

23 January 2017

Dear Stakeholder

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS
REALIGNMENT OF A SECTION OF THE MN73 TO ACCOMMODATE SOLAR ENERGY
FACILITIES NEAR PAULPUTS SUBSTATION, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

NOTICE OF BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The area immediately surrounding the Paulputs Substation (located approximately 45km north-east of Pofadder), and specifically Portion 4 of the Farm Scuitklip 92 has become a node for solar energy facility developments. Two Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) facilities and one photovoltaic (PV) facility have already been constructed in this area. These are known as the Kaxu Solar One, Xina Solar One and Konkoonsies I PV plants respectively. Another PV facility (known as Konkoonsies II PV) is to be constructed during 2017, and a third CSP facility (known as the Paulputs CSP project) received an environmental authorisation on 16 November 2016.

The development of the solar energy facilities is in response to the requirement for additional electricity generation capacity at a national level and in response to identified objectives of the national, provincial, local and district municipalities to develop renewable energy facilities. In order to facilitate the construction of the Paulputs CSP Facility, the Northern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works (NC DR&PW) propose that a section of the MN73 road traversing Portion 4 of the Farm Scuitklip 92 is to be realigned.

The MN73 realignment is proposed in order to accommodate the Paulputs CSP Facility while ensuring safe road use for the surrounding landowners currently utilising the MN73. The realignment of the road will entail:

- » the construction of a new section of road ~4km in length and ~7m wide (with a road reserve of 20m) according to approved Northern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works (NC DR&PW) plans and standards; and
- » the decommissioning of ~3km of the existing MN73 road as and where required after the construction of the realigned section has ceased. Portions of the decommissioned section of the MN73 road will not be rehabilitated where these are used to provide internal access for the Paulputs CSP Facility.

Following completion of construction and commissioning of the new road section which will be undertaken by Abengoa Solar Power South Africa (Pty) Ltd, this infrastructure (as well as the relevant environmental permits) will be transferred to the Northern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works (NC DR&PW) for operation and maintenance.

BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations published in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998), the NC DR&PW requires authorisation from the Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC). In terms of sections 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998), as read with the EIA Regulations of GN R982, GN R983, and R985, a Basic Assessment process is required to be undertaken for the proposed project. The Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC) is the competent authority for the project.

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as the independent environmental consultant, to undertake the required Basic Assessment to identify and assess all the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed projects and propose appropriate mitigation and management measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). The public participation process, which forms part of the overall Basic Assessment process, will also be undertaken by Savannah Environmental.

The department and/or the organisation which you represent has been identified as a commenting authority for the proposed project. In this regard, please can you provide us with the name and contact details of the relevant contact person at your department who we would liaise with regarding this project. By registering on the project database, you will receive all information relating to the project and will be provided with an opportunity to provide comment and input into the EIA process.

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.

Kind Regards

MRS GABRIELE WOOD
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND SOCIAL CONSULTANT
SAVANNAH ENVIRONMENTAL

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REALIGNMENT OF A SECTION OF THE MN73 TO ACCOMMODATE SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES NEAR PAULPUTS SUBSTATION, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE - NOTICE OF BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

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Assigned to:	Gabriele Wood	Date Sent:	23/01/2017 17.07
Teams:	Global	Project:	Paulputs Road Re-alignment (MN73 Road), NC
From:	Gabriele Wood <gabriele@savannahsa.com>		
To:			
Cc:			
Bcc:	Amanda Bester <wayleacr@telkom.co.za>, Steven Shibambu <shibambus@dwa.gov.za>, Brian Fisher <bfisher@ncpg.gov.za>, Jillian Nortje <jillian@khaima.gov.za>, Chris Fortuin <chrisf@namakwa-dm.gov.za>, Peter Cloete <peter.denc87@gmail.com>, Tabbie Roberts <tabbie@vodamail.com>, Nicole Abrahams <abrahamsn@nra.co.za>, Shaun Cloete <cloetes@dwa.gov.za>, John Geeringh <john.geeringh@eskom.co.za>, Jannie Loubser <janniel@namakwa-dm.gov.za>, Ratha Andrew Timothy <ratha.timothy@gmail.com>, Immanuel Smith <ismith@namakwa-dm.gov.za>, Jaco Roelofse <roelofse.j@vodamail.co.za>, Natasha Higgitt <nhiggitt@sahra.org.za>, Menelisi Sithole <msithole@ncpg.gov.za>, Jasper Nieuwoudt <jasper.nieuwoudt@dmr.gov.za>, Samuel Masemola <dgoffice@drdlr.gov.za>, Debbie Hardin <hardind@eskom.co.za>, Jacoline Mans <jacolinema@daff.gov.za>, R Matsoso <r.matsoso@vodamail.co.za>, Chris Schutte <schutce5@telkom.co.za>, Conrad Geldenhuys <c.geldenhuys@hotmail.com>, Henry Raman <ramanhj@gmail.com>, Onwabile Ndzumo <onyndzumo@gmail.com>, Obakeng Isaacs <mmsecretary@khaima.gov.za>, Abe Abrahams <franksl@dwa.gov.za>, Sunday Mabaso <sunday.mabaso@dmr.gov.za>, Wonders Dimakatso Viljoen Mothibi <cfortune@agri.ncape.gov.za>, Mashudu Marubini <mashuduma@daff.gov.za>, Pheladi Masipa <pheladi.masipa@energy.gov.za>		
Subject:	REALIGNMENT OF A SECTION OF THE MN73 TO ACCOMMODATE SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES NEAR PAULPUTS SUBSTATION, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE - NOTICE OF BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS		
Body:	<p>Dear Stakeholder</p> <p>The area immediately surrounding the Paulputs Substation (located approximately 45km north-east of Pofadder), and specifically Portion 4 of the Farm Scuitklip 92 has become a node for solar energy facility developments. Two Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) facilities and one photovoltaic (PV) facility have already been constructed in this area. These are known as the Kaxu Solar One, Xina Solar One and Konkoonsies I PV plants respectively. Another PV facility (known as Konkoonsies II PV) is to be constructed during 2017, and a third CSP facility (known as the Paulputs CSP project) received an environmental authorisation on 16 November 2016.</p> <p>The development of the solar energy facilities is in response to the requirement for additional electricity generation capacity at a national level and in response to identified objectives of the national, provincial, local and district municipalities to develop renewable energy</p>		

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Kind regards

Mrs Gabriele Wood

Public Participation and Social Consultant

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Tel: 27 11 656 3237

Fax: 086 684 0547

Email: gabriele@savannahsa.com

www.savannahsa.com

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Attachments: [Organs of State Process Letter 23.01.2017.pdf](#)
[Paulputs Road Realignment - Locality Map - 11.01.17.pdf](#)
[Reply Form.pdf](#)

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Name	Assigned To	Start Date:	End Date:
Paulputs Road Re-alignment (MN73 Road), NC	Gabriele Wood	01/08/2016	01/03/2017

edit

Attachments

(1 - 3 of 3)

Subject	Contact	Last Modified
Organs of State Process Letter 23.01.2017.pdf		23/01/2017 17.07
Paulputs Road Realignment - Locality Map - 11.01.17.pdf		23/01/2017 17.07

edit

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24 January 2017

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NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

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AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW

A Basic Assessment Report for the proposed MN73 road realignment has been prepared by Savannah Environmental and is available for a 30-day review period. The review period is from **25 January 2017 to 24 February 2017**. The report can be viewed at the Pofadder Public Library (Main Rd, Pofadder). The report is also available for download at www.savannahsa.com

Please submit comments to Savannah Environmental before or on **24 February 2017**. Comments must be made as written submission via fax, post or email.

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.

Kind Regards

MRS GABRIELE WOOD
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND SOCIAL CONSULTANT
SAVANNAH ENVIRONMENTAL