

Appendix F: Impact Assessment

PROJECT IMPACT ASSESSMENT, SIGNIFICANCE AND MITIGATION MEASURES SUMMARY

The following impact rating approach used by Enviro Africa CC is a basic exponential rating system to assess actual and potential negative environmental impacts.

Positive environmental impacts are also listed. All positive impacts need to be enhanced or increased where possible but positive impacts are not rated or given a score since the rating is based on risks.

Environmental activities or aspects are identified, based on:

- the phases of the project,
- the nature (or description) of the actual and potential impacts of the activities.

For every project activity or aspect, various environmental impacts are listed. Every negative impact is allocated a value as per each of the following criteria:

- Likelihood (Probability)
- Extent (Severity)
- Duration (Frequency)
- Consequence (Receiving Environment and Toxicity)

Once a value is allocated for each of the criterion, the scores are averaged to determine the final impact rating see Table 1 below.

Enviro Africa then further assesses environmental significance, based on the nature of the impact, as per the score and colour key which forms part of Table 1 below. This results in impacts having either a low (indicated in green), medium (indicated in yellow) or high (indicated in orange and red) significance.

- Note:**
- i. One environmental aspect or project activity e.g. site clearance may have multiple impacts in different areas.
 - ii. The various impacts per aspect/project activity are documented under the following project phases:
 - A. Transport of Equipment/Material to Site
 - B. Site Clearance
 - C. Site Establishment
 - D. Construction
 - E. Operation and Maintenance
 - F. Decommissioning/Demolition
 - iii. As a baseline, impact rating values/scores are allocated taking the **worst case** scenario into account i.e. with no mitigation. The baseline rating is compared with those after mitigation has been taken into account i.e. the post-mitigation rating. **Post mitigation rating is used for the actual impact assessment.**

Environmental Significance Rating Methodology (rating criteria and significance key):

SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA	Very High	Moderately High	Medium	Moderately Medium	Low	Very Low	Score
Value	32	16	8	4	2	1	
Likelihood / Probability (L/P)	Impact will definitely occur	Very likely for impact to occur	Impact may occur once annually	Impact may occur less than once annually but at least twice every five years	Impact may occur one to two times (maximum) in project's life	Very unlikely for impact to occur / Impact will not occur	
Extent / Severity (E/S)	Impact potentially reaches beyond national boundaries	Impact has definite provincial potential national consequences	Impact will a potentially affect neighbouring province	Impact confined to local province	Impact confined to local region but not province wide	Impact confined to project property / site	
Duration / Frequency (D/F)	Continual / daily occurrence	Impact will occur once a week	Impact will occur once a month	Impact will occur once a year	Impact will occur once every ten years	Possible that impact will never occur in Project's	
Consequence: Receiving environment (C: RE)	Very sensitive, pristine area – protected site or species permanently or seasonally present	Unused industrially zoned area containing only indigenous fauna / flora species	Unused industrially zoned area containing indigenous and alien fauna / flora species	Semi-disturbed area already rehabilitated / recovered from prior impact	Disturbed area undergoing rehabilitation / recovering from prior impacts	Disturbed area, already in need of rehabilitation prior to impact	
Consequence: Toxicity (C:T)	Impact is poisonous to natural environment and is not contained - no rehabilitation possible - permanent irreversible impact	Impact is potentially poisonous to natural environment and is not contained – only partial rehabilitation possible – potential permanent irreversible impact	Impact is potentially poisonous to natural environment and is partially contained – some rehabilitation possible and is potentially reversible	Impact is potentially poisonous to natural environment and is partially contained – complete rehabilitation possible	Impact is potentially poisonous to natural environment but is completely contained	Impact is not poisonous to natural environment	
FINAL RATING (average score)							

ENVIRONMENTAL RATING SIGNIFICANCE KEY:

SIGNIFICANCE	RATING	Final rating score / value range
Very Significant	Very High	25 to 32
Significant	High	19 to <25
Increasing Significance ↑	Medium	13 to <19
	Moderately Medium	6 to <13
Insignificant	Low	3 to <6

C. ASPECT / ACTIVITY: Site establishment

No.	IMPACT	L/P	E/S	D/F	C: RE	C: T	Pre-Mitigation Score (Baseline)	L/P	E/S	D/F	C: RE	C: T	Post-Mitigation Score (Impact)	Short Description of Mitigation Measures
1	Temporary roads for site establishment	32	2	8	8	1	10,2	32	1	4	8	1	9,2	Clear designation of temporary road area and requirements for vehicles to be confined to roads on site. Utilisation of dust suppression on roads e.g. using chemical road sealers. Fugitive particulate emissions minimised by enforcing speed limits on dirt roads.
2	Gaseous emissions due to use of vehicles/machinery	32	32	32	1	32	25,8	32	16	32	1	32	22,6	Vehicles serviced regularly/well maintained. Vehicles not allowed to idle for extended periods. Routine site and vehicle checks.
3	Dust (particulate) emission generation	32	8	32	1	32	21	16	4	32	1	16	13,8	Utilisation of dust suppression on roads e.g. using chemical road sealers. Fugitive particulate emissions minimised by enforcing speed limits on dirt roads. Vehicles confined to roads only. Vehicles serviced regularly/well maintained. Vehicles not allowed to idle for extended periods. Routine site and vehicle checks.
4	Poor access control/fencing	32	1	32	8	1	14,8	2	11	4	8	1	5,2	Secure fencing of site to take place before any materials/equipment brought to site. Access to be controlled via locked gate and security services.
5	Demarcation of lay down area	32	2	8	1	1	8,8	32	1	4	1	1	7,8	Lay down area clearly defined before any material/equipment arrives on site. Lay down area to be within 20ha applied for as part of BAR. Routine site inspection for adherence to lay down area parameters.
6	Ablutions for site labour (non-adherence to designated areas)	32	2	32	1	8	15	32	1	16	1	1	10,2	Training and awareness regarding designated ablation areas and need for adherence. Provision of sufficient ablutions area in line with legal requirements on site. Ad hoc site visits to check compliance in line with training.
7	Littering	32	16	16	8	1	14,6	16	2	16	2	1	7,4	Training and awareness regarding littering. Provision of sufficient rubbish bins on site. Ad hoc checks to ensure compliance in line with training.

8	Habitat loss (effect on fauna)	32	1	4	8	1	9,2	32	1	4	8	1	9,2	Due to the nature of the development, habitat loss will take place irrespective of mitigation measures.
9	Animal interaction/fatalities	16	1	16	8	1	8,4	16	1	4	8	1	6	Designation of no-go areas on site to be defined at on-site start up meeting. Environmental awareness/training. Routine site compliance checks.
10	Visual impact of site clearance/dust	32	2	32	1	1	13,6	16	2	32	1	1	10,4	Utilisation of dust suppression on roads e.g. using chemical road sealers. Fugitive particulate emissions minimised by enforcing speed limits on dirt roads. Vehicles confined to roads only. Vehicles serviced regularly/well maintained. Vehicles not allowed to idle for extended periods. Routine site and vehicle checks.
11	Resource use: water	32	1	32	2	1	13,6	32	1	32	2	1	13,6	Training and awareness regarding sound water use/management. Storm water management plan in place at on-site start up meeting. Ad hoc checks to ensure compliance in line with training and management plans/programmes.
12	Resource use: land	32	2	32	8	1	15	32	1	32	2	1	13,6	Training and awareness regarding land management on site. Ad hoc checks to ensure compliance in line with training and management plans/programmes.
13	Resource use: hydrocarbons/fuels	32	2	32	8	16	18	32	2	32	8	2	15,2	Training and awareness regarding efficient fuel/hydrocarbon use. Ad hoc checks to ensure compliance in line with training and management plans/programmes.
14	Recycling of waste products where possible													
15	Storage of fuels/hazardous chemical substances	32	2	4	32	4	14,8	16	2	4	32	4	11,6	Training and awareness regarding use and storage of fuel/oil/HCSs. Adequate drip trays and spill clean up kits provided. HCSs and fuel stores stored in line with legal requirements. Routine monitoring of vehicle loads and vehicles for leaks.

D. ASPECT / ACTIVITY: Construction

No.	IMPACT	L/P	E/S	D/F	C: RE	C: T	Pre-Mitigation Score (Baseline)	L/P	E/S	D/F	C: RE	C: T	Post-Mitigation Score (Impact)	Short Description of Mitigation Measures
1	Poor access control/fencing	32	1	32	8	1	14,8	2	11	4	8	1	5,2	Secure fencing of site to take place before any materials/equipment brought to site. Access to be controlled via locked gate and security services.
2	Demarcation of lay down area	32	2	8	1	1	8,8	32	1	4	1	1	7,8	Lay down area clearly defined before any material/equipment arrives on site. Lay down area to be within 20ha applied for as part of BAR. Routine site inspection for adherence to lay down area parameters.
3	Ablutions for site labour (non-adherence to designated areas)	32	2	32	1	8	15	32	1	16	1	1	10,2	Training and awareness regarding designated ablation areas and need for adherence. Provision of sufficient ablutions area in line with legal requirements on site. Ad hoc site visits to check compliance in line with training.
4	Littering	32	16	16	8	1	14,6	16	2	16	2	1	7,4	Training and awareness regarding littering. Provision of sufficient rubbish bins on site. Ad hoc checks to ensure compliance in line with training.
5	Habitat loss (effect on fauna)	32	1	4	8	1	9,2	32	1	4	8	1	9,2	Due to the nature of the development, habitat loss will take place irrespective of mitigation measures.
6	Animal interaction/fatalities	16	1	16	8	1	8,4	16	1	4	8	1	6	Designation of no-go areas on site to be defined at on-site start up meeting. Environmental awareness/training. Routine site compliance checks.
7	Aesthetic impact during construction	32	2	2	1	1	7,6	16	2	2	1	1	4,4	Use natural topography where possible to screen final layout of solar PV panels. Panels low to the ground to avoid excessive visual impact. Park vehicles and store equipment at designated areas on site using natural topography/vegetation/buildings as screens. Fugitive particulate emissions minimised by enforcing speed limits on dirt roads and using dust suppression on roads. Vehicles confined to roads only. Routine site and vehicle checks.

E. ASPECT / ACTIVITY: Operation and Maintenance

No.	IMPACT	L/P	E/S	D/F	C: RE	C: T	Pre-Mitigation Score (Baseline)	L/P	E/S	D/F	C: RE	C: T	Post-Mitigation Score (Impact)	Short Description of Mitigation Measures
1	Poor access control/fencing	32	1	32	8	1	14,8	2	11	4	8	1	5,2	Secure fencing of site to take place before any materials/equipment brought to site. Access to be controlled via locked gate and security services.
2	Demarcation of lay down area	32	2	8	1	1	8,8	32	1	4	1	1	7,8	Lay down area clearly defined before any material/equipment arrives on site. Lay down area to be within 20ha applied for as part of BAR. Routine site inspection for adherence to lay down area parameters.
3	Ablutions for site labour (non-adherence to designated areas)	32	2	32	1	8	15	32	1	16	1	1	10,2	Training and awareness regarding designated ablation areas and need for adherence. Provision of sufficient ablutions area in line with legal requirements on site. Ad hoc site visits to check compliance in line with training.
4	Littering	32	16	16	8	1	14,6	16	2	16	2	1	7,4	Training and awareness regarding littering. Provision of sufficient rubbish bins on site. Ad hoc checks to ensure compliance in line with training.
5	Habitat loss (effect on fauna)	32	1	4	8	1	9,2	32	1	4	8	1	9,2	Due to the nature of the development, habitat loss will take place irrespective of mitigation measures.
6	Animal interaction/fatalities	16	1	16	8	1	8,4	16	1	4	8	1	6	Designation of no-go areas on site to be defined at on-site start up meeting.Environmental awareness/training. Routine site compliance checks.
7	Aesthetic impact during construction	32	2	2	1	1	7,6	16	2	2	1	1	4,4	Use natural topography where possible to screen final layout of solar PV panels. Panels low to the ground to avoid excessive visual impact. Park vehicles and store equipment at designated areas on site using natural topography/vegetation/buildings as screens. Fugitive particulate emissions minimised by enforcing speed limits on dirt roads and using dust suppression on roads. Vehicles confined to roads only. Routine site and vehicle checks.

F. ASPECT / ACTIVITY: Decommissioning/Demolition

No.	IMPACT	L/P	E/S	D/F	C: RE	C: T	Pre-Mitigation Score (Baseline)	L/P	E/S	D/F	C: RE	C: T	Post-Mitigation Score (Impact assessment)	Short Description of Mitigation Measures
1	Poor access control/fencing	32	1	32	8	1	14,8	2	11	4	8	1	5,2	Ensure site securely fenced before any materials/equipment is demolished. Access to be controlled via locked gate and security services.
2	Demarcation of lay down area	32	2	8	1	1	8,8	32	1	4	1	1	7,8	Lay down area for deconstructed materials to be clearly defined before any demolition takes place. Lay down area to be within 20ha applied for as part of BAR. Routine site inspection for adherence to lay down area parameters.
3	Ablutions for site labour (non-adherence to designated areas)	32	2	32	1	8	15	32	1	16	1	1	10,2	Training and awareness regarding designated ablation areas and need for adherence. Provision of sufficient ablutions area in line with legal requirements on site. Ad hoc site visits to check compliance in line with training.
4	Littering	32	16	16	8	1	14,6	16	2	16	2	1	7,4	Training and awareness regarding littering. Provision of sufficient rubbish bins on site. Ad hoc checks to ensure compliance in line with training.
5	Effect on fauna (continued habitat loss)	32	1	4	8	1	9,2	8	1	4	8	1	4,4	Rehabilitation and revegetation/seeding programme to be finalised before decommissioning takes place. Routine site checks/visits to ensure rehabilitation plan implemented to regain natural habitat.
6	Animal interaction/fatalities	16	1	16	8	1	8,4	16	1	4	8	1	6	Designation of no-go areas on site to be defined at on-site start up meeting.Environmental awareness/training. Routine site compliance checks.

7	Aesthetic impact during demolition/decommissioning	32	2	2	1	1		7,6	16	2	2	1	1	4,4	Use natural topography where possible to screen final layout of solar PV panels. Panels low to the ground to avoid excessive visual impact. Park vehicles and store equipment at designated areas on site using natural topography/vegetation/ buildings as screens. Fugitive particulate emissions minimised by enforcing speed limits on dirt roads and using dust suppression on roads. Vehicles confined to roads only. Routine site and vehicle checks.
8	Resource use: water	32	1	32	2	1		13,6	32	1	32	2	1	13,6	Training and awareness regarding sound water use/management. Storm water management plan in place at on-site start up meeting. Ad hoc checks to ensure compliance in line with training and management plans/programmes.
9	Resource use: land	32	2	32	8	1		15	32	1	32	2	1	13,6	Training and awareness regarding land management on site. Ad hoc checks to ensure compliance in line with training and management plans/programmes.
10	Resource use: hydrocarbons/fuels	32	2	32	8	16		18	32	2	32	8	2	15,2	Training and awareness regarding efficient fuel/hydrocarbon use. Ad hoc checks to ensure compliance in line with training and management plans/programmes.
11	Recycling of waste products where possible														
12	Storage of fuels/hazardous chemical substances	32	2	4	32	4		14,8	16	2	4	32	4	11,6	Training and awareness regarding use and storage of fuel/oil/HCSs. Adequate drip trays and spill clean up kits provided. HCSs and fuel stores stored in line with legal requirements. Routine monitoring of vehicle loads and vehicles for leaks.
13	Noise from heavy vehicles	32	2	16	1	1		10,4	16	1	16	1	1	7	Ensure vehicle exhaust pipes in good condition. Vehicles not to be used outside of normal working hours.
14	Training/Skills transfer														
15	Local employment opportunities														
16	Loss of production of renewable/clean energy	32	32	32	8	16		24	32	32	32	8	16	24	Should decommissioning of the solar PV facility take place, no mitigating actions to prevent actual decommissioning/demolition would be implemented.