

**Appendix F5**  
**Comments and Response Report**



# VAAL RIVER SOLAR 1 PV FACILITY NEAR ORKNEY, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

DFFE Reference Number: 12/12/20/2513/2/AM5

## COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

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Vaal River Solar 1 PV Facility amendment application for an increase of total generation capacity of the facility, an update to the project description of the EA to include the construction and operation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and Extension of the validity of the Environmental Authorisation was initiated on Tuesday, 05 July 2022. The Background Information Letter served to invite Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to register their interest in the project and to submit any comments / queries regarding the proposed amendment.

All written comments received from the initiation of the Amendment Processes and those received on the Motivation Report are included in **Appendix F5** have been included in this Comments and Responses Report (C&RR) and included in **Appendix F6** of the final Motivation Report.

The Motivation Report has been made available for 30-day review and comment period from **Tuesday, 05 July 2022** to **Wednesday, 03 August 2022** and the Comments and Responses Report is attached as a separate document to the final Motivation Reports as **Appendix F5**.

**NOTE:**

All comments captured in the C&RR are verbatim and have not been summarised.

**LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS / ACRONYMS**

APM	Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites	NHRA	National Heritage Resources Agency
BGG	Burial Grounds and Graves		
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System	I&AP	Interested and Affected Parties
C&RR	Comments and Responses Report	MR	Motivation Report
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	VMR	Verification and Motivation Report
EA	Environmental Authorisation	NEMA	National Environmental Management Act
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	VRS	Vaal River Solar
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme	SAHRIS	South African Heritage Resources Integrated System

## 1. COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING AMENDMENT PROCESS: REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD OF THE MOTIVATION REPORT

### 1.1 Organs of State

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
1.	Please supply SANRAL with an A4 locality map as well as GPS co-ordinates for your application. Please send requested information together with whole application to nrstat@nra.co.za as this email will be deleted as it is incomplete.	Ria Barkhuizen SANRAL  E-mail: 17 July 2022	The locality map and GPS co-ordinates were sent on the 13 <sup>th</sup> of July 2022 using the email nrstat@nra.co.za as provided. Proof is attached in <b>Appendix F6: Comments Received.</b>
2.	Your communication dated <b>05 July 2022</b> has reference. This consent is issued in terms of the <b>Advertising on Roads and Ribbon Development Act No 21 of 1940</b> and <b>Roads Ordinance No 22 of 1957</b> as amended.  There is no objection to the proposed development, subject to the strict adherence of the attached <b>Specific and Special Conditions</b> and should form part of the proposed planning/ development, also that the conditions/requirements listed below are imposed and met in all respects by the applicant:  <b>NOTE: A written confirmation of acceptance of the attached conditions is required. In the event of not receiving a written acceptance of conditions, the approval is withdrawn, and this approval is cancelled.</b>	KA Sitase Director: Planning and Design Department of Public Works and Roads  Letter: 20 July 2022	It is acknowledged that the Department of Public Works and Roads has no objection to the proposed development, subject to the strict adherence of the attached Specific and Special Conditions.  The applicant received a copy of the consent and letter and the conditions attached thereto, and will respond accordingly directly to the Department of Public Works and Roads.
	<b>Conditions attached to letter</b>  <b>A. SPECIFIC AND SPECIAL CONDITIONS: PROPOSED ACCESS</b>  <b>NB:</b> This comment is granted in favour of <b>Vaal River Solar 1, 2 &amp; 3 (PTY) LTD</b> as stipulated in the application.  <b>1. ILLEGAL/INFORMAL ACCESS</b>		The specific and special conditions are noted.  It is noted that any/all access (es) to the Provincial Road R502 require consent from the Department of Public Works and Roads.  Should any work be required to be done inside the road reserve, the applicant will apply for the necessary permissions.

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>1.1. If there is any existing informal access (es) to the Provincial Road <b>P137/1_030 (R502)</b> in the radius of <u>less than 650m</u> from the approved/ existing/ proposed access (es) will be illegal therefore should be closed along the affected Provincial Road(s), and the traffic should be directed to the approved access (es).</p> <p>1.2. No <u>additional</u> access (es) will be allowed to Provincial Road(s) <b>P137/1_030 (R502)</b> at all, without the written approval of the Controlling Authority (Department of Public Works and Roads).</p> <p><b>2. ACCESS TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p>The existing access(es) to the affected land i.e. <b>Locality Map_SE3406_Vaal River Solar PV Facilities, Substations and 132kV Powerline</b> will be used for the above-mentioned development(s).</p> <p>No <u>additional</u> access (es) will be allowed to Provincial Road(s) <b>P137/1_030 (R502)</b> at all, without the written approval of the Controlling Authority (Department of Public Works and Roads).</p> <p><b>3. LINES OF NO ACCESS</b></p> <p>3.1. No ingress to or egress from the existing Road(s) <b>P137/1_030 (R502)</b> to the above-mentioned proposed development other than the one mentioned in <b>paragraph 2</b> will be allowed, without the written approval of the Controlling Authority (Department of Public Works and Roads).</p> <p><b>4. ADDITIONAL STRUCTURES</b></p> <p>No structures will be allowed inside the road reserve of Road(s) <b>P137/1_030 (R502)</b> without the written approval of the Controlling Authority (Provincial Department of Public Works and Roads).</p>		

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	<p><b>B. GENERAL/ CONDITIONS FOR PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p><b>NB:</b> This comment is granted in favour of <b>VAAL RIVER SOLAR 1, 2 &amp; 3 (PTY) LTD</b> as stipulated in the application.</p> <p><b>5. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF JUNCTION(S) ON PROVINCIAL ROAD(S)</b></p> <p><b>5.1.</b> The minimum requirements of Intersection on a Provincial Road, as illustrated by the attached Typical Plan No: <b>NWP 3/6</b> for standard accesses on provincial roads.</p> <p><b>5.2. Layout plans</b> - Tapers, Acceleration and Deceleration Lanes, are a must for any access. A separate <b>Left-turn lane(s)</b>, with a <b>Slip-Lane(s)</b>, and dedicated <b>Right-Turning Lane(s)</b> from both directions shall be provided if more than <b>250 vehicles per hour</b> in any hour of a day are turning left out of the main road, as illustrated by the attached Typical Plan No: <b>Typical Plan_NWP 3-4</b>, (<i>but less than 250 vehicles per hour then Typical Plan No: Typical Plan_NWP 3-3 is applicable</i>) for standard accesses on provincial roads.</p> <p><b>Note: Should the need arise, the applicant shall build the above-mentioned development at own cost under the supervision of a Professional Civil Engineer to the satisfaction of the Deputy Director General: Department of Public Works and Roads</b></p> <p><b>5.3.</b> Provision must be made for <b>15 x 45 m</b> road reserve splays or as determined by the Director-Roads/ Engineer. These road reserve splays must be fenced by the applicant/owner at his/her cost.</p>		<p>The general conditions are acknowledged, and a copy of the comment letter has been received by the Applicant for due consideration and action should the project proceed.</p> <p>The development activities are proposed to take place within the authorised development area.</p> <p>The Applicant will notify the Department of Public Works and Roads of any intentions of transporting abnormal/trucks or equipment onsite.</p> <p>The Applicant will report directly to the Departmental Roads Engineer/Manager should there be a need to blast onsite or any unstable conditions.</p>

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	<p><b>Note: The longest distance is measured parallel to the main road. Attached please find typical Plans: NWP 5- 1 indicating the required road reserve splays and relevant type of Access.</b></p> <p><b>6. BUILDING LINE</b></p> <p>The above-mentioned Provincial Road(s), have a <b>95m Standard Building Line.</b></p> <p><b>6.1.</b> Building restriction areas in compliance with the requirements of Executive Committee Resolution 1112 of 26 June 1978 is as per paragraph 4.1 (Road Ordinance): The <b>standard building</b> line applicable is <b>95 m</b> measured from the centre of these roads.</p> <p><b>6.2. ROAD RESERVE WIDTHS OF THE AFFECTED PROVINCIAL ROADS</b></p> <p>Provision must be made for the following road reserves/ streets and must be excluded from the proposed development:</p> <p><b>i)</b> Road <b>P137/1_030 (R502)</b> with the road reserve width of about <b>48 m.</b></p> <p><b>6.3. BUILDING LINE RELAXATION</b></p> <p>The <i>Department of Public Works and Roads (DPWR)</i> is hereby granting the <b>minimum relaxation of the building</b> from the <b>Standard 95m</b> as stated by <b>Clause 4: Standard Building Line</b> above as follows.</p> <p>Also see the attached <i>Sketch Plans Road Reserve Widths.</i></p>		

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	<p><b>i) Road Reserve Width of 48 m:</b> The Building Line Relaxation is <b>45 m</b> from the centre of the Road Reserve; (i.e. <b>29 m road reserve boundary</b>).</p> <p><b>7. ABNORMAL TRUCKS/EQUIPMENTS</b></p> <p>Department of Public Works and Roads should also be notified with any of the intention of transporting abnormal trucks/ equipment's on any of the above stated provincial road(s).</p> <p><b>8. BLASTING/EXPLOSIVE OF ROCKS</b></p> <p>Any unstable conditions encountered or any rock requiring blasting to be reported directly and immediately to the <i>Departmental Roads Engineer/Manager</i>.</p> <p>Blasting to be done in accordance with the current applicable Explosives Regulations (e.g. Act No 26 of 1956) and possible damage to the road must be excluded as far as possible.</p> <p>Any damage to the road caused by unstable soil conditions (subsidence, etc.) or blasting must be repaired to the satisfaction of the: <i>Department Roads Engineer/Manager</i>.</p> <p><b>9. DAMAGED/ REMOVAL OF PROPERTIES</b></p> <p>No trees, shrubs, cultivated grass, gates or road fencing must be removed or damaged within the Road Reserve of the affected(s). If such plants or fenced were removed or damaged, you will have to replace it to the entire satisfaction of the <i>Departmental Roads Engineer/ Manager</i>.</p> <p><b>10. NOTIFICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT: WAYLEAVE APPLICATION</b></p>		<p>Comment is acknowledged and the Applicant will apply for a wayleave from the Department of Public Works and Roads for any activities that will affect the R502 provincial road.</p>



NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>Based on the above-mentioned provincial road(s), the department should be notified (with appropriate detailed plans) about any intention or planning and before the commencement of the following: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change of Land Utilisation (e.g. From Agriculture to Business/ Settlements, etc).</li> <li>• Construction of any structures (e.g. Buildings) along the affected road(s).</li> <li>• Construction of Permanent or Temporary Access (es) from the said provincial road(s).</li> <li>• Erection and or construction of Overhead and or Underground Services (e.g. Water &amp; Sewerage pipe lines, Electrical and Telephone Cable Lines) across or parallel to the affected road(s).</li> <li>• Closing and or Deviation of part or section(s) of the above stated provincial road(s).</li> <li>• Advertisement along the affected road(s).</li> <li>• Working inside the road reserves of any of the affected road(s).</li> <li>• Temporary or Permanent Closure of Traffic on either of the above stated provincial road(s).</li> </ul>		
	<p><b>11. GEOMETRIC DESIGN AND SPECIFICATION OF THE NEW ACCESS</b></p> <p><b>11.1.</b> For the construction of the access (es) the applicant (whoever is responsible for the construction thereof) shall submit to the Deputy Director General: Department of Public Works and Roads, for his approval, a geometric layout plan(s) to a scale of 1: 500, prepared and signed by a Professional Civil Engineer.</p> <p><b>11.2.</b> For the construction of the access (es) the applicant (whoever is responsible for the construction thereof) shall submit to the</p>		<p>The Applicant will submit a geometric layout plan(s) for any new access for approval to the Department of Public Works and Roads.</p> <p>Where new access is required, the applicant shall build the access(es) at their own cost under the supervision of the Department of Public Works and Roads.</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>Deputy Director General: Department of Public Works and Roads, for his approval, a specification, for the building thereof.</p>		
	<p><b>12. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ACCESS</b></p> <p><b>12.1.</b> After the plans and specifications stated in paragraph <b>11.1</b> and <b>11.2</b> above, have been approved by the Deputy Director General: Department of Public Works and Roads, the applicant shall build the access(es) <b>at own cost</b> under the supervision of a Professional Civil Engineer to the satisfaction of the Deputy Director General: Department of Public Works and Roads.</p> <p><b>12.2.</b> On completion of the work, the Professional Civil Engineer shall certify, that work has been carried out in accordance with the approved plan(s) and specifications.</p> <p><b>12.3.</b> The certificate of completion shall be handed over to the Deputy Director General: Department of Public Works and Roads, with the copy to the Deputy Director General: Relevant Authority of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment Affairs.</p>		
	<p><b>13. PERMISSION TO WORK INSIDE THE ROAD RESERVE</b></p> <p>The applicant shall not commence with work inside the road reserve until he has obtained written approval from the Deputy Director General: Department of Public Works and Roads to do so.</p>		
	<p><b>14. INDEMNITY OF PREMIER AGAINST CLAIMS</b></p> <p><b>14.1.</b> You indemnify the <b>PREMIER OF NORTH WEST</b> and exempt him from any claim or damage which may be instituted or suffered by any person, including legal costs, as a result of the laying or</p>		<p>The Applicant has been provided with the copy of the comments letter and understand their obligations to the Department of Public Works and Roads.</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>erection of any service or any other works caused or erected by you, or as a result of negligence on your part to protect or maintain the service or other works caused by any other person unless you can prove negligence on the part of Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport or its officials.</p> <p><b>14.2.</b> The Department of Public Works and Roads will not be liable for any damage suffered by the applicant as a result of operations carried out on road construction or road maintenance or any other operations whatsoever, unless negligence on the part of Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport or its officials can be proved.</p> <p><b>14.3.</b> The applicant shall indemnify the Department of Public Works and Roads or its officials and workers against any claims arising out of any death of or injuries to any person or damage to any property whatsoever (including services such as water pipes, telephone and or electric cables, etc.) caused by or resulting from the activities of the applicant in the road reserve.</p> <p><b>14.4. Where someone other than the state,</b> applicant is responsible for the construction of the access (es), the applicant shall take out a policy covering him to the amount to be stipulated by the Controlling Authority (Department of Public Works and Roads).</p> <p>This is necessary to enable the applicant to comply with the above requirements. Before any work is done in the road reserve, the applicant shall deliver proof that the policy has been taken out and all costs of it have been paid.</p>		
	<p><b>15. LAND USE ALONG THE ROAD(S)</b></p>		

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p><b>15.1.</b> Land use of even build on the lines of no access shall be in accordance with the requirements of Executive Committee Resolution 1112 of 26 June 1978.</p> <p><b>15.2.</b> The applicant shall not erect/ built either permanent or temporarily structures, and or any informal structures along the above-mentioned provincial roads inside the road reserve until he has obtained written approval from the Deputy Director General: Department of Public Works and Roads to do so.</p> <p><b>16. RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COST OF (ACOUSTIC SCREEING) NOISE BARRIER</b></p> <p>The applicant shall be responsible for any costs involved in the erection of Acoustic Screening (Noise Barrier).</p> <p><b>17. ACCEPTENCE AND DISPOSAL OF STORM WATER</b></p> <p><b>17.1.</b> In terms of Section 84 of the road Ordinance, 1957, the applicant shall arrange the drainage of the proposed development(s) in such way that it fit in with the drainage of the provincial Road(S) (P137/1_030 (R502), taking into account the capacity of the system.</p> <p><b>17.2.</b> The applicant/ local authority or whoever responsible for the drainage of the proposed development(s) shall receive and dispose all the storm water running from the road or being diverted from the road.</p>		<p>The requirements relating to the road reserve, noise barriers, and drainage are noted and would be considered further during the construction phase of the project.</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p><b>17.3.</b> The state or the Provincial Administration will not be responsible for any damage caused by arising from such storm water.</p> <p><b>17.4.</b> Where, in the opinion of the Deputy Director General: Department of Public Works and Roads, the system for the above-mentioned road(s) is too small to cope with any increased volume of the storm as a result of the establishment or proposed development(s), the applicant/ local authority (whoever responsible for the drainage) shall be responsible for the cost of installing a larger drainage system for the provincial Road(s) P137/1_030 (R502).</p> <p><b>17.5.</b> The applicant/ local authority or whoever responsible for the drainage of the proposed development(s) shall built/ construct the drainage scheme at own cost simultaneously with the construction of the access (es).</p> <p><b>It will be appreciated if you would kindly ensure that all the above conditions are included in the proposed and intended developments.</b> Should you have any questions and or clarification in regard to the above-mentioned, please do not hesitate to contact this Department.</p>		
3.	<p>The Department has the following comments on the abovementioned amendment application:</p> <p><b>(a) Public participation</b></p> <p>(i) A Comments and Response trail report (C&amp;R) must be submitted with the final report. The C&amp;R report must incorporate all comments for this application.</p> <p>(ii) The C&amp;R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Appendix 1 of this comments letter.</p>	<p>Herman Alberts Case Officer DFFE</p> <p>Letter: 02 August 2022.</p>	<p>The written comments received from relevant stakeholders are captured in this C&amp;RR and included as <b>Appendix F6: Comments Received</b> of the final MR and submitted to the DFFE.</p> <p>The C&amp;RR compiled for this application is included in <b>Appendix F5: Comments and Responses Report</b> as a separate document to the final MR for submission to the DFFE.</p>

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	(iii) 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&APs' comments.		Written comments received from all relevant stakeholders are included in <b>Appendix F6: Comments Received</b> and submitted with the final MR.
	(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.		<p>All issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft MR from I&amp;APs and organs of state are adequately addressed in the final MR, including comments from DFFE.</p> <p>All comments received are incorporated into the Comments and Response Report.</p>
	(v) 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.		<p>An e-mail to all registered I&amp;APs and OoS was sent on 05 July 2022 informing that the MR has been compiled in support of the substantive Amendment Application is available for review and comment.</p> <p>A reminder e-mail was sent on 01 August 2022 to all registered I&amp;APs and OoS reminding them that the review and comment period is ending soon and thanking those who submitted comments and urged those who had not yet done so, to please submit their written comments before or on 03 August 2022 when the review period ends (refer to <b>Appendices F2: Consultation with I&amp;APs</b> and <b>F3: Consultation with Organs of State</b> of the final MR).</p>
	(vi) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.		<p>The Public Participation process in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 &amp; 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, has been complied with and included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Database</b> The original database of the EIA conducted in 2012 has been utilised and updated prior to the release of the MR for review and comment. The database has been updated throughout the 30-day review and comment period as necessary. Refer to <b>Appendix F1: I&amp;AP Database</b> of the final MR.</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Advertisement</b> An advertisement was placed in the Klerksdorp Midweek community newspaper on 05 July 2022 in which the amendment and public participation process, and the availability of the MR has been advertised. Refer to <b>Appendix F4: Advertisement and Site Notices</b> of the final MR.</li> <li>• <b>Site Notices</b> Site notices were placed as conspicuous places at areas visible to the public on 05 July 2022. Refer to <b>Appendix F4: Advertisement and Site Notices</b> of the final MR.</li> <li>• <b>Notification &amp; Consultation</b> Registered I&amp;APs have been notified of the Amendment and Public Participation processes, and the availability of the Motivation Report for review and comment. Correspondence to and from I&amp;APs are included in <b>Appendices F2: Consultation with I&amp;APs</b> and <b>Appendix F3: Consultation with Organs of State.</b></li> </ul>
	<p><b>(b) Specific comments</b></p> <p>(i) The report must include details of the BESS facility, which must include inter alia: the size, the location and the technology of the BESS. A detailed description of the installation process must be included (i.e., the battery will be assembled on site or offsite);</p>		<p>The technical details of the BESS are provided in Section 2.2 of the final report.</p>
	<p>(ii) A detailed motivation as to why the Department should extend the commencement period of the authorised development, including the advantages and disadvantages associated with the approval or refusal to the request for extension;</p>		<p>A detailed motivation for the extension of the commencement period is included in Section 2.3, and includes possible advantages and disadvantages.</p>
	<p>(iii) (The status (baseline) of the environment (social and biophysical) that was assessed during the initial assessment (by the relevant specialist, if applicable);</p>		<p>The baseline of the environment (social and biophysical) that was assessed during the initial assessment is detailed in Section 1.2. Relevant specialists have reviewed all the initial specialists conducted</p>

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			in 2012 and assessed the current status of the receiving environment. The specialist reports are attached in <b>Appendix A-E</b> .
	(iv) The current status of the assessed environment (social and biophysical) (by the relevant specialist, if applicable);		The specialist reports attached in <b>Appendix A-E</b> provides the current status of the assessed environment.
	(v) A review of all specialist studies undertaken, and a detailed assessment, including a site verification report providing an indication of the status of the receiving environment (by the relevant specialist, if applicable);		Relevant specialists have reviewed all the initial specialist studies conducted in 2012 and assessed the current status of the receiving environment (site verification). The specialist reports are attached in <b>Appendix A-E</b> .
	(vi) Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must be attached to the final motivation report. The forms are available on the Department's website (please use the Department's template).		Signed specialist declarations are attached in <b>Appendix I</b> .
	(vii) The terms of reference for the specialist reports and declaration of interest of each specialist must be provided;		The terms of reference are included in the specialist reports attached as <b>Appendix A- E</b> and Signed specialist declarations are attached in <b>Appendix I</b> .
	(viii) The report must indicate if the impact rating as provided in the initial assessment remains valid; if the mitigation measures provided in the initial assessment are still applicable; or if there are any new mitigation measures which need to be included into the EA, should the request to extend the commencement period be granted by the Department;		<p>The specialists have provided an indication if the initial assessment remains valid; if the mitigation measures provided in the initial assessment are still applicable; or if there are any new mitigation measures which need to be included into the EA, should the request to extend the commencement period be granted by the Department.</p> <p>The specialist review reports are attached in <b>Appendix A- E</b> and they have been incorporated in the Site Verification and Motivation Report.</p>
	(ix) (An indication if there are any new assessments/guidelines which are now relevant to the authorised development which were not undertaken/considered as part of the initial assessment; these must be taken into consideration and addressed in the report;		The recommended mitigation measures by specialists consider the most recent guidelines.



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	(x) A description and an assessment of any changes to the environment (social and biophysical) that has occurred since the initial EA was issued;		Changes to the environment (social and biophysical) that have been noted since the initial EA was issued are stated in the specialist reports, which give a description of the current status of environment. The consensus is that there is little change in the environment, largely owing to the site being located on mine-owned land.
	(xi) A description and an assessment of the surrounding environment, in relation to new developments or changes in land use which might impact on the authorised project; the assessment must consider the following: a. similar developments within a 30km radius;		Cumulative impacts, considering similar developments within 30km radius have been considered within the specialist reports ( <b>Appendix A-E</b> ). These include a cumulative impact environmental statement by all specialists and the EAP.
	b. Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e., hectares of cumulatively transformed land.		
	c. Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.		
	d. The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.		
	e. A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.		
	The EAP must ensure that the amendments applied for does not trigger any listed or specified activity as outlined in Regulation 31 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. You are also reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No		The amendments do not trigger any new listed activities, as confirmed in the Motivation report.

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.		
4.	<p><b>Final Comment</b></p> <p>The SAHRA's APM Unit has received the Verification and Motivation Report (VMR) as part of the Environmental Authorisation Amendment process, attached to the VMR is a Letter of Exemption for heritage specialist studies. SAHRA supports the recommendations made in the Letter by the specialist and has no objections to the project.</p> <p>SAHRA inserts the following comments as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final VMR and EMPr:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed expansion;</li> <li>• 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development;</li> <li>• Both an Archaeological and Palaeontological walkdowns must be undertaken for the final layout prior construction. A report on the outcomes of the walkdown must be submitted to SAHRA for comment, construction may not commence without feedback from SAHRA on the report.</li> <li>• 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Elijah Katsetse/Phillip Hine 021 462 4502) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with</li> </ul>	<p>Elijah Katsetse Heritage Officer and Phillip Hine Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology &amp; Meteorites Unit SAHRA</p> <p>Letter: 29 July 2022</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that the recommendations of the specialists are supported by SAHRA.</p> <p>All comments by SAHRA are acknowledged and have been included in the final Site Verification and Motivation report, as required.</p> <p>The final Report will be uploaded to SAHRIS CaseID19005 once submitted to the DFFE.</p> <p>The EA, once issued, will be uploaded to SAHRIS CaseID 19005.</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Ngqalabutho Madida 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;</li> <li>• 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA;</li> <li>• 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Final VMR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;</li> <li>• The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case.</li> </ul>		
5.	<p>Please note that in line with requirements of Section 29 of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (Act No 16 of 2013) read with Section 3 of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act (Act No 3 of 2000) SANRAL have 30 days to acknowledge receipt of your application and 90 days to evaluate and provide response.</p> <p>Should you not receive any response within 120 days, kindly follow up on the enquiry by responding to Jan Oliver who will be dealing</p>	<p>Ria Barkhuizen SANRAL  E-mail: 29 July 2022</p>	<p>The comment is acknowledged, and no further action required.</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	with it and will convert back to you. He can be contacted on (012) 426-6242 / Cell 081 010 6403.		

**1.2. Key Stakeholders and Interested & Affected Parties**

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
No comments received			