

Your reference:

Our reference: 10777 – Mierdam

Date: 19 November 2013

Dear Interested and Affected Party

**RECONSIDERATION OF THE DECISION TO REFUSE AN AMENDMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (EA): PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A 40MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITY ON MIERDAM FARM NEAR PRIESKA, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA**

- DEA Ref. No: 12/12/20/2320/2 & NEAS Ref. No: DEA/EIA/AMEND/0000033/2012

South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Mierdam (Pty) Ltd (hereafter referred to as Mainstream) obtained an Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the construction of a 40MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility on Mierdam Farm near Prieska in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa (DEA Reference 12/12/20/2320/2) on 06 September 2012. Mainstream applied for an amendment to the EA in order to increase the output of the Solar PV Facility to 75MW. As per the notification dated 30 May 2013 the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) decided not to amend the EA that was issued on 06 September 2012.

On 24 May 2013, SiVEST as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) requested the DEA to reconsider its decision not to amend the EA. As a result, the DEA in terms Regulation 43(c) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2010 read together with Section 47A of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), has decided to amend the EA that was issued on 06 September 2012, as follows:

1. The description or any reference to the project output/capacity is amended:

From: "40MW"

To: "75MW"

2. Condition 42 of the EA is amended:

From: "The assessment and detailed design phase of the PV facility must be done in consultation with the Square Kilometre Array South Africa"

To: "The assessment and detailed design phase of the PV facility must be done in consultation and agreement with the Square Kilometre Array South Africa"

Should the applicant or any party, wish to appeal any aspect of the decision, a notice of intention to appeal must be lodged by all prospective appellants with the Minister, within 20 days of the date of the letter from the DEA, by means of the following methods:

By facsimile: 012 320 7561

**Or**

By Post: Department of Environmental Affairs  
Private Bag X447  
Pretoria  
0001

**Or**

By Hand 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Fedsure Forum Building, North Tower  
Corner Lilian Ngoyi (Van der Walt) and Pretorius Streets  
Pretoria

**Appeals must be submitted in writing to:**

Mr Z Hassam, Director: Appeals and Legal Review, of the DEA at the above addresses or fax number.

Tel: 012 310 3271

E-mail: AppealsDirectorate@environment.gov.za

Please note that appeals should not be sent to SiVEST or the Applicant.

The letter from the DEA is available on the SiVEST website ([www.sivest.co.za](http://www.sivest.co.za)) and is also attached herewith for your convenience. For further information, please contact SiVEST as follows:

**SiVEST** Environmental: Andrea Gibb

Tel: (011) 798 0600

Fax: (011) 803 7272

Email: [andreag@sivest.co.za](mailto:andreag@sivest.co.za)

Please refer to the appeal procedure attached herewith for the details pertaining to the appeal process.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Gibb".

Andrea Gibb  
Environmental Consultant  
**SiVEST Environmental Division**

**Documents Included:** Appeal Procedure  
Letter from the DEA (dated 08 November 2013)