

02 May 2013

Dear Stakeholder

**NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS
PROPOSED ORYX SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY, NEAR VIRGINIA, FREE STATE PROVINCE
(DEA REF: 14/16/3/3/3/2/482)**

FRV Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd is proposing to establish a commercial photovoltaic solar energy facility with a generating capacity of up to 80MW, as well as associated infrastructure on a site located approximately 11 km south-west of Virginia, Free State Province.

Based on a pre-feasibility analysis, site identification and environmental screening processes undertaken by FRV Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, a favourable area has been identified for consideration and evaluation through an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The solar energy facility is proposed to accommodate an array of **photovoltaic (PV) panels** with a generating capacity of up to 80 MW. It is proposed to make use of either static or tracking solar panel technology for this facility. Other **infrastructure** associated with the facility will include:

- » Mounting structures for the solar panels to be either rammed steel piles or piles with pre-manufactured concrete footings to support the PV panels.
- » Cabling between the project components, to be laid underground where practical.
- » A new on-site substation to evacuate the power from the facility into the Eskom grid (loop in loop out connection to the 132kv line on the farm and this connects to the Oryx 132/44/11 kV substation)
- » Internal access roads and fencing.
- » Workshop area for maintenance, storage, and offices.

The Oryx Solar Energy Facility is proposed to be located on portion 2 of farm Kalkoen-Krans 225, about 11 km south-west of Virginia, within the Mathjabeng Local Municipality of the Free State Province.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

In terms of the EIA Regulations published in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998), FRV Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd requires authorisation from the National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), as the competent authority (in consultation with the Free State Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DEDTEA)) for the construction and operation of the proposed solar energy facility. In terms of sections 24 and 24D of NEMA, as read with the EIA Regulations of GN R543 (Regulations 26-35) and R545, a Scoping and EIA are required to be undertaken for this proposed project.

In order to obtain authorisation, comprehensive, independent environmental studies must be undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations. This project has been registered with the National DEA under application reference number **14/12/16/3/3/2/482**.

FRV Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd has appointed **Savannah Environmental**, as the independent environmental consultants, to undertake the required Scoping Phase and Environmental Impact Assessment to identify and assess all the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project, and proposes appropriate mitigation and management measures in an Environmental Management Plan (EMP). As part of these environmental studies, I&APs will be actively involved through the public involvement process also being undertaken by Savannah Environmental.

To obtain further information and register on the project database, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the project to the contact person below. Comments can be made as written submission via fax, post or e-mail.

Please submit your comments to
Gabriele Wood of Savannah Environmental PO Box 148 Sunninghill, 2157 Fax: 086 510 684 0547 E-mail: gabriele@savannahsa.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the proposed project. Our team welcomes your participation and looks forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Yours sincerely,

Gabriele Wood
Process Facilitator



Notice of Environmental Impact Assessment - Oryx Solar Energy Facility, Free State (DEA REF: 14/16/3/3/3/2/482)

Forward

Assigned to: Gabriele Wood	Date Sent: 15/05/2013 13.28
Teams: Global	Project: Oryx Solar Energy Facility
From: Gabriele Wood <gabriele@savannahsa.com>	
To:	
Cc:	
Bcc: Andrea van Gensen <andrea.vangensen@eskom.co.za>, B Mlambo <mlambob@nra.co.za>, JC Landman <landmanc@nra.co.za>, William du Plessis <williamdup@vodamail.co.za>, S Kewuti <kalipa.kewuti@dmr.gov.za>, John Geeringh <john.geeringh@eskom.co.za>, L van Rensburg <vrensbl@detea.fs.gov.za>, Lizell Stroh <strohl@caa.co.za>, MP Thabethe <pahod@fs.agric.za>, Mr Ikhraam Osman <moetit@dteea.fs.gov.za>, Ms C Booyse <booysec@freetrans.gov.za>, Jeaane Nel <nelj@sacr.fs.gov.za>, Grace Mkhosana <mkhosana@detea.fs.gov.za>, Thoko Buthelezi <thokob@daff.gov.za>, Archie Jonas <archie@lejwe.co.za>, W.A Naude <naudew@freetrans.gov.za>, Eddie Scott <eddie@fscogta.gov.za>, Moss Mthombeni <moss@lejwe.co.za>, Mashudu Marubini <mashuduma@daff.gov.za>	
Subject: Notice of Environmental Impact Assessment - Oryx Solar Energy Facility, Free State (DEA REF: 14/16/3/3/3/2/482)	
Body: Dear Stakeholder	
<p>FRV Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd is proposing to establish a commercial photovoltaic solar energy facility with a generating capacity of up to 80MW, as well as associated infrastructure on a site located approximately 11 km south-west of Virginia, Free State Province. Savannah Environmental has been appointed to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed project. Please find herewith a project notification letter, Back Ground Information Document and stakeholder reply form for your reference.</p> <p>Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries in this regard.</p> <p>Kind Regards</p> <p>Mrs Gabriele Wood</p> <p>Public Participation and Social Consultant</p> <p>Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd</p> <p>Tel: 27 11 656 3237</p> <p>Fax: 086 684 0547</p>	

Email: gabriele@savannahsa.com

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Attachments: [Oryx Reply Form.pdf](#)
[Oryx SEF BID Afri.pdf](#)
[Oryx SEF BID, Eng.pdf](#)
[Oryx SEF Notification Letter 14.05.2013.pdf](#)

Activities

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Attachments

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Contacts

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Name	Organisation	Email
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Email Stakeholders

(1 - 10 of 21)	
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Name	Organisation	Email	
Ms C Booyse	Free State Department of Police, Roads & Transportation	booysec@freetrans.gov.za	<input type="button" value="edit"/>
Thoko Buthelezi	Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	thokob@daff.gov.za	<input type="button" value="edit"/>
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John Geeringh	Eskom	john.geeringh@eskom.co.za	<input type="button" value="edit"/>
Archie Jonas	Lejweleputswa District Municipality	archie@lejwe.co.za	<input type="button" value="edit"/>
S Kewuti	Department of Mineral Resources	kalipa.kewuti@dmr.gov.za	<input type="button" value="edit"/>
JC Landman	South African National Roads Agency Limited	landmanc@nra.co.za	<input type="button" value="edit"/>
Mashudu Marubini	Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	mashuduma@daff.gov.za	<input type="button" value="edit"/>
Grace Mkhosana	Free State Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs	Mkhosana@detea.fs.gov.za	<input type="button" value="edit"/>
B Mlambo	South African National Roads Agency Limited	mlambob@nra.co.za	<input type="button" value="edit"/>

Users

Name	User Name	Email	Phone
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Projects

Name	Assigned To	Start Date:	End Date:	
Oryx Solar Energy Facility	Gabriele Wood	01/05/2013	01/05/2014	<input type="button" value="edit"/>

 Print  Back to top



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 Print  Back to top