

**7 October 2021**

2D Nautica Building  
Water Club complex  
Beach Rd  
Granger Bay  
Cape Town 8005

**DFFE File Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1091/AM5**

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE 10MW<sub>ac</sub> STELLA HELPMEKAAR (CAPELLA) SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY NEAR STELLA, NORTH WEST PROVINCE.

Dear Stakeholder,

The letter attached serves to notify you that the Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued on the 10 July 2014 (DFFE Ref No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1091) for the proposed 10MW<sub>ac</sub> photovoltaic (PV) solar power generation plant on the Portion 2 of the Farm Helpmekaar 248, near Stella in Naledi Local Municipality in the North West Province has been amended. The EA has been amended in accordance with Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2014 (as amended) as follows:

**Amendment 1: Increase of PV electricity energy output capacity from 5MW<sub>ac</sub> to 10MW<sub>ac</sub>**

a) The activity description for listed activity GN R544 item 1 on page 3 of the EA:

Listed Activities	Activity / Project Description
GN R544 item 1: <i>'The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where; (ii) the electricity output is 10 megawatts or less but the total extent of the facility covers an area in excess of 1 hectare'</i>	The proposed 5MW PV facility would be less than 10MW in capacity but will cover an area of approximately 15 hectares in extent.

**Is amended to:**

Listed Activities	Activity / Project Description
GN R544 item 1: <i>'The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where; (ii) the electricity output is 10 megawatts or less but the total extent of the facility covers an area in excess of 1 hectare'</i>	The proposed 10MW PV facility will cover an area of approximately 15 hectares in extent.

b) The project description on page 4 of the EA:

'for the proposed construction of a 5MW solar energy facility'

**Is amended to:**

'for the proposed construction of a 10MW solar energy facility'.

- c) **Bullet 1 of the infrastructure associated with the facility on page 4 of the EA:**  
'Photovoltaic panels up to 4 – 6m in the height (fixed or tracking technology) with a capacity of up to 5MW)'.

**Is amended to:**

'Photovoltaic panels up to 4 – 6m in the height (fixed or tracking technology) with a capacity of up to 10MW'.

**The reason for the amendment is as follows:**

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the signing of the power purchase agreement (PPA) between Independent Power Producers (IPPs) and ESKOM has been delayed, which translates in delays in bringing the project to financial close and construction. These delays have also opened a platform to use new advanced photovoltaic panels with the ability to increase the electricity output of the project without increasing the overall project footprint on the receiving environment.

**Appeals Procedure:**

Any party wishing to appeal this decision should please follow the appeal process outlined in Chapter 2 of National Appeals Regulations (GN. R. 993 of 8 December 2014). In terms of these regulations, notice of intent to appeal must be lodged with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) within 20 days from the date the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant (by 27 October 2021) to The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of the DFFE through any of the following avenues:

Email: AppealsDirectorate@environment.gov.za

Post: Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001

By hand: Environment House, 473 Steve Biko, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083

An appeal must be-

- a) Submitted in writing in the form obtainable from the appeal administrator, and
- b) Accompanied by-
  - (i) A statement setting out the grounds of appeal;
  - (ii) Supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal submission; and
  - (iii) A statement, including supporting documentation, by the applicant to confirm compliance with regulation 4(1) of these Regulations.

Should you require a copy of the amendment to the Environmental Authorisation this will be furnished by the undersigned below.

With best regards,



**Reuben Maroga**

Permitting Specialist

**CLEAN ENERGY FOR AFRICA**

SOLA ASSETS (PTY) LTD | T: +27 (0)21 421 9764 | INFO@SOLA.AFRICA | WWW.SOLA.AFRICA

DIRECTORS: C. HAW | D. WILLS | D. CHENNELLS | S. HAW | REG. NO 2006/038826/07