



**Royal  
HaskoningDHV**  
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**Application for Amendment of the  
Bokpoort 75MW CSP Environmental  
Authorisation to include a 4MW PV  
Component in Addition to the  
Constructed 50MW CSP Plant**



## WHAT DOES THIS DOCUMENT TELL YOU?

This document aims to provide you, as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), with background information regarding the proposed Amendment of the Environmental Authorisation issued for the 75MW Concentrating Solar Thermal Power Plant and Associated Infrastructure located on farm Bokpoort 390 within the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality, previously known as Siyanda District Municipality in Upington, Northern Cape Province. The amendment pertains to inclusion of the a **4MW PV Augmentation Power Plant** which will be constructed in an area previously utilised as a laydown area for the authorised project (75MW CSP).

This document also provides information regarding the **Environmental Authorisation Amendment** process being undertaken and advise you on how you can become involved in the proposed project. This can be done by reviewing project information and raising any possible issues. This sharing of information forms the basis of the **Public Participation Process** and offers you the opportunity to become actively involved in the proposed project.

## PROJECT BACKGROUND

The project can be summarised as follows:

<b>Previous Project Name</b>	Proposed 75 MW concentrating Solar Thermal Power Plant and Associated Infrastructure in the Siyanda District Municipality.		
<b>Proposed Project</b>	Proposed Construction of a 4MW PV Augmentation Power Plant and Associated Infrastructure on the Bokpoort 75MW CSP site.		
<b>Local authority</b>	!Kheis Local Municipality within the Siyanda District Municipality currently known as ZF Mgcawu District Municipality-Northern Cape		
<b>(Competent Authority – CA)</b>	National Department of Environmental Affairs		
<b>Property details</b>	<b>21 Digit Reference Number</b>	<b>Erf and Portion Number</b>	
	U0000000004003900000	Remainder of the Farm Bokpoort 390	
<b>Co-ordinates</b>		<b>Latitude (S)</b>	<b>Longitude (E)</b>
	Bokpoort PV Plant	28°43'56.94"S	21°59'55.32"E
<b>Location</b>	The study area is located on the southern portion of the existing CSP Plant on Farm Bokpoort 390 and approximately 15 km north Groblershoop town within the jurisdiction of !Kheis Local Municipality.		

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

ACWA Power SolAfrica Bokpoort CSP Power Plant (Pty) Ltd (RF) is proposing a 4MW PV Plant with a total footprint of 12ha (9ha PV and 3ha Laydown area). This footprint is within the 382ha footprint of the CSP Block A previously approved by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) through granting an Environmental Authorisation (DEA Ref No: 12/12/20/1920). The entire site for the PV facility and PV laydown area falls within the development footprint of the existing CSP facility and was thus previously physically altered / impacted as a result of the CSP development as depicted by the **Figure 1** below. The proposed project will comprise of the following components:

- ✦ Si-poly PV modules (Jinkosolar or any other), 30 modules arranged in series with 540 strings in parallel. With a unit nominal power of 330 Wp and a total module area of 31434m<sup>2</sup>.
- ✦ The PV mounting structures will be of a fixed system including fire detection and alarm, fire protection devices firefighting water systems including jockey.
- ✦ 1.1 MW Inverters (GE Power Conversion or any other) with an operating voltage of 910 – 1300 V. Sub-arrayed in Nb. Of Inverters – 3 units, with a total power of 4911 kWac.
- ✦ Area of the PV – 12 ha.
- ✦ Orientation of the PV - 20 degrees, fixed tilt at 7,5 pitch.
- ✦ Laydown area - 3 Ha.
- ✦ 6,6 kV switchgear.
- ✦ The two blocks arrangement has a road with width of 4m.
- ✦ A fence surrounding the site at a height of 1,680 m.
- ✦ An internal road that is 4.5 m wide.



**Figure 1: Location of the Proposed Solar PV Plant**

## WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT?

The choice of specialist studies undertaken during the Environmental Impact Assessment process for the initial project was influenced by the need to cover all aspects of the environment namely: physical, biological and social. Some of the specialist inputs deemed to be applicable to the proposed Environmental Authorisation Amendment are outlined in **Table 1** below.

**Table 1: Specialists Studies**

Specialist Study	Organisation
Avifauna Impact Assessment	Arcus Consulting
Noise Impact Assessment	dBAcoustics
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Bathusi Environmental Consulting
Air Quality Impact Assessment	EBS Advisory
Heritage Impact Assessment	Dr Johan van Schalkwyk
Visual Impact Assessment	LOGIS
Social Impact Assessment	Royal HaskoningDHV

## WHY IS AN AMENDMENT PROCESS AND SPECIALISTS INPUTS REQUIRED?

After consultation with the National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), and subsequent evaluation of information presented to the officials, the Department is of the opinion that a change of scope is applicable and that a Part 2 amendment process has to be followed in terms of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended in 2017).

According Government Notice R982 , Regulations No 30 and 31 of the National Environmental Management Act (107 of 1998, NEMA) (as amended), a Part 2 Environmental Authorisation Application Amendment is conducted when the environment and the rights of Interested and Affected Parties are likely to be affected. In terms of the NEMA, ACWA Power SolAfrica Bokpoort CSP Power Plant (Pty) Ltd (RF) therefore requires an approval from the DEA for the Amendment Application of the Environmental Authorisation.



## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS (PPP)

It is important that relevant I&APs are identified and involved in the PPP from the outset of the project. To ensure effective public participation, the process includes the following steps during the amendment process:

- ✦ STEP 1: Create awareness of the amendment process (by way of circulation of BID [this document]);
- ✦ STEP 2: Consultation with, and transfer of information to, I&APs through consultation and stakeholder engagement;
- ✦ STEP 3: Invite I&AP comment and input on the technical report detailing the proposed amendment (30-day comment period);
- ✦ STEP 4: Record all comments, issues and concerns raised by I&APs within an issues trail, which will form an integral part of the final technical report; and
- ✦ STEP 5: Notification of the decision of the amendment application.

## HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

**If you consider yourself an I&AP for this proposed project, we urge you to become involved.**

- ✦ By responding (by phone, fax or e-mail) to our invitation for your involvement in the process.
- ✦ In writing contacting consultants if you have a query, comment or require further project information.
- ✦ By reviewing and commenting on the draft technical report within the allowed 30-day review period.

**Your input into this process forms a key part of the environmental studies and we would like to hear from you to obtain your views on the proposed project.**

## COMMENTS AND QUERIES ON THE PROJECT CAN BE DIRECTED TO:



Ms Sibongile Gumbi

Tel: 011 798 6000

Fax: 011 798 6005

Email: [sibongile.gumbi@rhdhv.com](mailto:sibongile.gumbi@rhdhv.com)

PO Box 867, Gallo Manor, 2052



PLEASE REGISTER THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S)  
ON THE PROJECT DATABASE:

<b>Title</b> (Prof/Mr/Mrs)			<b>First name</b>	
<b>Surname</b>				
<b>Capacity</b> (e.g. Secretary / Director)				
<b>Organisation</b>				
<b>Postal address</b>		<b>Postal code</b>		
<b>Tel No. ( )</b>		<b>Cell No.</b>		
<b>Fax No. ( )</b>		<b>Email</b>		

If you prefer not to receive any further information regarding this proposed project, and, would prefer to be removed from the project database, please tick the box below and return the form to the public participation consultants (contact details as provided above).

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes remove my name</b>
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Bokpoort EV Plant