

Initial Notifications



Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd

Reg. No. 2008/004627/07
VAT No 4720248386

Telephone: (044) 874 0365
Facsimile: (044) 874 0432
Web: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

1st Floor Eagles View Building
5 Progress Street, George
PO Box 2070, George 6530

23 May 2013

Ref: KAI231/02

Attention: **Neighbouring Landowner**

VIA: email and fax

NEAS Reference: **DEA/EIA/0001825/2013**

DEA Reference: **14/12/16/3/3/2/538**

RE: SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED KIMBRATRAX SOLAR DEVELOPMENT ON PORTION 12 OF THE FARM DYASONSKLIP 254 NEAR UPINGTON IN THE NORTHERN CAPE

Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (*Cape EAPrac*) have been appointed by the Applicant, **Kimbratrax (Pty) Ltd.**, to ensure compliance with the regulations contained in the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, No 107 of 1998 as amended) for the construction of a Solar Energy Facility on Portion 12 of the farm Dyasonsklip 454 near Upington in the Northern Cape. An Application for a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process has been submitted to and accepted by the national Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

With South Africa's constrained electricity generation, transmission and distribution, as well as the impact that carbon emissions from existing coal-fired power stations have on the environment, this **renewable energy project** will generate electricity for input into the national grid to augment Eskom's power supply.

As a **Neighbouring Landowner** you have been identified by *Cape EAPrac* as a potential "**Interested & Affected Party**" (I&AP) for this proposed development and **automatically registered** for the EIA process.

A Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment process is required in terms of the NEMA for the construction of the proposed solar facility and its associated infrastructure. The listed activities associated with the proposed development, as stipulation under Regulation 544, 545 & 546 are as follows:

R544	Listed Activity	Activity Description
10(i)	The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33kV, but less than 275kV.	New overhead power line linking the proposed on-site substation/operation building to the new proposed Major Transmission Substation. The final capacity of the transmission line may still change in the detailed design.
11	The construction of (ii) channels (iii) bridges (v) weirs (x) buildings exceeding 50m ² in size, or (xi) infrastructure or structures covering 50m ² or more,	The possible construction of roads/tracks & PV arrays across the minor drainage lines or in

	where such construction occurs within a watercourse or within 32m of a watercourse , measured from the edge of the watercourse, excluding where such construction will occur behind the development line.	proximity to seasonal pans.
18	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from (i) a watercourse .	The possible construction of roads/tracks & PV arrays across the minor drainage lines
22 (ii)	The construction of a road, outside urban areas , (i) with a reserve wider than 13.5m or, (ii) where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8m or, (iii) for which an environmental authorisation was obtained for the route determination in terms of activity 5 in Government Notice 387 of 2006 or activity 18 in Notice 545 of 2010.	Construction of access and internal roads for the solar facility for construction and operation phases outside the urban area and of both Upington and Keimoes.
R545	Listed Activity	Activity Description
1	The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 20MW or more .	The Kimbratrax solar facility will have a maximum generation capacity of 500MW .
8	The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex.	New overhead power line linking the proposed on-site substation/operation building to the proposed new Eskom Major Transmission Substation. The capacity of these proposed lines may change once detailed design is completed.
15	Physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land to residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the total area to be transformed is 20ha or more .	Development of the Kimbratrax solar development of approximately 500ha on vacant land, outside of the Urban Areas of both Upington and Keimoes
R546	Listed Activity	Activity Description
4	The construction of a road wider than 4m with a reserve less than 13.5m. All areas outside urban areas.	Construction of access and internal roads wider than 4 metres for the solar facility, outside the urban areas of both Upington and Keimoes.
14	The clearance of an area of 5ha or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation. All areas outside urban areas.	Vegetation clearing for the Solar Panels and associated infrastructure: access roads, cable trenches and on-site substation & axillary buildings etc. outside the urban areas of Upington and Keimoes Solar Energy Plant to be constructed over an area approximately 500ha on private land. Intact vegetation to be avoided by solar facility as far as

	possible.
--	-----------

An **Application Form** has been submitted to, and approved by the **Department of Environmental Affairs** (DEA) (REF: **14/12/16/3/3/2/538**, dated 22 April 2013), authorising *Cape EAPrac* to commence with the **Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Phase** of the environmental process. Advertisements calling for registration of I&APs have been placed in the *Gemsbok* newspapers. A location plan, background information document and online registration forms are available on the website at: www.cape-eaprac.co.za/active. A Background information document is also attached to this letter for your information.

This office will compile the draft Scoping Report (DSR) during August 2013, which will contain further details regarding the proposal, as well as specialist input. All further project information will be sent to you for input and comment. **Should you not wish to receive any further information, please inform this office in writing** to the address below. Please provide this office with the names and contact details of any other persons that may have an interest in this proposal along with your own comments.

Preliminary comments and registrations can be submitted to:

Cape EAPrac
ATT: Mr. Dale Holder
 P.O. Box 2070, George, 6530
 Tel.: 044 874 0365
 Fax: 044 874 0432
 Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

If you have any enquiries in this regard, or would like any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact this office directly.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Dale Holder
 For *Cape EAPrac*

In the event that you or your organization have been wrongly identified as a stakeholder, or in the event that the responsibility of providing comment on this application lies with another party within your organization, either forward this notice to them or notify Cape EAPrac within one week of receiving this notice of the correct party that should be informed. Should you be aware of any relevant legislation that needs to be complied with, in addition to this process, please inform us of such as soon as possible.



Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd

Reg. No. 2008/004627/07
VAT No 4720248386

Telephone: (044) 874 0365
Facsimile: (044) 874 0432
Web: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

1st Floor Eagles View Building
5 Progress Street, George
PO Box 2070, George 6530

23 May 2013
Ref: KAI231/02

Attention: **Stakeholder, State Department & Organ of State**

VIA: email and fax

NEAS Reference: **DEA/EIA/0001825/2013**

DEA Reference: **14/12/16/3/3/2/538**

RE: SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED KIMBRATRAX SOLAR DEVELOPMENT ON PORTION 12 OF THE FARM DYASONSKLIP 254 NEAR UPINGTON IN THE NORTHERN CAPE

Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Cape EAPrac) have been appointed by the Applicant, **Kimbratrax (Pty) Ltd.**, to ensure compliance with the regulations contained in the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, No 107 of 1998 as amended) for the construction of a Solar Energy Facility on Portion 12 of the farm Dyasonsklip 454 near Upington in the Northern Cape. An Application for a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process has been submitted to and accepted by the national Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

With South Africa's constrained electricity generation, transmission and distribution, as well as the impact that carbon emissions from existing coal-fired power stations have on the environment, this **renewable energy project** will generate electricity for input into the national grid to augment Eskom's power supply.

As a **key stakeholder, community representative, ratepayers association or relevant authority**, you have been identified by *Cape EAPrac* as a potential "**Interested & Affected Party**" (I&AP) for this proposed development and **automatically registered** for the EIA process.

A Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment process is required in terms of the NEMA for the construction of the proposed solar facility and its associated infrastructure. The listed activities associated with the proposed development, as stipulation under Regulation 544, 545 & 546 are as follows:

R544	Listed Activity	Activity Description
10(i)	The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33kV, but less than 275kV.	New overhead power line linking the proposed on-site substation/operation building to the new proposed Major Transmission Substation. The final capacity of the transmission line may still change in the detailed design.
11	The construction of (ii) channels (iii) bridges (v) weirs (x) buildings exceeding 50m ² in size, or (xi)	The possible construction of roads/tracks & PV arrays across

	infrastructure or structures covering 50m ² or more, where such construction occurs within a watercourse or within 32m of a watercourse , measured from the edge of the watercourse, excluding where such construction will occur behind the development line.	the minor drainage lines or in proximity to seasonal pans.
18	The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, pebbles or rock of more than 5cubic metres from (i) a watercourse .	The possible construction of roads/tracks & PV arrays across the minor drainage lines
22 (ii)	The construction of a road, outside urban areas , (i) with a reserve wider than 13.5m or, (ii) where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8m or, (iii) for which an environmental authorisation was obtained for the route determination in terms of activity 5 in Government Notice 387 of 2006 or activity 18 in Notice 545 of 2010.	Construction of access and internal roads for the solar facility for construction and operation phases outside the urban area and of both Upington and Keimoes.
R545	Listed Activity	Activity Description
1	The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 20MW or more .	The Kimbratrax solar facility will have a maximum generation capacity of 500MW .
8	The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex.	New overhead power line linking the proposed on-site substation/operation building to the proposed new Eskom Major Transmission Substation. The capacity of these proposed lines may change once detailed design is completed.
15	Physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land to residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the total area to be transformed is 20ha or more .	Development of the Kimbratrax solar development of approximately 500ha on vacant land, outside of the Urban Areas of both Upington and Keimoes
R546	Listed Activity	Activity Description
4	The construction of a road wider than 4m with a reserve less than 13.5m. All areas outside urban areas.	Construction of access and internal roads wider than 4 metres for the solar facility, outside the urban areas of both Upington and Keimoes.
14	The clearance of an area of 5ha or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation. All areas outside urban areas.	Vegetation clearing for the Solar Panels and associated infrastructure: access roads, cable trenches and on-site substation & axillary buildings etc. outside the urban areas of Upington and Keimoes Solar Energy Plant to be constructed over an area approximately 500ha on private land. Intact vegetation to be

		avoided by solar facility as far as possible.
--	--	---

An **Application Form** has been submitted to, and approved by the **Department of Environmental Affairs** (DEA) (REF: **14/12/16/3/3/2/538**, dated 22 April 2013), authorising *Cape EAPrac* to commence with the **Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Phase** of the environmental process. Advertisements calling for registration of I&APs have been placed in the *Gemsbok* newspapers. A location plan, background information document and online registration forms are available on the website at: www.cape-eaprac.co.za/active. A Background information document is also attached to this letter for your information.

This office will compile the draft Scoping Report (DSR) during August 2013, which will contain further details regarding the proposal, as well as specialist input. All further project information will be sent to you for input and comment. **Should you not wish to receive any further information, please inform this office in writing** to the address below. Please provide this office with the names and contact details of any other persons that may have an interest in this proposal along with your own comments.

Preliminary comments and registrations can be submitted to:

Cape EAPrac
ATT: Mr. Dale Holder
 P.O. Box 2070, George, 6530
 Tel.: 044 874 0365
 Fax: 044 874 0432
 Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

If you have any enquiries in this regard, or would like any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact this office directly.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Dale Holder
 For *Cape EAPrac*

In the event that you or your organization have been wrongly identified as a stakeholder, or in the event that the responsibility of providing comment on this application lies with another party within your organization, either forward this notice to them or notify Cape EAPrac within one week of receiving this notice of the correct party that should be informed. Should you be aware of any relevant legislation that needs to be complied with, in addition to this process, please inform us of such as soon as possible.