

APPENDIX E4
COMMENTS RECEIVED

The bottom of the page features a decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping geometric shapes. On the left, a red triangle points downwards. A large grey trapezoidal shape extends from the left towards the center. On the right, a light grey trapezoidal shape points downwards. A red trapezoidal shape overlaps the bottom right corner of the grey shapes.



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA · 0001· Environment House ·473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, · PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/276/2/AM2

Enquiries: Nyiko Nkosi

Telephone: (012) 399 9392 **E-mail:** NNkosi@dfpe.gov.za

Ms Nkhensani Masondo
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Telephone Number: 011 656 3237
Email Address: nkhesani@savannahsa.com

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ms Masondo

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT AMENDMENT REPORT FOR THE APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION(EA) ISSUED ON THE 30 APRIL 2013 AS AMENDED, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE ASSOCIATED WITH THE GRASPAN PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) PLANT PHASE 1 (90MW), LOCATED ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF THE FARM GRASPAN (FARM NO. 172) WITHIN THE SIYANCUMA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the above-mentioned project dated 30 April 2013, the application for amendment of the EA received by the Department on 28 April 2023, acknowledgement of receipt and request for additional information dated 09 May 2023; the additional information received on 08 June 2023, the meeting held on the 14 June 2023, the amended additional information received by the Department on 20 June 2023, The Department's comments requesting further information dated 30 June 2023 and the draft amendment report received by the Department on 03 August 2023, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final Amendment Report:

(a) Specific Comments

- (i) Since the proposed amendment is to extend beyond 10 years and further assessments has been conducted as per the Department's acknowledgement letter, The final report must include additional conditions (if applicable) that must be incorporated into the EA.
- (ii) Ensure that the requirements of the acknowledgment letter dated 09 May 2023, Department's comments dated 30 June 2023 and this comment letter are fully addressed and referenced in the final report.

(b) Public Participation Process

- (i) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the final report.
- (ii) Comments from this Department provided during the acknowledgement of receipt of application as well as these comments must form part of commence and Response report indicating where these comments has been addressed in the final Motivation report.
- (iii) A Comments and Response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final report. The C&R report must incorporate all comments for this application. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs

must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as “noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments.

- (iv) Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the draft report from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final report. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final report. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (v) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014 as amended.
- (vi) Please provide proof of the newspaper advert and site notice and communication with I&APs.

(c) Specialist assessments

- (i) Specialist Declaration of Interest form for all specialist commissioned for this amendment, must be submitted.
- (ii) The EAP must provide a reasoned opinion or conclusion, which considers the specialists’ recommendations and outcomes of their assessments and provide sufficient motivation in support of approving the amendment application. For e.g., the biodiversity study has used the recommended mitigations from the original study completed in 2012 and added on additional requirements and found cumulative impacts to be negligible.
- (iii) The EAP must include a table of comparison showing the impact table findings of the initial studies versus the current information provided in the specialist letters to demonstrate the changes (if any) to the identified impacts and provide a reasoned conclusive opinion in support or dispute of the findings.
- (iv) The EAP must indicate and ensure that all additional mitigation measures as recommended by the Specialists which are to be included in the EA are specified clearly and it must be detailed and clearly indicated where they must be inserted into the EA (if necessary). These can be included in the section where you discuss the recommendation and conclusion by EAP
- (v) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and were necessary, include further expertise advice.

General:

Please note that the **final motivation report** for this proposed application for amendment is due on the **10 September 2023**. Should you fail to meet the above timeframes, your application will **lapse**.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Dr Danie Smit

Designation: Deputy Director: National Integrated Authorisations Projects

Date: 25/08/2023

cc:	Ms Lea Giroux	Graspan Solar Project (Pty) Ltd	Email: lea.giroux@engie.com
	Ms Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental	Email: joanne@savannahsa.com



Mvelaphande Trading

30 Blesbok Street

Fauna
BLOEMFONTEIN
9301

Enquiries: Mantwa Gabaitumele
Telephone: 0825216813
E-mail: GabaiMA2@telkom.co.za

Our reference: **CPLT0612-23**

Your reference: THE GRASPAN PV FACILITY

30 August 2023

ATT: CORNELIUS HOLTZHAUSEN

SAVANNA ENVIROMENTAL (PTY) LTD

AMENDMENT OF THE GRASPAN PV FACILITY AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

With reference to your letter dated 22 August 2023.

With reference to your above-mentioned application, I hereby confirm that Openserve approves the proposed application as indicated on your drawings in terms of the Electronic Communication Act No. 36 of 2005 as amended.

No infrastructure of our client (Openserve) will be affected by this proposal; however, care should be taken should it become evident that there is in fact infrastructure of our client (Openserve) present at the actual sites. **We did our utmost to ensure that we indicate our route as accurate as possible and should you discover any of our cables that are not on the sketch please stop and contact us immediately to arrange a site meeting. Please make use of pilot holes in order not to damage our infrastructure. In the event that our cables are exposed and damaged/stolen by a third party the damages will be repaired at the customer's account. Please make use of pilot holes in order not to damage our infrastructure.**

Although our client (Openserve) will not be affected by this proposal, Mr Vivian Groenewald must be contacted at 054 338 6501 / 081 362 6738, 2 (Two) weeks prior of commencement on construction work.

As per supplied drawings it would appear as if Openserve infrastructure would not be affected. However, care should still be taken should it become evident that there is in fact Openserve network present at the actual sites. Such lines should be treated in accordance with, and clearances stipulated in the occupational Health and Safety Act no. 85 of 1993, Electrical Machinery regulations 20 – Crossings, and Electrical Machinery Regulations 15 – Clearance Power Lines. If the specifications could not be met, all deviations costs will be for applicant's account. We also refer to section 25 of the Electronic Communication Act 36 of 2005

On completion of this project, please certify that all requirements as stipulated in this letter have been met. Please note that should any of our client (Openserve) infrastructure has to be relocated or altered as a result of your activities the costs for such an alteration or relocation will be for your account in terms of section 25 of the Electronic Communications Act.

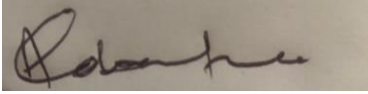
This approval is valid for 6 months only, after which re-application must be made if the work has not been completed.

Any changes / deviations from the original planning during or prior to construction must immediately be communicated to this office.

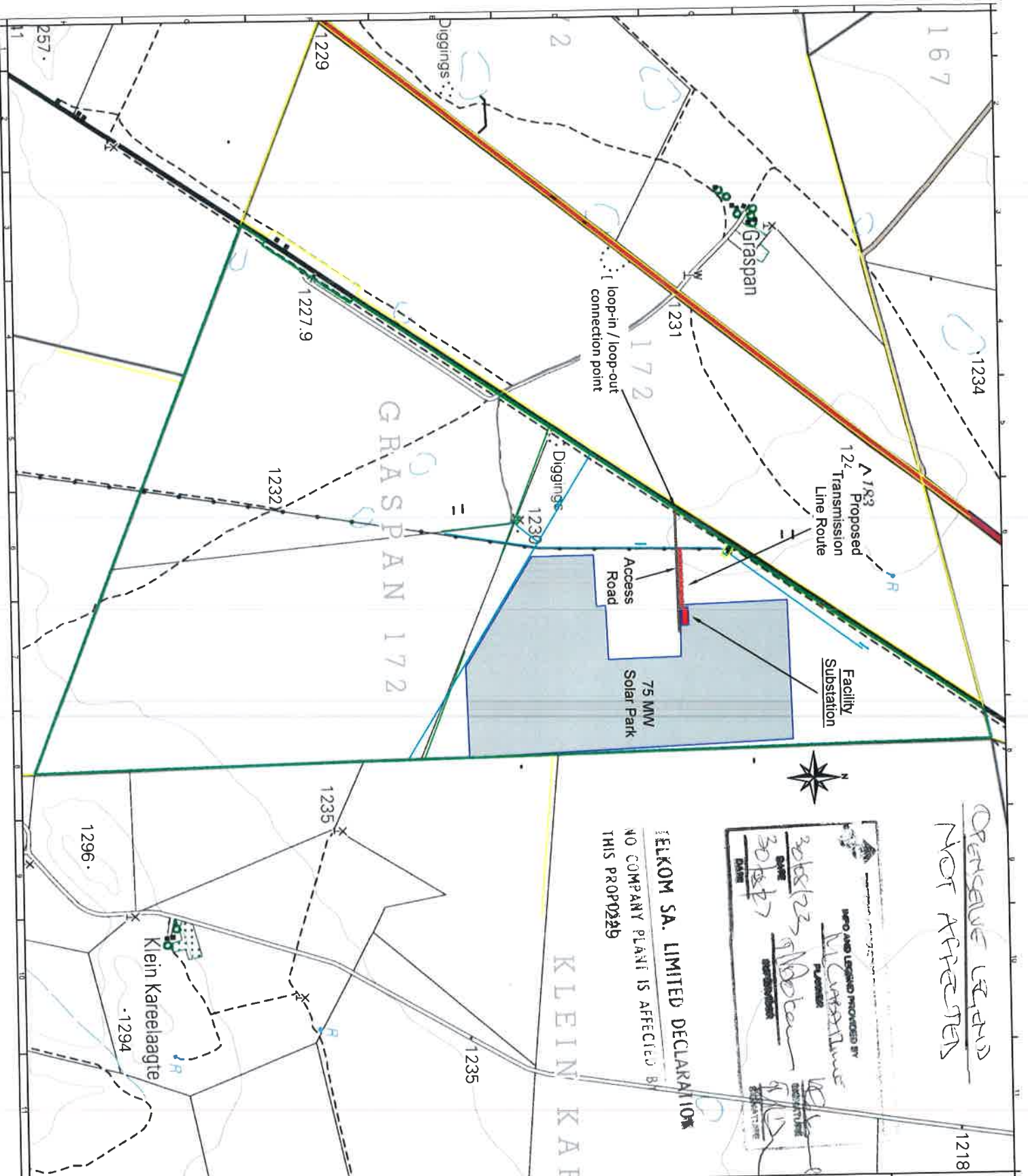
Although our client (Openserve) will not be affected by this proposal, Mr Vivian Groenewald must be contacted at 054 338 6501 / 081 362 6738 (Two) weeks prior of commencement on construction work.

Please notify this office and forward an as built plan, within 30 days of completion of construction.

Yours faithfully



MANTWA GABAITUMELE



*ORPENSEULE LEGEND
NOT AFFEKTEN*

INFO AND LEGEND PROVIDED BY
KL. CARSTEN PLUVE
 PROJECT MANAGER
30/08/23
30/08/23
 DATE
 DATE

ELKOM SA. LIMITED DECLARATION
 NO COMPANY PLANT IS AFFECTED BY
 THIS PROPOSED

This drawing is the property of Solaire Direct Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd. and may not be copied or reproduced either wholly or in part without the written permission of the aforementioned company.
 This drawing is not to be scaled. Figured Dimensions only are to be followed. Additional Dimensions, when required, will be provided upon request. Contractors are to check all Dimensions before work commences and refer any Discrepancy to the Engineer for adjustments.

LEGEND

	Proposed 132kV Overhead Transmission Line
	Lesshold Area
	Access Road to Solar Park
	Solar Park Fencing
	Existing Elkom Powerline

Solaireredirect
 Southern Africa

PROJECT
 Graspan Solar Project 75MW
 The Remaining Extent of the Farm Graspan, Nr. 172, Herbert RD, Northern Cape Province.

DRAWING TITLE
 LOCALITY PLAN

SIGNATURE FOR SD	DATE	PR. NO.	SHEET SIZE
DESIGNED P.B.	15/15	No.	A3
DRAWN P.B.	15/15	No.	SCALE 1:20 000
CHECKED R.M.	15/15	No.	PR. ENG. 080093
APPROVED W.L.			INFO

SD DRAWING NUMBER
ZA-GRA0-EN-GE-DWG-0001