

Figure 8: Boscia foetida

15.2 HOODIA GORDONII



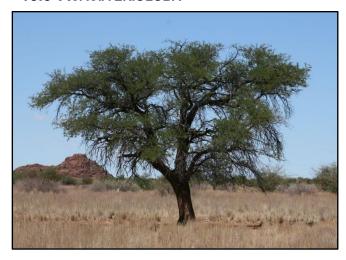


Figures 9 & 10: Hoodia gordonii

Status	Nationally Protected
Suitable for search rescue	Yes

Abundance at site	Occasional
Description	Stem succulent up to 1m tall, but usually lower. Has spiny upright stems 5-10 cm wide. Produces large brownish flowers.

15.3 ACACIA ERIOLOBA





Figures 11 & 12: Acacia eroiloba

Description:

- Medium-sized to large deciduous or semi-evergreen tree; crown usually flat-topped, dome shaped or rounded. Older branches often contorted.
- Bark thick, rough and deeply longitudinally fissured.
- Spines paired, straight, often swollen and fused at the base, white or reddish.
- Leaves bipinnately compound; leaflets prominently veined below.
- Flowers in globose heads, bright golden-yellow.
- Pods large, flat, thick and semi-woody, velvety grey, half moon-shaped, indehiscent.
- Usually on red Kalahari sands, often more abundant along drainage lines.

15.4 ALOE DICHOTOMA





Figures 13 & 14: Aloe dichotoma

Description

• Small succulent tree with a thickened trunk and dense rounded crown.

• Leaves succulent, in terminal rosettes, blue-green or yellowish green; margin with small yellowish brown teeth.

- Inflorescence branched, borne terminally above a leaf rosette; flower spikes about 300 mm long, bright yellow.
- On rocky hills and sandy flats throughout most of the Northern Cape.

15.5 CO-ORDINATES OF PROTECTED PLANT SPECIES

Table of localities of protected species observed within proposed Skuitdrift development area. The coordinates are in decimal degrees and based on the WGS84 datum. The table should be considered reasonably complete for *Acacia erioloba* as the this species is conspicuous and can usually be easily seen, whoever, there may be additional individuals of *Aloe dichotoma* and *Hoodia* present as these species are less conspicuous and given the large extent of the site, it is not likely that all individuals present were observed. The final development footprint should therefore be searched for these species prior to construction. A permit obtainable from the Permit Office of the Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENV) for their translocation or removal during construction would be required. Contact person: Marietjie Smit msmit@half.ncape.gov.za

<u>Table 5</u>: Co-ordinate localities of protected species observed within the Khoi-Sun Development area.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Aloe dichotoma Hoodia gordonii Aloe dichotoma Aloe dichotoma Hoodia gordonii Hoodia gordonii Hoodia gordonii Aloe dichotoma Acacia erioloba Hoodia gordonii	-28.6097 -28.6105 -28.611 -28.6101 -28.6087 -28.6091 -28.6094 -28.6063 -28.6066	19.76708 19.76511 19.76517 19.7675 19.76586 19.76681 19.76743 19.76586
3 4 5 6 7 8	Aloe dichotoma Aloe dichotoma Hoodia gordonii Hoodia gordonii Hoodia gordonii Aloe dichotoma Acacia erioloba	-28.611 -28.6101 -28.6087 -28.6091 -28.6094 -28.6063	19.76517 19.7675 19.76586 19.76681 19.76743 19.76586
4 5 6 7 8	Aloe dichotoma Hoodia gordonii Hoodia gordonii Hoodia gordonii Aloe dichotoma Acacia erioloba	-28.6101 -28.6087 -28.6091 -28.6094 -28.6063	19.7675 19.76586 19.76681 19.76743 19.76586
5 6 7 8	Hoodia gordonii Hoodia gordonii Hoodia gordonii Aloe dichotoma Acacia erioloba	-28.6087 -28.6091 -28.6094 -28.6063	19.76586 19.76681 19.76743 19.76586
6 7 8	Hoodia gordonii Hoodia gordonii Aloe dichotoma Acacia erioloba	-28.6091 -28.6094 -28.6063	19.76681 19.76743 19.76586
7 8	Hoodia gordonii Aloe dichotoma Acacia erioloba	-28.6094 -28.6063	19.76743 19.76586
8	Aloe dichotoma Acacia erioloba	-28.6063	19.76586
	Acacia erioloba		
9		-28.6066	
,	Hoodia aordonii	-0.000	19.76521
10	riocala goracilii	-28.6096	19.76698
11	Acacia erioloba	-28.605	19.76705
12	Hoodia gordonii	-28.6096	19.76699
13	Acacia erioloba	-28.606	19.76895
14	Hoodia gordonii	-28.6147	19.76285
15	Acacia erioloba	-28.6065	19.76961
16	Hoodia gordonii	-28.6153	19.76341
17	Acacia erioloba	-28.6066	19.77073
18	Acacia erioloba	-28.6064	19.77102
19	Acacia erioloba	-28.6062	19.77132
20	Acacia erioloba	-28.606	19.77062
21	Acacia erioloba	-28.6054	19.76916
22	Acacia erioloba	-28.6044	19.76716
23	Acacia erioloba	-28.6044	19.76677
24	Acacia erioloba	-28.6041	19.76591
25	Acacia erioloba	-28.6034	19.7653
26	Acacia erioloba	-28.6024	19.76441
27	Acacia erioloba	-28.6024	19.76365
28	Acacia erioloba	-28.6049	19.76381
29	Acacia erioloba	-28.6051	19.76386

30	Acacia erioloba	-28.6061	19.76468
31	Acacia erioloba	-28.6077	19.77318
32	Acacia erioloba	-28.6078	19.77263
33	Acacia erioloba	-28.6088	19.77309
34	Acacia erioloba	-28.6107	19.77263
35	Acacia erioloba	-28.6119	19.76605
36	Acacia erioloba	-28.6118	19.76368
37	Acacia erioloba	-28.6086	19.76355
38	Acacia erioloba	-28.6058	19.75473
39	Acacia erioloba	-28.6099	19.76891
40	Acacia erioloba	-28.6036	19.75654

16. PHOTOS & DESCRIPTION OF ALIEN PLANT SPECIES ON SITE

16.1 Prosopis Glandulosa

Category 1

Medium to large tree with pinnate leaves and usually thorny. Usually associated with drainage lines, but may grow anywhere. Occasional at the site, but can increase rapidly as a result of disturbance.

When cut down the tree resprouts, so herbicides are usually needed in combination with cutting. The appropriate techniques and herbicides can be obtained from the DAFF website.

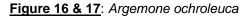
Figure 15: Prosopis glandulosa



16.2 ARGEMONE OCHROLEUCA

White - flowered Mexican poppy. Category 1.







16.3 SALSOLA KALI

Tumbleweed, Tolbos. Not Listed.





Figures 18 & 19: Salsola kali

17. CHECKLIST OF PLANT SPECIES

Table 6: List of plant species which are known to occur in the vicinity of the proposed Skuitdrift 75 MW Solar Facility site according to the SANBI SIBIS database (Accessed & records downloaded 10 February 2012). All species except for those highlighted are classified by the Threatened Species Programme, Red List of South African Plants (2011) as Least Concern. Species observed at the site are highlighted in **bold**.

Family	Species	Family	Species
ACANTHACEAE	Acanthopsis disperma	ACANTHACEAE	Barleria lichtensteiniana
ACANTHACEAE	Barleria rigida	ACANTHACEAE	Blepharis mitrata
ACANTHACEAE	Monechma divaricatum	ACANTHACEAE	Monechma incanum
ACANTHACEAE	Monechma spartioides	ACANTHACEAE	Petalidium lucens
AIZOACEAE	Aizoon canariense	AIZOACEAE	Galenia africana
AIZOACEAE	Galenia sarcophylla	AIZOACEAE	Tetragonia arbuscula
AIZOACEAE	Tetragonia reduplicata	AIZOACEAE	Trianthema parvifolia var. parvifolia
AIZOACEAE	Trianthema parvifolia var. rubens	AMARANTHACEAE	Amaranthus praetermissus
AMARANTHACEAE	Sericocoma avolans	ANACARDIACEAE	Searsia populifolia
APOCYNACEAE	Hoodia gordonii <mark>(DDD)</mark>	APOCYNACEAE	Microloma incanum
APOCYNACEAE	Pergularia daemia var. leiocarpa	ASPARAGACEAE	Asparagus denudatus
ASPARAGACEAE	Asparagus pearsonii	ASPHODELACEAE	Aloe claviflora
ASPHODELACEAE	Aloe dichotoma var. dichotoma	ASTERACEAE	Amellus tridactylus subsp. arenarius
ASTERACEAE	Arctotis leiocarpa	ASTERACEAE	Berkheya spinosissima subsp. namaensis var. namaensis
ASTERACEAE	Berkheya spinosissima subsp. spinosissima	ASTERACEAE	Dicoma capensis
ASTERACEAE	Didelta carnosa var. carnosa	ASTERACEAE	Dimorphotheca polyptera
ASTERACEAE	Dimorphotheca sinuata	ASTERACEAE	Eriocephalus microphyllus var. pubescens
ASTERACEAE	Foveolina dichotoma	ASTERACEAE	Gazania lichtensteinii
ASTERACEAE	Geigeria filifolia	ASTERACEAE	Gorteria corymbosa
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum argyrosphaerum	ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum herniarioides
ASTERACEAE	Ifloga molluginoides	ASTERACEAE	Kleinia longiflora
ASTERACEAE	Myxopappus acutilobus	ASTERACEAE	Osteospermum pinnatum var. breve

ASTERACEAE	Pentzia pinnatisecta	ASTERACEAE	Pseudognaphalium luteo-album
ASTERACEAE	Pteronia leucoclada	ASTERACEAE	Pulicaria scabra
ASTERACEAE	Tripteris microcarpa subsp. microcarpa	ASTERACEAE	Ursinia nana subsp. nana
BIGNONIACEAE	Rhigozum trichotomum	BORAGINACEAE	Codon royenii
BORAGINACEAE	Ehretia rigida subsp. rigida	BORAGINACEAE	Heliotropium curassavicum
BORAGINACEAE	Trichodesma africanum	BRASSICACEAE	Heliophila deserticola
BRASSICACEAE	Heliophila deserticola var. deserticola	BRASSICACEAE	Heliophila deserticola var. micrantha
BRASSICACEAE	Heliophila trifurca	BURSERACEAE	Commiphora gracilifrondosa
BURSERACEAE	Commiphora namaensis	CAPPARACEAE	Boscia foetida subsp. foetida
CAPPARACEAE	Cadaba aphylla	CAPPARACEAE	Cleome angustifolia subsp. diandra
CAPPARACEAE	Cleome foliosa var. lutea	CAPPARACEAE	Cleome sp.
CAPPARACEAE	Maerua gilgii	CHENOPODIACEAE	Salsola barbata
CHENOPODIACEAE	Salsola kali	CHENOPODIACEAE	Salsola rabieana
CHENOPODIACEAE	Salsola zeyheri	COLCHICACEAE	Ornithoglossum vulgare
CONVOLVULACEAE	Ipomoea cairica var. cairica	CUCURBITACEAE	Coccinia rehmannii
CUCURBITACEAE	Cucumis africanus	CUCURBITACEAE	Cucumis sagittatus
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus marginatus	EBENACEAE	Diospyros acocksii
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia gariepina subsp. balsamea	EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia gariepina subsp. gariepina
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia glanduligera	EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia inaequilatera var. inaequilatera
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia multiceps	EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia rudis
FABACEAE	Acacia erioloba <mark>(Declining)</mark>	FABACEAE	Acacia mellifera subsp. detinens
FABACEAE	Adenolobus garipensis	FABACEAE	Caesalpinia bracteata <mark>(VU)</mark>
FABACEAE	Caesalpinia sp.	FABACEAE	Calobota spinescens
FABACEAE	Cyamopsis serrata	FABACEAE	Eriosema sp.
FABACEAE	Indigastrum argyraeum	FABACEAE	Indigastrum argyroides
FABACEAE	Indigofera alternans var. alternans	FABACEAE	Indigofera heterotricha
FABACEAE	Indigofera pechuelii	FABACEAE	Lebeckia spinescens
FABACEAE	Lotononis platycarpa	FABACEAE	Lotononis rabenaviana
FABACEAE	Melilotus albus	FABACEAE	Parkinsonia africana
FABACEAE	Prosopis glandulosa var. glandulosa	FABACEAE	Sutherlandia microphylla
FABACEAE	Tephrosia dregeana var. dregeana	FABACEAE	Trigonella hamosa
FRANKENIACEAE	Frankenia pulverulenta	GERANIACEAE	Monsonia parvifolia
GISEKIACEAE	Gisekia africana var. africana	GISEKIACEAE	Gisekia pharnacioides var. pharnacioides
HYACINTHACEAE	Albuca acuminata	HYACINTHACEAE	Albuca setosa
HYACINTHACEAE	Dipcadi glaucum	IRIDACEAE	Moraea venenata
LOASACEAE	Kissenia capensis	LOPHIOCARPACEAE	Lophiocarpus polystachyus
LORANTHACEAE	Tapinanthus oleifolius	MALVACEAE	Hermannia gariepina
MALVACEAE	Hermannia marginata	MALVACEAE	Hermannia minutiflora
MALVACEAE	Hermannia modesta	MALVACEAE	Hermannia spinosa
MALVACEAE	Hermannia stricta	MALVACEAE	Hibiscus elliottiae
MALVACEAE	Radyera urens	MELIACEAE	Nymania capensis
MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE	Aridaria noctiflora subsp. straminea	MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE	Mesembryanthemum crystallinum
MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE	Mesembryanthemum inachabense	MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE	Phyllobolus lignescens
MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE	Prenia tetragona	MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE	Psilocaulon coriarium
MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE	Psilocaulon subnodosum	MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE	Ruschia spinosa
MOLLUGINACEAE	Hypertelis salsoloides var. salsoloides	MOLLUGINACEAE	Limeum aethiopicum var. aethiopicum
MOLLUGINACEAE	Limeum aethiopicum var. lanceolatum	MOLLUGINACEAE	Limeum aethiopicum subsp. aethiopicum var. aethiopicum
MOLLUGINACEAE	Limeum myosotis var. confusum	MOLLUGINACEAE	Limeum sulcatum var. gracile
MOLLUGINACEAE	Limeum sulcatum var. robustum	MOLLUGINACEAE	Mollugo cerviana var. cerviana
NEURADACEAE	Grielum humifusum var. parviflorum	NEURADACEAE	Grielum sinuatum

NYCTAGINACEAE	Phaeoptilum spinosum	PEDALIACEAE	Rogeria longiflora
PEDALIACEAE	Sesamum capense	PLUMBAGINACEAE	Dyerophytum africanum
POACEAE	Aristida adscensionis	POACEAE	Aristida congesta subsp. barbicollis
POACEAE	Cenchrus ciliaris	POACEAE	Cynodon dactylon
POACEAE	Enneapogon cenchroides	POACEAE	Enneapogon desvauxii
POACEAE	Enneapogon scaber	POACEAE	Eragrostis annulata
POACEAE	Eragrostis brizantha	POACEAE	Leucophrys mesocoma
POACEAE	Odyssea paucinervis	POACEAE	Phragmites australis
POACEAE	Polypogon monspeliensis	POACEAE	Schmidtia kalahariensis
POACEAE	Setaria verticillata	POACEAE	Stipagrostis anomala
POACEAE	Stipagrostis ciliata var. capensis	POACEAE	Stipagrostis hochstetteriana var. hochstetteriana
POACEAE	Stipagrostis hochstetteriana var. secalina	POACEAE	Stipagrostis namaquensis
POACEAE	Stipagrostis obtusa	POACEAE	Stipagrostis uniplumis var. neesii
POACEAE	Stipagrostis uniplumis var. uniplumis	POACEAE	Tragus racemosus
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala leptophylla var. leptophylla	POLYGONACEAE	Persicaria decipiens
POTTIACEAE	Tortula atrovirens	RHAMNACEAE	Ziziphus mucronata subsp. mucronata
RICCIACEAE	Riccia cavernosa	RUBIACEAE	Kohautia caespitosa subsp. brachyloba
SANTALACEAE	Thesium lineatum	SCROPHULARIACEAE	Aptosimum elongatum
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Aptosimum junceum	SCROPHULARIACEAE	Aptosimum marlothii
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Aptosimum spinescens	SCROPHULARIACEAE	Diascia engleri
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Jamesbrittenia aridicola	SCROPHULARIACEAE	Jamesbrittenia ramosissima
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Jamesbrittenia sp.	SCROPHULARIACEAE	Lyperia tristis
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Peliostomum leucorrhizum	SCROPHULARIACEAE	Selago albida
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Selago dinteri subsp. pseudodinteri	SCROPHULARIACEAE	Veronica anagallis-aquatica
SOLANACEAE	Datura stramonium	SOLANACEAE	Lycium bosciifolium
SOLANACEAE	Lycium oxycarpum	SOLANACEAE	Lycium pumilum
SOLANACEAE	Nicotiana glauca	SOLANACEAE	Nicotiana longiflora
SOLANACEAE	Solanum capense	TAMARICACEAE	Tamarix usneoides
TECOPHILAEACEAE	Cyanella lutea	URTICACEAE	Forsskaolea candida
VERBENACEAE	Chascanum garipense	VISCACEAE	Viscum rotundifolium
ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Sisyndite spartea	ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Tribulus cristatus
ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Tribulus pterophorus	ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Tribulus terrestris
ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Zygophyllum foetidum	ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Zygophyllum microcarpum
ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Zygophyllum prismatocarpum	ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Zygophyllum retrofractum
ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Zygophyllum rigidum	ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Zygophyllum simplex
ZYGOPHYLLACEAE	Zygophyllum suffruticosum		

18. CHECKLIST OF MAMMALS

Table 7: List of mammals which are likely to occur at the proposed Skuitdrift 75 MW Solar Facility. Habitat notes and distribution records are based on Skinner & Chimimba (2005), while conservation status is from the IUCN Red Lists 2012.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat	Probability
Macroscledidea (El	ephant Shrews):			
Macroscelides proboscideus	Round-eared Elephant Shrew	LC	Species of open country, with preference for shrub bush and sparse grass cover, also occur on hard gravel plains with sparse boulders for shelter, and on loose sandy soil provided there is some bush cover	High
Elephantulus rupestris	Western Rock Elephant Shrew	LC	Rocky koppies, rocky outcrops or piles of boulders where these offer sufficient holes and crannies for refuge.	High
Elephantulus intufi	Bushveld Elephant Shrew	LC	Can occupy arid areas with sparse cover provided there are scattered bushes	Low
Tubulentata:				
Orycteropus afer	Aardvark	LC	Wide habitat tolerance, being found in open woodland, scrub and grassland, especially associated with sandy soil	High
Hyracoidea (Hyraxes):				
Procavia capensis	Rock Hyrax	LC	Outcrops of rocks, especially granite formations and dolomite intrusions in the Karoo. Also erosion gullies	High
Lagomorpha (Hare	s and Rabbits):			
Lepus capensis	Cape Hare	LC	Dry, open regions, with palatable bush and grass	High
Lepus saxatilis	Scrub Hare	LC	Common in agriculturally developed areas, especially in crop-growing areas or in fallow lands where there is some bush development.	Low
Rodentia:			· ·	
Hystrix africaeaustralis	Cape Porcupine	LC	Catholic in habitat requirements.	High
Petromus typicus	Dassie Rat	LC	Mountainous regions and inselbergs, where they are confined to rocky outcrops and live in crevices or piles of boulders	High
Pedetes capensis	Springhare	LC	Occur widely on open sandy ground or sandy scrub, on overgrazed grassland, on the fringes of vleis and dry river beds.	Low
Xerus inauris	South African Ground Squirrel	LC	Open terrain with a sparse bush cover and a hard substrate	High
Rhabdomys pumilio	Four-striped Grass Mouse	LC	Essentially a grassland species, occurs in wide variety of habitats where there is good grass cover.	High
Thallomys paedulcus	Acacia Tree Rat	LC	Associated with stands of Acacia woodland	Low
Thallomys	Black-tailed Tree Rat	LC	Associated with stands of Acacia	Low

Aethomys namaque Rock Mouse LC Subut where there are rocky koppies, but where there are rocky koppies, outcrops or boulder-strewn hillidies they use these preferentially Associated with a dry sandy substrate in more arid parts of the Nama-karoo and bird parts of the Nama-karoo and thigh littledale! Whistling Rat LC Succulent Karoo. Species selects areas of low percentage of plant cover and areas with deep sands. Parotomys Littledale's Whistling Rat LC Succulent Karoo. Species selects areas of low percentage of plant cover and areas with deep sands. Parotomys Littledale's Whistling Rat LC Succulent Karoo Psilocaulon absimile Lycium bushes or Psilocaulon absimile Lycium	Parotomys brantsii Brants' Whistling Rat LC Parotomys littledalei Rat Desmodillus auricularis Gerbillurus paeba Hairy-footed Gerbil LC Gerbillurus Dune Hairy-footed LC LC	but where there are rocky koppies, outcrops or boulder-strewn hillsides they use these preferentially Associated with a dry sandy substrate in more arid parts of the Nama-karoo and Succulent Karoo. Species selects areas of low percentage of plant cover and areas with deep sands. Riverine associations or associated with Lycium bushes or Psilocaulon absimile Tend to occur on hard ground, unlike other gerbil species, with some cover of grass or karroid bush Gerbils associated with Nama and Succulent Karoo preferring sandy soil or	High High					
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Seith-desert alla karrola conditions	Caracal caracal Caracal LC	Caracals tolerate arid regions, occur in semi-desert and karroid conditions	High					
Felis silvestris African Wild Cat LC Wide habitat tolerance. High	Felis silvestris African Wild Cat LC							

Danthera nardus	Leonard	NT NT	Wide habitat tolerance, associated with areas of rocky koppies and hills,	High
Panthera pardus Leopard		INT	mountain ranges and forest	LIBII
Felis nigripes	Black-footed cat	<mark>VU</mark>	Associated with arid country with MAR 100-500 mm, particularly areas with open habitat that provides some cover in the form of tall stands of grass or scrub.	High
Genetta genetta	Small-spotted genet	LC	Occur in open arid associations	High
Suricata suricatta	Meerkat	LC	Open arid country where substrate is hard and stony. Occur in Nama and Succulent Karoo but also fynbos	High
Cynictis penicillata	Yellow Mongoose	LC	Semi-arid country on a sandy substrate	High
Vulpes chama	Cape Fox	LC	Associated with open country, open grassland, grassland with scattered thickets and coastal or semi-desert scrub	High
Canis mesomelas	Black-backed Jackal	LC	Wide habitat tolerance, more common in drier areas.	High
Otocyon megalotis	Bat-eared Fox	LC	Open country with mean annual rainfall of 100-600 mm	High
Ictonyx striatus	onyx striatus Striped Polecat		Widely distributed throughout the sub- region	High
Rumanantia (Antel	ope):			
Tragelaphus oryx	Eland	LC	Wide habitat tolerance, absent from a large proportion of former range	Low
Oryx gazella	Gemsbok	LC	Open arid country	High
Sylvicapra grimmia	Common Duiker	LC	Presence of bushes is essential	High
Antidorcas marsupialis	Springbok	LC	Arid regions and open grassland.	High
Raphicerus campestris	Steenbok	LC	Inhabits open country,	High
Oreotragus oreotragus	Klipspringer	LC	Closely confined to rocky habitat.	High
Chiroptera (Bats)				
Pipistrellus capensis	Cape Serotine Bat	LC	Wide habitat tolerances, but often found near open water	High
Tadarida aegyptiaca	Egyptian Free-tailed Bat	LC	In arid areas. often associated with water sources	High
Tadarida pumila	Little free-tailed bat	LC	Wide habitat tolerance	High
Pipistrellus rueppellii	Ruppell's Pipistrelle	LC	Associated with riverine conditions. Recorded at Augrabies falls	Low
Rhinolophus denti	Dent's Horseshoe Bat	LC	Arid areas but require caves or rock crevices	High
Rhinolophus fumigatus	Ruppell's horseshoe bat	LC	Open Savanna woodland extending into north-wetern parts of the Northern Cape	High
Rhinolophus darling	Darling's Horsehoe Bat	LC	Savanna woodland species but requires caves	Low
Eidolon helvum	Straw-coloured fruit bat	LC	Occasional migratory visitors within southern Africa	Low

19. CHECKLIST OF REPTILES

Table 8: List of reptiles which are likely to occur at the proposed Skuitdrift 75 MW Solar Facility site. Habitat notes and distribution records are based on Branch (1988) and Alexander and Marais (2007), while conservation status is from the IUCN Red Lists 2012.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Distribution	Status	Habitat	Probability	
Tortoises and Terrapins:						
Psammobates tentorius verroxii	Bushmanland Tent Tortoise	Endemic	Data Deficient	Varied: usually arid karroid areas or rocky sandveld	High	
Snakes:						
Rhinotyphlops schinzi	Schinz's Beaked Blind Snake	Endemic	Data Deficient	Semi-deseet and arid savanna	High	
Leptotyphlops occidentalis	Western Thread Snake	Endemic	Data Deficient	Nambib Desert and Karoo scrub	High	
Lamprophis capensis	Brown House Snake	Widespread	Data Deficient	Common in highveld grassland & arid karroid regions, but found everywhere & tolerant of urban sprawl	High	
Pseudaspis cana	Mole Snake	Widespread	Data Deficient	Sandy scrubland in SW Cape, highveld grassland & mountainous & desert regions	High	
Prosymna bivittata	Two-striped Shovel-snout			Acacia sanannah entering sandveld	Low	
Dipsina multimaculata	Dwarf Beaked Snake	Endemic	Data Deficient	Rocky, sandy areas. Cape karroid areas.	High	
Psammophis notostictus	Karoo Sand or Whip Snake	Widespread	Data Deficient	Arid scrubland & karroid regions	High	
Psammophis leightoni	Cape Whip Snake	Endemic	Data Deficient	Coastal fynbos, desert and semi-desert	High	
Dasypeltis scabra	Common/Rhombic Egg Eater	Widespread	LC	Absent only from true desert & closed-canopy forest	High	
Telescopus beetzii	Namib Tiger Snake	Endemic	Data Deficient	Rocky, arid regions	High	
Telescopus semiannulatus	Eastern Tiger Snake	Widespread	Data Deficient	Desert to Karoo, savanna and forest	Low	
Aspidelaps lubricus	Coral Shield Cobra	Widespread	Data Deficient	Karroid & sandveld regions, entering dry valley plains in S and E Cape	High	
Naja nivea	Cape Cobra	Endemic	Data Deficient	Arid karroid regions, particularly along river courses, entering well drained open areas along the southern coast	High	
Naja nigricollis woodi	Black Spitting Cobra	Endemic	SARDB Rare	Namibia to Citrusdal in karroid scrub	High	
Bitis arietans	Puff Adder	Widespread	Data Deficient	Absent only from desert & mnt tops	High	
Bitis xeropaga	Desert Mountain Adder	Endemic	Data Deficient	Mountain slopes and sparsely vegetated rocky hillsides	Low	
Bitis caudalis	Horned Adder	Widespread	Data Deficient	Sandy regions, throughout Karoo	High	
Lizard and Skinks:						
Monopeltis infuscata	Dusky Spade-snouted Worm Lizard	Wides	•	Dry and moist savannay	Low	
Acontias lineatus	Striped Legless Skink	Endemic	Data Deficient	Sandy, arid soils	High	
Mabuya capensis	Cape Skink	Widespread	Data Deficient	Very varied: arid karroid veld, moist coastal bush, montane grassland, etc	High	
Mabuya occidentalis	Western Three-Striped Skink	Widespread	Data Deficient	Arid Savanna karroid veld and desert	High	
Mabuya spilogaster	Kalahari Tree Skink	Widespread		Arid Savannah	High	
Mabuya sulcata	Western Rock Skink	Widespread	Data Deficient	Karroid areas	High	

Mabuya striata	Striped Skink	Widespread	Data Deficient	Varied, except desert areas, succulent karoo and fynbos	Low	
Mabuya variegata	Variegated Skink	Widespread	Data Deficient	Extremely varied; desert, karroid veld, montane grassland, savanna, coastal bush & valley bushveld	High	
Meroles suborbitalis	Spotted Desert Lizard	Endemic	Data Deficient	Varied, arid savanna to desert	High	
Nucras tessellata tessellate	Striped Sandveld Lizard	Widespread	Data Deficient	Open arid savannah & karroid veld	High	
Pedioplanis laticeps	Cape Sand Lizard	Endemic	LC	Coastal dunes and succulent karroid veld	Low	
Pedioplanis lineoocellata	Spotted Sand Lizard	Endemic	Data Deficient	Very varied: karroid veld, valley bushveld & arid & mesic savannah	High	
Pedioplanis namaquensis	Namaqua Sand Lizard	Widespread	Data Deficient	Karroid veld	High	
Pedioplanis undata	Western Sand Lizard	Widespread	Data Deficient	Prefers arid, sparsely vegetated desert	High	
Cordylus polyzonus	Karoo Girdled Lizard	Endemic	Data Deficient	Karroid regions	High	
Platysaurus broadleyi	Broadley's Flat Lizard	Narrow Endemic	Data Deficient	Rocky, arid sanannah, between augrabies and Pella	Low	
Agama aculeate	Ground Agama	Widespread	Data Deficient	Semi desert and savanna	High	
Agama anchietae	Anchieta's Agama	Widespread	Data Deficient	Semi desert and arid savanna	High	
Chameleons:				Data Deficient		
Chamaeleo namaquensis	Namaqua Chameleon	Widespread	LC	Sandy regions (incl coastal dunes) with scrub vegetation	High	
Geckos:						
Chondrodactylus angulifer	Giant Ground Gecko	Endemic	LC	Gravel plains, interdune spaces & sandy flats	High	
godactylus bradfieldi	Bradfield's Dwarf Gecko	Widespread	Data Deficient	Arid savannah and succulent desert	High	
Chondrodactylus bibronii	Bibron's Tubercled Gecko	Endemic	Data Deficient	Rocky outcrops, cliffs and large trees	High	
Pachydactylus capensis	Cape Thick-toed Gecko	Widespread	Data Deficient	Karroid veld, grassland and mesic savannah	Low	
Pachydactylus turneri	Turner's Thick-toed Gecko	Widespread	Data Deficient	Semi-desert and arid savannah	Low	
Pachydactylus rugosus	Rough Thick-toed Gecko	Endemic	Data Deficient	Semi-desert and succulent karroid veld	High	
Pachydactylus serval	Western Spotted Gecko	Endemic	Data Deficient	Semi desert and succulent karroid veld	High	
Ptenopus garrulus	Common Barking Gecko	Endemic	Data Deficient	Desert and semi-desert on various soil types, preferring flat stable sandy soils with sparse vegetation cover	High	

20. CHECKLIST OF AMPHIBIANS

Table 9: List of amphibians which are likely to occur at the Skuitdrift 75 MW Solar Facility site. Habitat notes and distribution records are based on Du Preez and Carruthers (2009), while conservation status is from the IUCN Red Lists 2012.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Habitat	Distribution	Probability
Vandijkophrynus gariepensis	Karoo Toad	Not Threatened	Karoo Scrub	Widespread	Low
Vandijkophrynus robinsoni	Paradise Toad	Not Threatened	Natural springs and waterholes in the arid areas of the Richtersveld	Endemic	Low
Phrynomantis annectens	Marbled Rubber Frog	Not Threatened	Arid environments, closely associated with inselbergs and rocky areas	Widespread	High
Xenopus laevis	Common Platanna	Not Threatened	Any more or less permanent water	Widespread	Low
Cacosternum boettgeri	Common Caco	Not Threatened	Marshy areas, vleis and shallow pans	Widespread	Low
Tomopterna tandyi	Tandy's Sand Frog	Not Threatened	Nama karoo grassland and savanna	Widespread	Low

21. CHECKLIST OF BIRDS

Table 10: List of birds which are likely to occur at the Skuitdrift 75 MW Solar Facility site. The list is derived from the SANBI SIBIS data portal and the South African conservation status from the list of threatened birds available from the Bird Life South Africa website, http://www.birdlife.org.za.

Family	Species	SA Status	Family	Species	SA Status
Accipitridae	Aquila pennatus	LC	Accipitridae	Aquila verreauxii	LC
Accipitridae	Buteo rufofuscus	LC	Accipitridae	Elanus caeruleus	LC
Accipitridae	Haliaeetus vocifer	LC	Accipitridae	Melierax canorus	LC
Alaudidae	Calendulauda africanoides	LC	Alaudidae	Calendulauda sabota Chersomanes	LC
Alaudidae	Certhilauda curvirostris	LC	Alaudidae	albofasciata	LC
Alaudidae	Eremopterix australis	LC	Alaudidae	Eremopterix verticalis	LC
Alaudidae	Mirafra apiata	LC	Alaudidae	Spizocorys sclateri	<mark>NT</mark>
Alaudidae	Spizocorys starki	LC	Anatidae	Alopochen aegyptiaca	LC
Anatidae	Anas capensis	LC	Anatidae	Anas sparsa	LC
Anatidae	Netta erythrophthalma	LC	Anatidae	Plectropterus gambensis	LC
Anatidae	Tadorna cana	LC	Anhingidae	Anhinga rufa	LC
Apodidae	Apus affinis	LC	Apodidae	Apus apus	LC
Apodidae	Apus bradfieldi	LC	Apodidae	Tachymarptis melba	LC
Ardeidae	Ardea cinerea	LC	Ardeidae	Ardea goliath	LC
Ardeidae	Ardea melanocephala	LC	Ardeidae	Ardea purpurea	LC
Ardeidae	Bubulcus ibis	LC	Ardeidae	Egretta garzetta	LC
Burhinidae	Burhinus capensis	LC	Capitonidae	Tricholaema leucomelas	LC
Caprimulgidae	Caprimulgus rufigena	LC	Caprimulgidae	Caprimulgus tristigma	LC
Charadriidae	Charadrius tricollaris	LC	Charadriidae	Vanellus armatus	LC
Charadriidae	Vanellus coronatus	LC	Ciconiidae	Ciconia ciconia	LC
Coliidae	Colius colius	LC	Coliidae	Urocolius indicus	LC
Columbidae	Columba guinea	LC	Columbidae	Oena capensis	LC

Columbidae	Streptopelia capicola	LC	Columbidae	Streptopelia semitorquata	LC
Columbidae	Streptopelia senegalensis	LC	Corvidae	Corvus albus	LC
Corvidae	Corvus capensis	LC	Dicruridae	Dicrurus adsimilis	LC
Estrildidae	Amadina erythrocephala	LC	Estrildidae	Estrilda astrild	LC
Falconidae	Falco rupicolis	LC	Falconidae	Falco rupicoloides	LC
Falconidae	Polihierax semitorquatus	LC	Fringillidae	Crithagra albogularis	LC
Fringillidae	Crithagra atrogularis	LC	Fringillidae	Crithagra flaviventris	LC
Fringillidae	Emberiza capensis	LC	Fringillidae	Emberiza impetuani	LC
Fringillidae	Serinus alario	LC	Halcyonidae	Alcedo cristata	LC
Halcyonidae	Ceryle rudis	LC	Hirundinidae	Hirundo albigularis	LC
Hirundinidae	Hirundo cucullata	LC	Hirundinidae	Hirundo fuligula	LC
Hirundinidae	Hirundo cucullata	LC	Hirundinidae	Riparia paludicola	LC
Laniidae	Lanius collaris	LC	Laniidae	Lanius minor	LC
Malaconotidae	Nilaus afer	LC	Malaconotidae	Telophorus zeylonus	LC
Meropidae		LC	Meropidae	Merops hirundineus	LC
Motacillidae	Merops apiaster Motacilla aguimp	LC	Motacillidae	Motacilla capensis	LC
Muscicapidae		LC	Muscicapidae	Bradornis infuscatus	LC
Nectariniidae	Batis pririt	LC	Nectariniidae	Nectarinia famosa	LC
Otididae	Cinnyris fuscus	LC	Otididae		LC
Otididae	Eupodotis afra	VU	Paridae	Eupodotis vigorsii Parus cinerascens	LC
	Neotis ludwigii				LC
Phalacrocoracidae	Phalacrocorax africanus	LC LC	Phalacrocoracidae	Phalacrocorax lucidus	
Phasianidae	Pternistis afer Rhinopomastus		Phasianidae	Pternistis capensis	LC
Phoeniculidae	cyanomelas	LC	Picidae	Dendropicos fuscescens	LC
Ploceidae	Euplectes orix	LC	Ploceidae	Passer diffusus	LC
Ploceidae	Passer domesticus	LC	Ploceidae	Passer melanurus	LC
Ploceidae	Philetairus socius	LC	Ploceidae	Plocepasser mahali	LC
Ploceidae	Ploceus velatus	LC	Ploceidae	Quelea quelea	LC
Ploceidae	Sporopipes squamifrons	LC	Psittacidae	Agapornis roseicollis	LC
Pteroclididae	Pterocles bicinctus	LC	Pteroclididae	Pterocles namaqua	LC
Pycnonotidae	Pycnonotus nigricans	LC	Remizidae	Anthoscopus minutus	LC
Scopidae	Scopus umbretta	LC	Strigidae	Bubo africanus Onychognathus	LC
Sturnidae	Lamprotornis nitens	LC	Sturnidae	nabouroup	LC
Sylviidae	Acrocephalus gracilirostris	LC	Sylviidae	Cisticola subruficapilla Euryptila	LC
Sylviidae	Eremomela icteropygialis	LC	Sylviidae	subcinnamomea	LC
Sylviidae	Malcorus pectoralis	LC	Sylviidae	Parisoma subcaeruleum	LC
Sylviidae	Phragmacia substriata	LC	Sylviidae	Phylloscopus trochilus	LC
Sylviidae	Prinia flavicans	LC	Sylviidae	Prinia hypoxantha?	LC
Turdidae	Cercomela familiaris	LC	Turdidae	Cercomela schlegelii	LC
Turdidae	Cercomela sinuate	LC	Turdidae	Cercomela tractrac	LC
Turdidae	Cercotrichas coryphoeus	LC	Turdidae	Cossypha caffra	LC
Turdidae	Myrmecocichla formicivora	LC	Turdidae	Oenanthe monticola	LC
Turdidae	Oenanthe pileata	LC	Turdidae	Turdus olivaceus	LC
Upupidae	Upupa africana	LC	Zosteropidae	Zosterops pallidus	LC