DEA REFERENCE NUMBER: 14/12/16/3/3/2/970

COMMENT AND RESPONSE REPORT

ENAMANDLA PV 3

PUBLIC

FEBRUARY 2017



COMMENT AND RESPONSE REPORT ENAMANDLA PV 3

BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd

Type of document (version) Public

Project no: 47579 Date: February 2017

WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff 199 Bryanston Drive Bryanston 2152

Tel: +27 11 361 1392 Fax: +27 11 361 1381 www.wspgroup.com www.pbworld.com



| QUALITY MANAGEMENT | | | | |
|--------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| ISSUE/REVISION | FIRST ISSUE | REVISION 1 | REVISION 2 | REVISION 3 |
| Remarks | Comment and Response Report – Enamandla PV 3 | | | |
| Date | February 2017 | | | |
| Prepared by | Bronwyn Fisher | | | |
| Signature | | | | |
| Checked by | Ashlea Strong | | | |
| Signature | | | | |
| Authorised by | Ashlea Strong | | | |
| Signature | | | | |
| Project number | 47579 | | | |
| Report number | 1 | | | |
| File reference | | | - | |

PRODUCTION TEAM

CLIENT

| Environmental Manager | Michael Barnes |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Environnentarmanagor | Milonaor Barrioo |

Environmental Manager Irene Bezuidenhout

WSP | PARSONS BRINCKERHOFF

Environmental Consultant

| Project Director | Nigel Seed |
|------------------|---------------|
| Project Manager | Ashlea Strong |

Bronwyn Fisher

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| 1 | INTRODUCTION | 1 |
|-----|------------------------------------|----|
| 1.1 | BACKGROUND INFORMATION | 1 |
| 1.2 | PUBLIC PARTICIPATION | 1 |
| 1.3 | SCOPING PHASE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION | 3 |
| 1.4 | EIA PHASE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION | 8 |
| 1.5 | NOTIFICATIONS | 9 |
| 1.6 | COMMENTS RECEIVED | 9 |
| 2 | AUTHORITIES | 10 |
| 3 | STAKEHOLDERS | 48 |
| | | |

APPENDICES

| APPENDIX A | ADVERTISEMENTS |
|------------|--|
| APPENDIX B | NOTIFICATIONS SENT TO STAKEHOLDERS |
| APPENDIX C | ORIGINAL COMMENTS RECEIVED - AUTHORITIES |
| APPENDIX D | ORIGINAL COMMENTS RECEIVED - STAKEHOLDERS |

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

BioTherm Energy (Pty.) Ltd. (BioTherm) is the proponent and applicant for the Environmental Authorisation (EA) for Enamandla PV 3. BioTherm is a leading renewable energy project development and financing company that owns, develops, constructs and operates solar and wind energy projects in South Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.

BioTherm has proposed a solar energy development on Farm Hartebeest Vlei 86, located approximately 13km southeast of Aggeneys located within the Khâi-Ma Local Municipality under the jurisdiction of the Namakwa District Municipality, in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa. The solar energy development will consist of two 150MW Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) projects referred to as Letsoai CSP 1 and 2; and five 75MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) projects referred to as Enamandla PV 1 – 5. The projects are summarised in **Table 1-1**.

| Project Number | TECHNOLOGY | LOCATION | Projects |
|-------------------|----------------------|---------------|---|
| 1 | CSP | Northern Cape | Letsoai CSP 1 (150MW) and associated infrastructure Letsoai CSP 2 (150MW) and associated infrastructure |
| 2 | ΡV | Northern Cape | Enamandla PV 1 (75MW) and associated infrastructure Enamandla PV 2 (75MW) and associated infrastructure Enamandla PV 3 (75MW) and associated infrastructure Enamandla PV 4 (75MW) and associated infrastructure Enamandla PV 5 (75MW) and associated infrastructure |
| 3 | Power Integration | Northern Cape | → 1 x 400kV Powerline and associated substation |

Table 1-1: Projects within the Solar Energy Development

It is important to note that this Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process is for Enamandla PV 3 (Proposed Project) only; the balance of the Enamandla PV and Letsoai CSP projects entail separate EA applications and S&EIR processes.

WSP| Parsons Brinckerhoff, Environment and Energy, Africa (WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff) has been appointed in the role of Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the S&EIR processes for each of the seven projects collectively forming part of the solar energy development.

1.2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation is understood to be a series of inclusive and culturally appropriate interactions aimed at providing stakeholders with opportunities to express their views, so that these can be considered and incorporated into the S&EIR decision-making process. Effective public participation requires the prior disclosure of relevant and adequate project information to enable stakeholders to understand the risks, impacts, and opportunities of the Proposed Project.

The objectives of the public participation process can be summarised as follows:

- → Identify relevant individuals, organisations and communities who may be interested in or affected by the Proposed Project;
- → Clearly outline the scope of the Proposed Project, including the scale and nature of the existing and proposed activities;
- → Identify viable Proposed Project alternatives that will assist the relevant authorities in making an informed decision;
- \rightarrow Identify shortcomings and gaps in existing information;
- → Identify key concerns, raised by Stakeholders that should be addressed in the subsequent specialist studies;
- → Highlight the potential for environmental impacts, whether positive or negative; and
- → To inform and provide the public with information and an understanding of the Proposed Project, issues and solutions.

THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STAKEHOLDER

Registered stakeholders have the right to bring to the attention of the competent authority any issues that they believe may be of significance to the consideration of the application. The rights of stakeholder are qualified by certain obligations, namely:

- → Stakeholders must ensure that their comments are submitted within the timeframes that have been approved by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), or within any extension of a timeframe agreed by the Proponent, EAP or competent authorities;
- → Serve a copy of the comments submitted directly to the competent authorities, the Proponent or the EAP; and
- → Disclose to the EAP any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that they might have in the approval or refusal of the application.

ROLE OF STAKEHOLDERS

The roles of stakeholders in a public participation process usually include one or more of the following:

- → Assisting in the identification and prioritisation of issues that need to be investigated;
- Making suggestions on alternatives and means of preventing, minimising and managing negative impacts and enhancing Proposed Project benefits;
- → Assisting in or commenting on the development of mutually acceptable criteria for the evaluation of decision options;
- → Contributing information on public needs, values and expectations;
- → Contributing local and traditional knowledge; and
- \rightarrow Verifying that their issues have been considered.

RESPONSIBILITY OF STAKEHOLDERS

In order to participate effectively, stakeholders should:

- \rightarrow Become involved in the process as early as possible;
- → Register as a stakeholder;

- → Advise the EAP of other stakeholders who should be consulted;
- → Contribute towards the design of the public participation process (including timeframes) to ensure that it is acceptable to all stakeholders;
- \rightarrow Follow the process once it has been accepted;
- → Read the material provided and actively seek to understand the issues involved;
- → Give timeous responses to correspondence;
- → Be respectful and courteous towards other stakeholders;
- → Refrain from making subjective, unfounded or ill-informed statements; and
- → Recognise that the process is confined to issues that are directly relevant to the application.

APPROACH TO STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Our approach to stakeholder engagement is based on the following principles:

- → Undertake meaningful and timely participation with stakeholders;
- → Focus on important issues during the S&EIR process;
- → Undertake due consideration of alternatives;
- → Take accountability for information used;
- → Encourage co-regulation, shared responsibility and a sense of ownership over the Proposed Project lifecycle;
- → Apply "due process" particularly with regard to public participation as provided for in the EIA Regulations; and
- → Consider the needs, interests and values of stakeholders.

1.3 SCOPING PHASE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION

Stakeholders were identified and continue to be identified through several mechanisms. These include:

- → Utilising existing databases from other projects in the area;
- → Networking with local business owners, non-governmental agencies, community based organisations, and local council representatives;
- → Field work in and around the project area;
- → Advertising in the press;
- → Placement of community notices;
- → Completed comment sheets; and
- \rightarrow Attendance registers at meetings.

All Stakeholders identified to date have been registered on the project stakeholder database. The EAP endeavoured to ensure that individuals/organisations from referrals and networking were notified of the Proposed Project. Stakeholders were identified at the horizontal (geographical) and vertical extent (organisations level).

Table 1-2 provides a breakdown of stakeholders currently registered on the database while Figure

 1-1 illustrates the number of stakeholders per representative sector.

| REPRESENTATIVE SECTOR | FURTHER EXPLANATION | No. of stakeholders |
|--|---|---------------------|
| Government departments | All tiers of government, namely, national, provincial, local government and parastatal organisations including: | 50 |
| | Department of Mineral Resources | |
| | → Eskom Holdings Limited | |
| | Northern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works | |
| | Northern Cape Department of Rural Development and Land Reform | |
| | → Randwater | |
| | → Transnet | |
| | → Khâi-Ma Local Municipality | |
| | → Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries | |
| | → South African Heritage Resource Agency | |
| | → National Department of Environmental Affairs | |
| | Department of Environmental Affairs: Biodiversity and Conservation | |
| | → South African Civil Aviation Authority | |
| | Department of Water and Sanitation | |
| | Northern Cape Department of Water and Sanitation | |
| | Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation | |
| | Northern Cape Department of Finance, Economic Development and Tourism | |
| | Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism | |
| | → South African National Roads Agency | |
| | → South African Square Kilometre Array | |
| | → Northern Cape Economic Development Agency | |
| | → Namakwa District Municipality | |
| | → South African Astronomical Observatory | |
| Business and consultants | Local and neighbouring businesses in the area. | 6 |
| | Representatives of consulting organisations that provide services in the area | |
| Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and | Agricultural unions, churches, and environmental NGOs | 9 |

 Table 1-2:
 Breakdown of Stakeholders Currently Registered on the Database

| REPRESENTATIVE SECTOR | FURTHER EXPLANATION | No. of stakeholders |
|----------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| community based organisations | | |
| General public | Local communities, farmers, and other such individuals who may have an interest in the project | 7 |

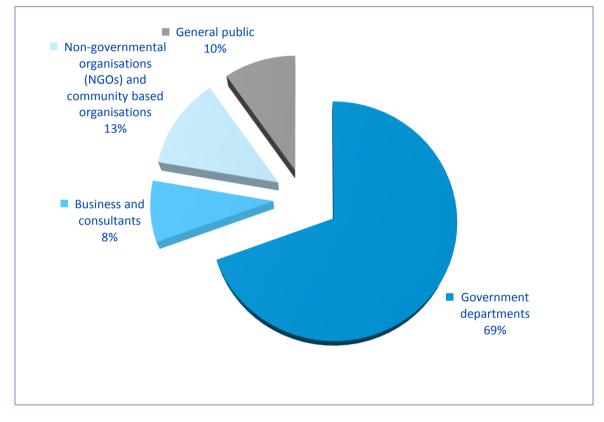


Figure 1-1: Pie chart showing the Breakdown of the Stakeholders currently Registered on the Database per representative sector

STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

In accordance with the requirements of GNR 982, the proposed project was advertised in a local and regional newspaper. The purpose of the advertisement was to notify the public about the proposed project and to invite them to register as stakeholders (**Appendix A**). The EIA notification advertisement was placed in "Die Gemsbok" newspaper on 7 September 2016.

SITE NOTICES

The official site notices <u>were</u> erected as per GNR 982 on the boundary fence of the proposed site. **Table 1-3** provides the detail with regards to these locations. In addition, general project notices, announcing the Proposed Project and inviting stakeholders to register, were placed at the following locations in and around the project area (**Table 1-4**). The copy of the site notice is included in **Appendix A**.

| LOCATION | Рнотодгарн |
|---|------------|
| Site Boundary 29° 17' 45.45" S 18° 59' 07.59" E | |
| Aggeneis Substation 29° 17' 59.16" S 18° 48' 21.99" E | |

Table 1-3: Site Notice Locations

Table 1-4: General Project Notice Locations

| | Рнотодгарн |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Aggeneys OK | |
| Aggeneys Public Library | |
| Black Mountain Recreation Club | |
| Khâi-Ma Local Municipality | |

| | Рнотодгарн |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Poffadder Public Library | |

PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT

The draft scoping report (DSR) was placed on public review for a period of 30 days from **15 September 2016** to **17 October 2016**, at the following venues:

- → Aggeneys Public Library;
- → Black Mountain Recreation Club; and
- → WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff Website

All registered stakeholders and authorising/commenting state departments were notified of the public review period as well as the locations of the DSR via email, sms, and the stakeholder meetings.

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

FOCUS MEETINGS

Informal one-on-one stakeholder meetings were held, as required, in order to present the proposed project to key stakeholders and to ask the stakeholder to raise concerns or queries. The one-on-one stakeholder meetings were facilitated at appropriate venues during the DSR review period (30 days). WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff facilitated the meetings and was accompanied by the applicant during all meetings.

A focus group meeting was held with the Khâi-Ma Local Municipality in Poffadder on 27 September 2016.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Table 1-5 outlines the meetings that were proposed to be held during the DSR review period. The meetings were proposed to outline the details of the proposed project and provided opportunities for stakeholders to raise issues, concerns and queries. The meetings were to establish lines of communication between stakeholders and the project team. The meetings were to be facilitated by WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff's EIA team and were attended by BioTherm representatives. Invitations to the meetings were sent out in the form of telephone calls, emails, sms's and site notices. No meeting minutes are attached to the FSR due to the fact that there was no attendance at the meeting.

Table 1-5: Meetings to be held during the Draft Scoping Report Review Period

| Date | Тіме | Venue |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 26 September 2016 | 18:00 – 20:00 | Black Mountain Recreation Club |

1.4 EIA PHASE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

STAKEHOLDER AND AUTHORITY CONSULTATION

There will be ongoing communication between WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff and stakeholders throughout the S&EIR process. These interactions include the following:

- → A letter will be sent out to all registered stakeholders providing them with an update of the proposed project once the final scoping report has been approved;
- → Interactions with stakeholders will be recorded in the comment and response report;
- → Feedback to stakeholders will take place both individually and collectively; and
- → Written responses (email, faxes or letters) will be provided to stakeholders acknowledging issues and providing information requested (dependent on availability).
- → As per the GNR 982, particular attention will be paid to landowners, and neighbouring communities, specifically where literacy levels and language barriers may be an issue.

PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE DRAFT IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

The draft environmental impact report (EIR) will be placed on public review for a period of 30 days from **27 February 2017** to **27 March 2017**, at the following venues:

- → Aggeneys Public Library;
- → Pofadder Public Library; and
- → WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff Website.

All registered stakeholders and authorising/commenting state departments will be notified of the public review period as well as the locations of the draft EIR via email, sms, and the stakeholder meetings.

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

FOCUS MEETINGS

Informal one-on-one stakeholder meetings will be held, as required, in order to present the findings of the impact assessment to key stakeholders and to ask the stakeholder to raise concerns or queries. The one-on-one stakeholder meetings will be facilitated at appropriate venues during the draft EIR review period (30 days). WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff will facilitate the meetings and will be accompanied by the applicant during all meetings.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Table 1-5 outlines the meetings that are to be held during the draft EIR review period. The meetings will present the findings of the impact assessment and provided opportunities for stakeholders to raise issues, concerns and queries. The meetings will be facilitated by WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff's EIA team and will be attended by BioTherm representatives. Invitations to the meetings will be sent out in the form of emails and sms's.

Table 1-6: Meetings to be held during the Draft Environmental Impact Report Review Period

| Date | Тіме | Venue |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| 16 March 2017 | 18:00 – 20:00 | Pofadder Community Hall |

1.5 NOTIFICATIONS

All notifications distributed to registered stakeholders are included in Appendix B of this report.

1.6 COMMENTS RECEIVED

Comments received from registered stakeholders have been captured and responded to within the comments and response tables included in Section 2 (Authorities) and Section 3 (Stakeholders) below. The original comments and responses are included in **Appendix C** and **Appendix D**.

2 AUTHORITIES

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|----------------------------------|---|---|------------------|
| Commission on Restitu | ution of Land Rights – Regional Land Claims Commiss | sioner: Northern Cape | 1 |
| Pabalelo Mokale | Letter from WSP Environmental: | Response from RLCC: | Appendix H |
| 11 October 2016 Formal Letter | PROPERTIES IDENTIFIED FOR THE PROPOSED ENAMANDLA PV 3 PROJECT, NORTHERN CAPE. BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd (BioTherm) has proposed a solar energy development on Farm Hartebeest Vlei 86, located approximately 13km southeast of Aggeneys located within the Khâi-Ma Local Municipality under the jurisdiction of the Namakwa District Municipality, in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa. The solar energy development will consist of two 150MW Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) projects referred to as Letsoai CSP 1 and 2; and five 75MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) projects referred to as Enamandla PV 1 – 5. WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff, Environment and Energy, Africa (WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff) has been appointed in the role of Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the S&EIR processes for each of the eight projects collectively forming part of the solar energy development. This request is specific to the Proposed Enamandla PV 3 Project. | Farm Hartebeest Vlei 86 We refer to your letter dated 11 October 2016. We confirm that as at the date of this letter no land claims appear on our database in respect of the Property. This includes the database for claims lodged by 31 December 1998 and those lodged between 1 July 2014 and 27 July 2016 in terms of the Restitution of Land Rights Amendment Act, 2014. Whilst the Commission takes reasonable care to ensure the accuracy of the information it provides, there are various factors that are beyond the Commission's control, particularly relating to claims that have been lodged by not yet been gazetted such as: Some Claimants referred to properties they claim | |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|--|---|--|------------------|
| | Please can you advise whether a land claim has been lodged on the property listed below: | actual property description they claim dispossession of rights in land against. | |
| | Farm Hartebeest Vlei 86. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should you require any further information. | The Commission therefore does not accept any liability whatsoever if through the process of further investigation of claims it is found that there is in fact a land claim in respect of the above property. | |
| | | If you are aware of any change in the description of the above property after 19 June 1913 kindly supply us with such description so as to enable us to do a further search. | |
| Department of Environn | nental Affairs | | |
| Herman Alberts | Herman Alberts from DEA: | Responses from Ashlea Strong from WSP: | |
| 17 October 2016 Formal Letter – Comments on DESR – | COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ENAMANDLA PV3 PROJECT NEAR AGGENEYS, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE | | |
| Enamandla PV 3 | The draft Scoping Report (SR) dated September 2016 and received by this Department on 02 [16] September 2016 refer. | | |
| | This Department has the following comments on the abovementioned application: | | |
| | | WSP Parsons Brinkerhoff can confirm that all relevant listed activities have been included in the updated application form. | |
| | from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following | The activities listed in the final scoping report were the same as those applied for in the application form. WSP Parsons Brinkerhoff takes note of the requirement to amend the application form in the event that activities are added or removed at any time through the S&EIR process. | |
| | | An amended application form has been submitted with the Draft EIR due to the addition of the WML activities. | |

| UTHORITY DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|------------------|--|---|--|
| | | All issues raised and comments received during the scoping phase are included in the Comment and Response Report (Appendix H). | |
| | | Proof of correspondence with stakeholders during the scoping phase is included in the Comment and Response Report | Appendix H |
| | The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014 | WSP Parsons Brinkerhoff has taken note of this requirement. | Section 5.3 Appendix H |
| | | The Scoping Specialist studies were included in the final scoping report. | Appendix I Appendix M Appendix N Appendix Q Appendix R Appendix S Appendix T |
| | A Traffic Impact Assessment must be included during the EIA phase | A traffic impact assessment has been undertaken and is included in Appendix I . | Appendix I |
| | A cumulative impact assessment must be undertaken in the final SR to determine potential fatal flaws | A cumulative impact assessment has been included in Section 10 of this report. | Chapter 8 (Table 8.1) Chapter 9 |
| | alternatives for the proposed activity that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives | The investigation undertaken to identify and motivate why no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist has been outlined in Section 7 of this report. In addition, advantages and disadvantages have been included for all alternatives where appropriate | |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|------------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|
| | may be affected by the activity as per Appendix 1 (2) (e) and 3 (1) (h) (i) of GN R.982 of 2014 | | |
| | Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations 2014 | The investigation undertaken to identify and motivate why no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist has been outlined in Section 7 of this report. In addition, advantages and disadvantages have been included for all alternatives where appropriate | |
| | In accordance with Appendix 1 (3) {1) (a} of the EIA Regulations 2014, the details of- (i) the EAP who prepared the report; and (ii) the expertise of the EAP to carry out Seeping and Environmental Impact assessment procedures; must be submitted | This has been included in Section 1.2 of this report. In addition, the CV of the Project Manager and Project Director for the project have been included in Appendix A . | Section 1.2 Appendix A |
| | You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 | • | N/A |
| | Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time frames prescribed in terms of the these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7) | • | N/A |
| | You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department. | • | N/A |
| Herman Alberts 12 December 2016 | ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE 75 MW ENAMANDLA PV 3 PROJECT AND ITS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON FARM HARTEBEEST VLEI | | |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| | 86 WITHIN THE KHAI·MA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE The Scoping Report (SR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated October 2016 and received by this Department on 28 October 2016 refer. This Department has evaluated the submitted SR and the PoSEIA dated February 2016 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014. The SR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014. You may proceed with the EIA process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the PoSEIA and the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014. All comments and recommendations made by all stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in the draft SR and submitted as part of the final SR must be taken into consideration when preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment report (EIAr) in respect of the proposed development. Please ensure that all mitigation measures and recommendations in the specialist studies are addressed and included in the final EIAr and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). | Please refer to the comment and response report (Appendix H) and the EMPr (Appendix J) for further | Appendix H Appendix J |
| | stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the final EIAr. This includes but is not limited to the Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry | All existing comments received have been included in the comment and response report (Appendix H). All the relevant stakeholders have been informed of the draft EIR public review period. Any additional comments received during the public review period will be included in the comment and response report and included in the final EIR. | |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| | Local Municipality, the District Municipality, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), the South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL), the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA}, the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), Birdlife SA, the Department of Mineral Resources, the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, the Department of Environmental Affairs: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation, and the Square Kilometre Array (SKA). | | |
| | | WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff takes note of these contact details. These details have been added to the stakeholder database (Appendix K). | Appendix K |
| | | | Appendix J Appendix H |
| | Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the EIAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. | | Appendix H |
| | | I&APs have been afforded 30 days to review the draft EIR. The public review period runs from 27 February 2016 to 27 March 2017. | Section 5.3 |
| | In addition, the following additional information is require | ed for the EIAr: | |
| | The draft EIAr must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for. | | Section 9 |

| UTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|------------------|---|---|---|
| | • The listed activities represented in the EIAr and the application form must be the same and correct. | All relevant listed activities included in the draft EIR and included in the amended application form submitted to the DEA with this Draft EIR. | |
| | received during the circulation of the EIAr from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's | All the relevant stakeholders have been informed of the draft EIR public review period. Any additional comments received during the public review period will be included in the comment and response report and included in the final EIR. | Section 5.3 |
| | A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final EIAr. The C&R report must incorporate all comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter. | e t | Appendix H |
| | Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defendable reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice. | t e h | N/A |
| | provide additional information detailing the | | Section 9 |
| | | | WSP Parsons Brincke Project No 4 February |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|--|---|--------------------------|
| | In addition, the impacts associated with this activity must be identified, described and assessed in the EIAr. The EIAr must include the identification of appropriate storage areas. | | |
| | The EIAr must include a Traffic Impact Assessment for the proposed Enamandla PV facilities as well as taking into consideration the proposed CSP facilities. | Please refer to the Transport Specialist Study (Appendix I) | Appendix I |
| | The listed activities represented in the EIAr and the application form must be the same and correct | All relevant listed activities included in the draft EIR and included in the amended application form submitted to the DEA with this Draft EIR. | Section 3.2 |
| | The relevant provincial authority must be engaged with regards to development in geographic areas triggering activities in GNR 985. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided. | | Figure 8.17 |
| | The EIAr must provide the technical details for the proposed facility in a table format as well as their description and/or dimensions. A sample for the minimum information required is listed under point 2 of the EIA information required for PV facilities below. | | Table 7.1 |
| | • The EIAr must provide the four corner coordinate points for the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous bend points, at each bend point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities. | | Figure 2.4 and 2.5 |
| | The EIAr must provide the following: Clear indication of the envisioned area for the proposed PV facility; i.e. placing of panels and all associated infrastructure | | Figure 2.5 Appendix V |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| | should be mapped at an appropriate scale. Clear description of all associated infrastructure. This description must include, but is not limited to the following: Powerlines; Internal roads infrastructure; and; All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area, guard house and control room etc. All necessary details regarding all possible locations and sizes of the proposed satellite substation and the main substation. | | |
| | | | |
| | | The DAFF have been provided with all the relevant information. However no comments have been received as yet. | Appendix H |
| | This Department requires comments from the Department of Water and Sanitation, from the Impact Management and Resource Management Directorates to be included in the EIAr. | Comments from the DWS have been received and have been included in the Comment and Response Report (Appendix H) and are provided in Appendix L . | Appendix H Appendix L |
| | An Avifauna! Assessment must be conducted as part of the EIAr. The terms of reference for the study must include, inter alia the following: | Please refer to the Avifauna Specialist Study (Appendix M). | Appendix M |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|---|---|
| | Determine the impacts that the proposed activity (including the powerline) may have on avifauna; Must cover at a minimum the summer and winter seasons; The assessment must include mitigation measures to discourage the avifauna from entering the solar field as well and limit nesting and breeding grounds within the solar field. The avifauna specialist study must be expanded to include vantage point surveys as well as flight paths to consider how birds will move through the property. The study must also propose adequate mitigation measures to reduce the facilities impacts on avifauna frequenting the area. Assess the cumulative impact on avifauna within the site and within the local area. | | |
| | The terms of reference for the soils, land use and land capability assessment must also include, inter alia the following: Assessment of the loss of agricultural land; The current state of agricultural activities on land; The impact of the loss of agricultural land within the property as well as the cumulative impact of the loss of agricultural land within the area. | | |
| | Where specialist studies are conducted in-house or Provide the specialist other than a suitably qualified results of the specialist other than a suitably specialist other than a specialist other than a suitably specialist other than a specialis | Peer reviewers have been identified and appointed for all elevant in-house specialist studies. The following peer | Section 5.1 Appendix O |
| nt n | | | WSP Parsons Brincke Project No 4 February |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|--|---|--|
| | specialist in the relevant field, such specialist reports must be peer reviewed by a suitably qualified external specialist in the relevant field. The terms of reference for the peer review must include: A CV clearly showing expertise of the peer reviewer; Acceptability of the terms of reference; Is the methodology clearly explained and acceptable; Evaluate the validity of the findings (review data evidence); Discuss the suitability of the mitigation measures and recommendations; Identify any short comings and mitigation measures to address the short comings; Evaluate the appropriateness of the reference literature; Indicate whether a site-inspection was carried out as part of the peer review; and | Land capability and Wetlands Social Study The Traffic Specialist Study Peer Review has been completed and is included in Appendix O The CV for each independent specialist have been included within Appendix P. | Appendix P |
| | Due to the number of similar applications in the area, all the specialist assessments must include a cumulative environmental impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts. The cumulative impact assessment must indicate the following: 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. Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's | | Section 10 WSP Parsons Brinckerho |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|--|---|------------------|
| | 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. The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development. A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed. | | |
| | The specialist studies conducted must be specific to a PV facility and must assess cumulative impacts of other Renewable Energy projects in the area. | All the specialist studies are specific to the Enamandla PV 3 Site. A detailed cumulative assessment is included in Section 10. | Section 10 |
| | • The EIAr must also include a comments and response report in accordance with Appendix 2 h (iii) of the EIA Regulations, 2014. | Please refer to the comment and response report (Appendix H) | Appendix H |
| | The EIAr must include the detail inclusive of the PPP in accordance with Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations. | The PPP methodology is described in Section 5.3 of this report. | Section 5.3 |
| | infrastructure after decommissioning in 20-30 years | At this stage in the process, post De-commissioning options have not yet been defined. It remains a possibility that technologies will evolve over time and the option to upgrade the facility is noted. However, in the event that upgrading the facility is not considered the site will be demolished and rehabilitated to its current state. | |
| | sewage, refuse removal, water and electricity. Who | For such agreements to be in place, the project must first achieve preferred bidder status. These agreement will be negotiated once preferred bidder status has been achieved. | n/A |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|----------|------------------|
| | and confirmation of capacity been obtained? Proof of these agreements must be provided. | | |
| | The EIAr must provide a detailed description of the need and desirability, not only providing motivation on the need for clean energy in South Africa of the proposed activity. The need and desirability must also indicate if the proposed development is needed in the region and if the current proposed location is desirable for the proposed activity compared to other sites. | | Section 6 |
| | Please ensure that the draft and final EIAr also includes the undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP that is required in terms of Appendix 3 of GN R. 982. | | Appendix B |
| | A copy of the final site layout map and alternatives. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout map must indicate the following: PV positions and its associated infrastructure; | | Appendix V |
| | Permanent laydown area footprint; Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible); | | |
| | Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used; | | |
| | The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, | | |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|--|--|------------------|
| | wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure; Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint; Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network; All existing infrastructure on the site, especially roads; Buildings, including accommodation; and All "no-go" areas. | | |
| | An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process. | Please refer to Section 11.2 for the sensitivity map. This map is also included in Appendix V. | Appendix V |
| | A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map. | Please refer to Section 11.2 for the sensitivity map overlain by the layout. This map is also included in Appendix V. | Appendix V |
| | A shapefile of the preferred development layout/footprint must be submitted to this Department. The shapefile must be created using the Hartebeesthoek 94 Datum and the data should be in Decimal Degree Format using the WGS 84 Spheroid. The shapefile must include at a minimum the following extensions i.eshp; .shx; .dbf; .prj; and, .xml (Metadata file). If specific symbology was assigned to the file, then the .avl and/or the .lyr file must also be included. Data must be mapped at a scale of 1:10 000 (please specify if an alternative scale was used). The metadata must include a description of the base data used for digitizing. The shapefile must be submitted in a zip file using the | | N/A |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|--|------------------|
| | EIA application reference number as the title. The shape file must be submitted to: | | |
| | Postal Address: | | |
| | Department of Environmental Affairs | | |
| | Private Bag X447 | | |
| | Pretoria | | |
| | 0001 | | |
| | | | |
| | Physical address: | | |
| | Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road | | |
| | Pretoria | | |
| | | | |
| | For Attention: Muhammad Essop Integrated Environmental Authorisations Strategic Infrastructure Developments Telephone Number:(012) 399 9406 | | |
| | Email Address:MEssop@environment.gov.za | | |
| | The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) to be submitted as part of the EIAr must include the following: | Please refer to the EMPr included in Appendix J . | Appendix J |
| | • All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIAr and the specialist studies conducted. | | |
| | The final site layout map. | | |
| | • Measures as dictated by the final site layout map and micro-siting. | | |
| | An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process. | | |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|----------|------------------|
| AUTHORITY DETAILS | A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map. An alien invasive management plan to be implemented during construction and operation of the facility. The plan must include mitigation measures to reduce the invasion of alien species and ensure that the continuous monitoring and removal of alien species is undertaken. A plant rescue and protection plan which allows for the maximum transplant of conservation important species from areas to be transformed. This plan must be compiled by a vegetation specialist familiar with the site and be implemented prior to commencement of the construction planse. A re-vegetation and habitat rehabilitation plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. Restoration must be undertaken as soon as possible after completion of construction activities to reduce the amount of habitat converted | | REPORT REFERENCE |
| | at any one time and to speed up the recovery to natural habitats. An open space management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. x. A traffic management plan for the site access roads to ensure that no hazards would result from the increased truck traffic and that traffic flow would not be adversely impacted. This plan must include measures to minimize impacts on local commuters e.g. limiting construction vehicles travelling on public roadways during the morning and late afternoon commute time and avoid using roads through densely populated built-up areas so as not to disturb existing retail and commercial operations. | | |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|--|--|
| | A storm water management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. The plan must ensure compliance with applicable regulations and prevent off-site migration of contaminated storm water or increased soilerosion. The plan must include the construction of appropriate design measures that allow surface and subsurface movement of water along drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface flows. Drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water run-off. A fire management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Appropriate erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion. An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of all hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use and storage. This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems. Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants. | | |
| | The EAP must provide detailed motivation if any of the above requirements is not required by the proposed development and not included in the EMPr. | WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff has taken note of this requirement. Please refer to the EMPr included in Appendix J . | Appendix J |
| | The EAP must provide the final detailed Site Layout Plan as well as the final EMPr for approval with the final | Please refer to Section 11.2 for the sensitivity map overlain by the layout. This map is also included in Appendix V. the EMPr included in Appendix J. | Section 11.2 Appendix V |
| | | | WSP Parsons Brincker Project No 47 February 20 |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| | EIAr as this Department needs to make a decision on the EA, EMPr and Layout Plan. | In terms of the solar array no deviations from the layout are expected. However, the layout of the associated infrastructure together with the EMPr will only be finalised on confirmation that the project is awarded preferred bidder status. | |
| | Please ensure that all the relevant Listing Notice activities are applied for, that the Listing Notice activities applied for are specific and that they can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure in the project description. | | N/A |
| | You are hereby reminded that should the EIAr fail to comply with the requirements of this acceptance letter, the project will be refused in accordance with Regulation 24(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014. | | N/A |
| | The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations, and Regulations 43 and 44 with regard to the allowance of a comment period for interested and affected parties on all reports submitted to the competent authority for decision-making. The reports referred to are listed in Regulation 43(1). | | N/A |
| | Furthermore, it must be reiterated that, should an application for Environmental Authorisation be subject to the provisions of Chapter II, Section 38 of the NationalHeritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999, then this Department will not be able to make nor issue a decision in terms of your application for Environmental Authorisation pending a letter from the pertinent heritage authority categorically stating that the application fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority as described in Chapter II, Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999. Comments from SAHRA and/or the | | Appendix H Appendix R |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE | | | | |
|-------------------|--|--|------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | provincial department of heritage must be provided in the EIAr. | | | | | | |
| | You are requested to submit two (2) electronic copies (CD/DVD) and two (2) hard copies of the EIAr to the Department as per Regulation 23(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014. | | N/A | | | | |
| | Please also find attached information that must be used in the preparation of the EIAr. This will enable the Department to speedily review the EIAr and make a decision on the application. | WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff has taken note of this requirement. | N/A | | | | |
| | You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, which stipulates that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department. | | N/A | | | | |
| | COMMENT AND RESPONSE REPORT | COMMENT AND RESPONSE REPORT | | | | | |
| | Please record C&R trail report in this format | WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff has taken note of this requirement. | Appendix H | | | | |
| | A. EIA INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR POWER (PV) ENERGY FACILITIES | | | | | | |
| | General site information The following general site information is required: Descriptions of all affected farm portions 21 digit Surveyor General codes of all affected farm portions Copies of deeds of all affected farm portions Photos of areas that give a visual perspective of all parts of the site Photographs from sensitive visual receptors (tourism routes, tourism facilities, etc.) PV plant design specifications including: | | N/A | | | | |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|--|----------|-----------------------------|
| | Type of technology Structure height Surface area to be covered (including associated infrastructure such as roads) Structure orientation Laydown area dimensions (construction period and thereafter) Generation capacity Generation capacity of the facility as a whole a delivery points This information must be indicated on the first page o any Scoping or EIA document. It is also advised that i be double checked as there are too many mistakes in the applications that have been received that take too much time from authorities to correct. 2. Sample of technical details for the proposed facility Component Description / Height of PV panels Area of PV Number of inverters required required Area occupied by inverter / transformer stations / substations Capacity of on-site substation | | Section 7.2 Section 11.1 |

Comment BioTherm Public

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | COMMENT | | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|--|--------------------|----------------|--|---|
| | Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas | | | | |
| | Area occupied by buildings | | | | |
| | Length of internal roads | | | | |
| | Width of internal roads | | | | |
| | Proximity to grid connection | | | | |
| | Height of fencing | | | | |
| | Type of fencing | | | | |
| | 3. Site maps and GIS in | formation | | These maps have been included at the beginning of this | Appendix W |
| | Site maps and GIS infor the following: | mation should in | clude at least | report and in Appendix W . | |
| | All maps/information in ESRI Shapefile fo | | o be provided | | |
| | All affected farm por | tions must be inc | dicated | | |
| | • The exact site of the (the areas that will b | | | be indicated | |
| | A status quo map/ includes the followin | | provided that | | |
| | Current use | e of land on the s | ite including: | | |
| | | uildings and othe | r structures | | |
| | | gricultural fields | | | |
| | • Gi | razing areas | | | |
| | | | | | WSP Parsons Brincker Project No 47 February 2 |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|----------------------------------|------------------|
| | Natural vegetation areas (natur veld not cultivated for th preceding 10 years) with a indication of the vegetatio quality as well as fine sca mapping in respect of Critic Biodiversity Areas ar Ecological Support Areas Critically endangered ar endangered vegetation area that occur on the site | ie in in ie al id | |
| | Bare areas which may be susceptible to soil erosion | e | |
| | Cultural historical sites ar elements | d | |
| | Rivers, streams and water courses | | |
| | Ridgelines and 20m continuous contou with height references in the Gl database | | |
| | Fountains, boreholes, dams (in-stream a well as off-stream) and reservoirs | IS | |
| | High potential agricultural areas a defined by the Department of Agricultur Forestry and Fisheries | | |
| | Buffer zones (also where it is dictated the elements outside the site): | У | |
| | 500m from any irrigate agricultural land | d | |
| | 1km from residential areas | | |
| | A slope analysis map/layer that include the following slope ranges: | e | |
| | Less than 8% slope (preferre areas for facility ar infrastructure) | | |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|--|----------|------------------|
| | between 8% and 12% slope (potentially sensitive to facility and infrastructure) | | |
| | between 12%and 14% slope (highly sensitive to facility and infrastructure) | | |
| | steeper than 18% slope (unsuitable for facility and infrastructure) | | |
| | A site development proposal map(s)/layer(s) that indicate: | | |
| | Foundation footprint | | |
| | Permanent laydown area footprint | | |
| | Construction period laydown footprint | | |
| | Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible) | | |
| | River, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used | | |
| | Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint. | | |
| | Cable routes and trench dimensions (where they are not along internal roads) | | |

| Connection routes to the distribution/transmission network (the connection must form part of the EIA even if the construction and maintenance thereof will be done by another entity such as ESKOM) Cut and fill areas of power tower and heliostats sites along roads and at substation/transformer sites indicating the expected volume of each cut and fill Borrow pits Spoil heaps (temporary for topsoil and subsoil and permanently for excess material) |
|---|
| Buildings including accommodation With the above information authorities will be able to assess the strategic and site impacts of the application. |
| 4. Regional map and GIS information This map has been included at the beginning of this report Appendix W |
| The regional map and GIS information should include at and in Appendix W. least the following: |
| All maps/information layers must also be provided in ESRI Shapefile format |
| The map/layer must cover an area of 20km around the site |
| Indicate the following: |
| roads including their types (tarred or gravel) and category (national, provincial, local or private) |
| Railway lines and stations |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|-------------------|------------------|
| | Industrial areas Harbours and airports Electricity transmission and distribution lines and substations Pipelines Waters sources to be utilised during the construction and operational phases A visibility assessment of the areas from where the facility will be visible Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecologic Support Areas Critically Endangered and Endangered vegetation areas Agricultural fields Irrigated areas An indication of new road or changes are upgrades that must be done to existin roads in order to get equipment onto the site including cut and fill areas are crossings of rivers and streams | e n al d | |
| | 5. Important stakeholders Amongst other important stakeholders, comments from the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries must be obtained and submitted to the Department. Any application, documentation notification etc. should be forwarded to the following officials: Ms Mashudu Marubini Delegate of the Minister (Act 70 of 1970) E-mail: MashuduMa@daff.gov.za Tel 012-319 7619 | d e n, | Appendix P |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|----------|------------------|
| | Ms Thoko Buthelezi | | |
| | Agriland Liaison office | | |
| | E-mail: ThokoB@daff.gov.za | | |
| | Tel 012-319 7634 | | |
| | | | |
| | All hardcopy applications I documentation should be forwarded to the following address: | | |
| | Physical address: | | |
| | Delpen Building | | |
| | Cnr Annie Botha and Union Street | | |
| | Office 270 | | |
| | Attention: Delegate of the Minister Act 70 of 1970 | | |
| | Postal Address: | | |
| | Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries | | |
| | Private Bag X120 | | |
| | Pretoria | | |
| | 0001 | | |
| | Attention: Delegate of the Minister Act 70 of 1970 | | |
| | In addition, comments must be requested from Eskom | | |
| | regarding grid connectivity and capacity. Request for comment must be submitted to: | | |
| | Mr John Geeringh | | |
| | Eskom Transmission Megawatt Park D1Y38 | | |
| | PO Box 1091 | | |
| | JOHANNESBURG | | |

Comment and Response Report BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd Public

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|----------|------------------|
| | 2000 | | |
| | Tel: 011 516 7233 Fax: 086 661 4064 John.geeringh@eskom.co.za | | |
| | B. AGRICULTURE STUDY REQUIREMENTS | 1 | 1 |
| | Detailed soil assessment of the site in question, incorporating a radius of 50 m surrounding the site, on a scale of 1:10 000 or finer. The soil assessment should include the following: | | Appendix M |
| | Identification of the soil forms present on site | | |
| | The size of the area where a particular soil form is found | | |
| | GPS readings of soil survey points | | |
| | The depth of the soil at each survey point | | |
| | Soil colour | | |
| | Limiting factors | | |
| | Clay content | | |
| | Slope of the site | | |
| | A detailed map indicating the locality of the soil forms within the specified area, | | |
| | Size of the site | | |
| | Exact locality of the site | | |
| | Current activities on the site, developments, buildings | | |
| | Surrounding developments I land uses and activities in a radius of 500 m of the site | | |
| | Access routes and the condition thereof | | |

Comment BioTherm

Public

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| | Current status of the land (including erosion, vegetation and a degradation assessment) Possible land use options for the site Water availability, source and quality (if available) Detailed descriptions of why agriculture should or should not be the land use of choice Impact of the change of land use on the surrounding area A shape file containing the soil forms and relevant | | |
| | attribute data as depicted on the map. | | |
| | C. ASTRONOMY GEOGRAPHIC ADVANTAGE ACT, | 2007 (ACT NO. 21 OF 2007) | |
| | advantage areas that attract investment in astronomy. The entire Northern Cape Province excluding the Sol Plaatjie Municipality had been declared an astronomy advantage area. The Northern Cape optical and radio telescope sites were declared core astronomy advantage areas. The Act allowed for the declaration of the Southern Africa Large Telescope (SALT), MeerKAT and Square Kilometre Array (SKA) as astronomy and related scientific endeavours that had to be protected. | | Appendix H |
| | You are requested to indicate the applicability of the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act, Act No. 21 of 2007 on the application in the BARIEIR. You must obtain comments from the Southern African Large Telescope (SALT) if the proposed development is situated within a declared astronomy advantage area. | | |
| Khai-Ma Local Munici | pality | | |
| Khai-Ma Loo Municipality. | al Mr Alfredo Green – Khai-Ma Local Municipality: | Ashlea Strong of WSP: | Appendix H |
| Focus Group Meeting | I do not agree with the significance of the Increase in communicable diseases and reduced public health being low. He mentioned that they have had significant | | |
| t 1 | | | WSP Parsons Brind Project No Februa |

| UTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|---|--|---|------------------|
| 27 September 2016 <u>Attendees:</u> Alfredo Green Jillian Nortje Pasqueline van Heerden Obakeng Isaacs | | Mayor of Khai-Ma Local Municipality: The Mayor suggested that the public meeting is held in Poffader. In addition, a meeting can be held with the Ward Councillor from Pella. Mr Alfredo Green – Khai-Ma Local Municipality: The farmers' associations should also be included | Appendix H |
| | Mayor of Khai-Ma Local Municipality: Is Hartebees vlei a private farm?. | Ashlea Strong of WSP: Yes it is a private farm. | Appendix H |
| | Mayor of Khai-Ma Local Municipality: Why are these types of projects always on privately owned land? | Tonderai Munthumbira from BioTherm: The REIPPP Program stipulates land requirements in the RFP issued by the Department of Energy (DoE). Municipalities have to go through a tender process to sign a lease agreement with private companies due to the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) requirements which complicates the land acquisition process. Projects that are on private land can be secured without going through such complexities | Appendix H |
| | There have been a number of projects and at the EIA | Tulani Koom of BloTherm: Under the REIPPP, there needs to be socio-economic and enterprise development benefits for local community upliftment. The initiatives can vary from project to project and is dependent on the value of the project. Larger scale | |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|--|------------------|
| | phase we get engaged with and then we hear nothing more. | projects have more money and therefore greater initiatives. BioTherm have previously provided bursaries for local university students, contributed to local clinics, implemented skills development and educational initiatives within the local community and recently assisted the municipality with one priority project | |
| | Municipal Manager of Khai-Ma Local Municipality: Experience has shown that the municipality becomes poorer and with these types of developments as there is no legacy project by developer in the area. There needs to be an agreement between the developer and the municipality. | | |
| | Municipal Manager of Khai-Ma Local Municipality: The municipality is in debt with Eskom. How will this project assist the municipality? We require strategies on how BioTherm will help Pofadder. | | |
| | Irene Bezuidenhout of BloTherm: | No response required. | Appendix H |
| | It is important to remember that not all the proposed solar developments will be awarded at once, this is a long term development project. | | |
| | Alfredo Green of Khai-Ma Local Municipality: | Tonderai Munthumbira of BioTherm: | Appendix H |
| | There were no wetlands found but Pella has underground water. This needs to be checked by | | |

| Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|---|--|--|
| specialists. The church is currently being damaged as a result of the water. How can we use this water? Maybe BioTherm can get water from the municipality? | | |
| Mayor of Khai-Ma Local Municipality: | No response required | Appendix H |
| Mayor: We welcome the development but we want the community to grow and not be left behind. Thank you and I look forward to working with BioTherm. | | |
| Resources Agency | | |
| Only the Interim Comment is provided below: | Ashlea Strong from WSP: | Appendix H |
| (APM) Unit accepts and promotes the | relevant heritage and palaeontological specialists for their | Appendix R |
| The pending HIA must take the following aspects (but not limited to) into consideration when assessing impacts: | | |
| • Archaeological and Historical heritage resources; | | |
| Burial grounds and graves; | | |
| Visual Impact of the proposed development on heritage resources; and | | |
| Any comments provided by the public regarding heritage resources. | | |
| The EIA with all appendices must be submitted along with the heritage reports in order for further comments to be issued. | | |
| | specialists. The church is currently being damaged as a result of the water. How can we use this water? Maybe BioTherm can get water from the municipality? Mayor of Khai-Ma Local Municipality: Mayor: We welcome the development but we want the community to grow and not be left behind. Thank you and I look forward to working with BioTherm. Resources Agency Only the Interim Comment is provided below: SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts and promotes the recommendations of the AIA and PIA. No further Palaeontological Specialist studies are required for the proposed development. The pending HIA must take the following aspects (but not limited to) into consideration when assessing impacts: Archaeological and Historical heritage resources; Burial grounds and graves; Visual Impact of the proposed development on heritage resources; and Any comments provided by the public regarding heritage resources. | specialists. The church is currently being damaged as a result of the water. How can we use this water? Maybe BioTherm can get water from the municipality? No response required Mayor of Khai-Ma Local Municipality: No response required Mayor: We welcome the development but we want the community to grow and not be left behind. Thank you and I look forward to working with BioTherm. No response required Resources Agency No Interview Comment is provided below: SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts and promotes the recommendations of the AIA and PIA. No further recommendations of the AIA and PIA. No further Palaeontological specialist studies are required for the proposed development. The interium comments have been forwarded to the relevant heritage and palaeontological specialists for their consideration during the EIA Phase. • Archaeological and Historical heritage resources; • Burial grounds and graves; • Visual Impact of the proposed development on heritage resources; and • Any comments provided by the public regarding heritage resources. The EIA with all appendices must be submitted along with the heritage resources |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|---|--|--|------------------|
| Lizell Stroh Obstacle Inspector 08 November 2016 Email | regard to PV farms refers. There is a SACAA process whereby permission is applied for wrt obstacles which could pose an aviation | We look forward to your continued participation in our | Appendix H |
| Department of Water a | | | Ann an dia 11 |
| C Schwartz | The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) hereby acknowledges receipt of the Draft Environmental Scoping Report for the proposed Enamandla PV 3 | The Sedibeng Water agreement is included in Appendix J | Appendix H |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|---|---|--|------------------|
| Northern Cape Region (Lower Orange Water Management Area) 25 October 2016 Formal Letter | Project on farm Hartebees Vlei no 86, Sutherland Northern Cape. The Department takes note of the proposed activity and therefore peovides the following comments: Indicated on page 25 of the above-mentioned report, water will be sourced from Sedibeng Water. Please note that an agreement between the applicant and Sedibeng Water should be submitted tot eh Department. Any spillage of any hazardous materials including diesel that may occur during construction and operation must be reported immediately to this Department. All sewage and grey water, as well as any waste generated during the construction phase of the facilities will be collected, contained and disposed of at the permitted and/or licenced facilities of the Local Authority and this must please be confirmed in writing by the local authority. Stormwater must be diverted from the construction works and roads and must be managed in such a manner as to disperse runoff and to prevent the concetration of stormwater flow. Please feel free to contact this Department, should there by any queries. | of the EIR and mitigation measures recommended in the Environmental Management Programme • Mitigation measures relevant to waste and stormwater are included in the Environmental Management Plan | |
| C Schwartz Northern Cape Region (Lower Orange Water Management Area) | | comment regarding the WUL requirements. However, the PV sites will not require water to be abstracted or stored on site and no waste water will be discharged. | |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|--|--|--|------------------|
| 01 February 2017 Formal Letter | Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Enamandla PV 1 to 5 Project on the Farm Hartebeest Vlei 86, Aggeneys, Northern Cape. The Department takes note of the proposed activity and therefore provides the following comments: Plese note that the proposed activity interms of Section 21 (a), (b) and (g) of the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) requires a water use authorisation. Therefore the applicant is required to consult with this Department. Please note that no development should take place within 100m from water course or within 1:100 year flood line. Any spillage of any hazardous materials including diesel that may occur during construction and operation must be reported immediately to this Department. All waste generated during the construction phase of the facilities should be collected, contained and disposed of at a permitted and / or licensed facilities and this must please be confirmed in writing. | comment regarding the exclusion areas around watercourses. Spillage of hazardous material is assessed in Section 9 of the EIR and mitigation measures recommended in the Environmental Management Programme | Appendix V |
| Department of Environr | nental Affairs: Biodiversity and Conservation | | i |
| T Mashamba DEA: Biodiversity and Conservation Formal Letter 08 December 2016 | COMMENTS ON THE SCOPING REPORTS OF THE PROPOSED ENAMANDLA PV 1-5 PROJECTS, LESTOAI CSP 1-2 PROJECTS AND THE TRANSMISSION INTEGRATION FOR THE LETSOAIAND ENAMANDLA SOLAR PROJECTS The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation within the Branch: Biodiversity and Conservation in the National Department of Environmental Affairs received request for comments on the above-mentioned projects. After | | Appendix H |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|----------|--|
| | careful scrutiny and evaluation of the Final Scoping Reports, the following recommendations are made: | | |
| | Detailed Ecological, Hydrological/ Wetland and Avifauna! specialist reports must be compiled. The ecological specialist must in detail assess how the ecosystems and species could be affected by the development and how best the development can be located and managed to avoid negative impacts or result in benefits to biodiversity. It is important that the specialist considers the impacts of the proposed development on biodiversity pattern, biodiversity process and ecosystem services. | | Appendix H Appendix L Appendix Q Appendix M |
| | The findings of the hydrological report must also be integrated into the Ecological Specialist Report. The Ecological Specialist report must confirm the presence of all hydrological features within the proposed development site and those that may be affected. Furthermore, recommendations on the management of identified potential impacts on these systems must be clearly highlighted within the report. | | Appendix H Appendix Q Appendix M |
| | etailed Avifauna! Specialist Assessments must be done for all projects. This must identify all the Important Bird Areas, avifauna species of conservation concern (nationally and globally protected species) and their habitats. Appropriate and implementable measures to protect such areas and conserve such species must be identified. | | Appendix H Appendix L |
| | Fauna and faunal impact prediction and significance must be based on the nature, extent, duration, and the probability of the impacts. Predictions must be scientific and valid to allow for informed decision making.• | | Appendix H Appendix Q |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|--|--|--|
| | Environmental sensitivity maps indicating ecological sensitive areas and features must be compiled. These maps must show the CriticalBiodiversity Areas, Ecological Support Area and Important Bird Areas. From a biodiversity perspective, the layouts of these projects must be in such a way to avoid impact on these areas | Please refer to the relevant specialist studies as well as Appendix W of the EIR | Appendix H Appendix L Appendix Q Appendix W |
| | A map combining the final layout of each PV must be superimposed on the ecological sensitivity maps. The finallayout map must show the following : | Please refer to the relevant specialist studies as well as Appendix W of the EIR | Appendix H Appendix W |
| | → The PV positions and associated infrastructure. These must be located outside the ecologicalsensitive areas. | | |
| | Biodiversity features- wetlands, drainage line, watercourses. Appropriate buffers and 'no- go' areas identified and confirmed by specialists during assessments must also be clearty shown on these maps | | |
| | | | Section 11 |
| | the site (in a regionaland catchments context). Direct, indirect and cumulative impacts must be clearly | | Appendix L |
| | articulated within the report | | Appendix Q |
| | | | Appendix M |
| | A rehabilitation strategy must be developed. This must address how the impacted areas will be rehabliitated and managed after development. | Please refer to the Environmental Management Programe | Appendix H Appendix V |
| | The project descriptions of alternatives must be of sufficient detail to allow for the assessment of relative impact on the receiving environment and support any conclusion on why an alternative may be selected or | | Section 7 |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|--|----------|--------------------------|
| | rejected. This will allow for an informed decision to be made | | |
| | AU concerns raised by Birdlife South Africa including but not limited to the impact of CSPs on species of conservation importance and migratory birds,evaporation ponds and heliostats must be addressed and further comments must be sought from Birdlife | | Appendix H Appendix L |
| | Conclusion | Noted | Appendix H |
| | The Directorate notes that the proposed developments will result in habitat loss and degradation, habitat fragmentation, loss of species and impact on the naturalenvironmentalprocesses. Conclusive comments and recommendations will be made after evaluating the specialist studies to be submitted in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report. The comments and/ or concerns identified by Interested and Affected Parties (Provincial Environment Department and the Conservation Agencies) during the review period of the FSR must be addressed during the Environmental Impact Assessment Report phase and incorporated into the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAR) since they are mandated to conserve and protect biodiversity within the area. | | |
| | To fully understand the characteristics, ecological dynamics of the receiving environments and management alternatives proposed by the specialist, a site visit with the Ecological Specialist, provincial commenting authority and DEA case officers must be done once the DEIAR has been made available. This will allow officials to gather information that will inform decision making on the finalPV layouts, access routes, | | |

| AUTHORITY DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-------------------|---|----------|------------------|
| | construction camp and power line routes for the proposed projects. | | |
| | The Directorate Biodiversity Conservation reserves the right to revise the above comments should additional information on these application is made available at a later stage | | |

STAKEHOLDERS

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|----------------------------|---|---|------------------|
| Transnet | | | |
| Riaan Karriem | Hi Mrs. Lourens | Ashlea Strong from WSP: | Appendix H |
| (Transnet Freight Rail) | Please find attached for your depot's attention. | Thank you for forwarding our notification onto the relevant person. | |
| 22 September 2016 Email | thanking you in advance | We have added Mrs Lourens on to our database. | |
| Lindi | | We look forward to your continued participation in our processes | |
| Jaco Hanekom | Your WSP Reference: 47579 refers. | Ashlea Strong from WSP: | Appendix H |
| (Transnet Property) | Thank you for the notification. | Thank you for your email. | |
| 28 September 2016 Email | Can you please provide more information/ plans (Map) indicating the proposed development of the Letsoai and Enamandla Renewable Energy Projects for this office's record. | development area, locality and layout of the proposed | |
| | | For more detailed information on each of the individual projects please visit our website for the Draft Environmental Scoping Reports (Click here). | |
| | | In addition, I can confirm that I have added you to our project database so that you can be kept abreast of the relevant project notifications as the project progresses. | |
| | | We look forward to your continued participation. | |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|--|--|--|------------------|
| Marina Lourens (Transnet Freight Rail) | Is it possible to send us more info regarding this maps etc. (in pdf) please. | Thank you for your email – Please find attached some of the most relevant maps regarding the solar projects. If you require any more detailed information we would | Appendix H |
| 08 November 2016 Email | | recommend that you click here to access the WSP website. The Final Scoping Reports will be available on the website until 28 November 2016. | |
| | | We look forward to your ongoing participation in our projects. | |
| Square Kilometre Array (| SKA) | | |
| Email to Dr Adrian Tiplady 06 October 2016 | Email from Michael Barnes at BioTherm Energy: We have submitted several EIA applications and scoping reports to the DEA for the proposed development of 2 x 150MW CSP Towers and 5 x 75MW Solar PV Projects. As part of the Public Consultation the DEA requires the SKA to provide comment on the Solar energy projects and to identify any risk they may pose on the SKA. Please see attached kmz's showing the locations of the Solar energy projects. | | Appendix H |
| | Letsoai will consists of 2 x 150MW CSP Towers. The maximum height of the power tower will be 250m. The two CSPs are located on Farm Hartebeest Vlei 86, located approximately 16km southeast of Aggeneys located within the Northern Cape. | | |
| | Adjacent to the Letsoai CSPs will be the 5 x 75MW Solar PV facilities referred to as the Enamandla PV $1 - 5$. These too are located on Farm Hartebeest Vlei 86, located approximately 16km southeast of Aggeneys. | | |
| | Please can you provide an high level risk assessment on the potential projects and the risks they may pose on the SKA. | | |
| | As with the Wind Facilities an email response will be sufficient at this stage, unless the DEA ask for a formal response. | | |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|--|--|----------|------------------|
| Email to Dr Adrian Tiplady 12 October 2016 | Email from Michael Barnes at BioTherm Energy: When can we expect feedback on the solar farm? We need to provide feedback for the scoping report. Unfortunately the DEA wants an official letter from the SKA, you can just provide one letter covering both the PV and CSP facilities. | | Appendix H |
| Email to Selaelo Matlhane 14 October 2016 | Email from Michael Barnes at BioTherm Energy: Please can we have confirmation on the Letsoai and Enamandla sites and the risk they may pose on the SKA. The proposed Solar development areas are located 16km from our Aggeneys facility of which the SKA noted was 150km from the nearest SKA infrastructure. We, however, would like confirmation from the SKA. Again thank you for your time and feedback on our other facility. | | Appendix H |
| Email to Adrian Tiplady and Selaelo Matlhane 19 October 2016 | Email from Michael Barnes at BioTherm Energy: I hope you are well. Please can we have a high level impact assessment on the Letsoai (2 x 150MW CSP) and Enamandla (5 x 75MW Solar PV Projects) sites. The commenting period on the scoping report is finished, however, we would still appreciated your comment as this is required by the DEA. See the Figures below. You will note the proposed development area is on the outer edges of the KCAAA1. The development area is 130km from the known no go area, as shown in figure 2. | | Appendix H |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------|------------------|
| | Luftarri dipe supi citar 9 | | |
| | Figure 1: KCAAA | | |
| | Figure 2: Site Location | | |
| Email to Selaelo | Email from Irene Bezuidenhout at BioTherm Energy: | No response received as yet. | Appendix H |
| Matlhane 31 October 2016 | Good morning Selaelo, My colleague Michael is currently on leave. I would like to follow-up on the below comment that he requested on our proposed Letsoai and Enamandla Solar projects. By when can you have the comment to us? | | |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|------------------|
| | Email from Michael Barnes at BioTherm Energy: | No response received as yet. | Appendix H |
| Matlhane and Adrian Tiplady | Dear Selaelo and Adrian | | |
| 7 November 2016 | I hope you are well. Have you had a chance to conduct a high level impact assessment on the sites below? | | |
| | Email from Michael Barnes at BioTherm Energy: | No response received as yet. | Appendix H |
| Matlhane and Adrian Tiplady | I hope you are well. | | |
| 24 November 2016 | Please can we have a high level impact assessment on the Letsoai (2 x 150MW CSP) and Enamandla (5 x 75MW Solar PV Projects) sites. The commenting period on the scoping report is finished, however, we would still appreciated your comment as this is required by the DEA. | | |
| | See the Figures below. You will note the proposed development area is on the outer edges of the KCAAA1 and requires a high-level assessment. | | |
| | The development area is 130km from the known no go area, as shown in figure 2. | | |
| | and and a second a | | |
| | Figure 1: KCAAA | | |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|---------------------------|--|--|------------------|
| | <complex-block></complex-block> | | |
| Adrian Tiplady | Apologies for the delay - there was a bit of confusion on this side as it was thought we had already responded to this. I am double | No response required. | Appendix H |
| 01 December 2016 Email | checking our records right now. | | |
| | | | |
| Adrian Tiplady | Re: Development of Enamandla Solar 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 PV Facilities in the Northern Cape Province | WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff acknowledge receipt of the response from the SKA and take note of its contents. | Appendix H |
| 01 December 2016 | This letter is in response to your email request, to provide an | • | |
| Formal Letter | assessment of the potential development of Enamandla Solar 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 solar electricity generation facilities in the Northern Cape Province and the risk they may pose on the Square Kilometre Array Project. | | |
| | A high-level risk assessment has been conducted at the South African SKA Project Office to determine the potential impact of such facilities on the Square Kilometre Array. This letter serves to confirm the outcomes of the risk assessment and proposals for any future investigations associated with this facility. | | |
| | The location of the PV facilities was identified from the draft environmental scoping report compiled by WSP Environmental (Pty) Ltd, | | |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|------------------------|---|--|------------------|
| | The nearest SKA station has been identified as SKA 2373, at approximately 142 km from the proposed installation, | | |
| | Based on distance to the nearest SKA station, and the information currently available on the detailed design of the PV installation, these facilities poses a low risk of detrimental impact on the SKA; | | |
| | Any transmitters that are to be established, or have been established, at the site for the purposes of voice and data communication will be required to comply with the relevant AGA regulations concerning the restriction of use of the radio frequency spectrum that applies in the area concerned. If any transmitting infrastructure were to be established, it may result in a medium to high risk of detrimental impact on the SKA; | | |
| | → As a result of the low risk associated with these PV facilities, no mitigation measures would be required at this stage. However, the South African SKA Project Office would like to be kept informed of progress with this project, and reserves the right to further risk assessments at a later stage. | | |
| | This technical advice is provided by the South African SKA Project Office on the basis of the protection requirements of the SKA in South Africa and does not constitute legal approval of the renewable energy projects in terms of the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act, the Management Authority, and its regulations or declarations | | |
| South African Nationa | Roads Agency | | |
| Rene de Kock | Thank you for your email. | Ashlea Strong from WSP: | Appendix H |
| 3 October 2016 mail | I could not find any correspondence on our database with regard to the above development. Will you please provide me with a | Thank you for your email. Attached please find a pdf showing the overall development area (which includes the 2 concentrated solar power (CSP) | |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|--------------------------|---|---|------------------|
| | locality map, indicating the development in relation to the National road. | projects and the 5 photovoltaic (PV) projects) together with a .kmz file which will better provide the project location in relation to the N14. | |
| | | I have added you to our stakeholder database so that you will receive all future correspondence with regards to the environmental impact assessment processes that are underway. | |
| Rene de Kock | Can I ask you to please provide me with the background | Ashlea Strong from WSP: | Appendix H |
| 14 October 2016 Email | information document. I need to find out where access will be obtained from. | The best will be to access our Draft Scoping Reports from our Website. The access roads are discussed in Chapter 5 (Project Description). | |
| | | At this stage two potential alternatives exist: | |
| | | Alternative 1 - An existing road connects the N14 to the project area. This road may require widening to ensure that it is suitable for use. At this stage it is proposed that the road will remain unsurfaced. | |
| | | Alternative 2 – Access to the facility could also potentially be obtained via a new 9.5 km road with a direct access off the N14, however due to the fact that the N14 is a National Route an access application will be required to be submitted to the South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL) and/or the Northern Cape Province and would cause additional environmental impact | |
| | | I hope this information will be of assistance | |
| Rene de Kock | Thank you for your email. | Ashlea Strong from WSP: | Appendix H |
| 17 October 2016 Email | I will come back to you with our comments sometime this week. I need the project managers input as well. Please register SANRAL as an I&AP. | Thank you so much – I look forward to receiving your comments. | |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|--|--|--|------------------|
| | | I can confirm that you have been registered on the project database and will receive all future correspondence with regards to the solar projects. | |
| Rene de Kock 18 October 2016 Email | Please provide me with the nearest km distance to the existing entrance with the N14 or the name of the road were access will be obtained from. The km distance can be obtained from the blue marker boards, situated every 200m along the national road (N14). | Thank you for your email. As discussed, during our telephonic conversation, the access pictured in the figures below is the correct access and therefore the km distance would indeed be 110.2E. We look forward to receiving your comments on the alternatives presented in our report as well as the relevant access requirements. | Appendix H |
| Rene de Kock 20 October 2016 Email | Please confirm it this is the existing access which is mentioned in your document (page 55, ACCESS ROAD ALTERNATIVES, Main Access Road - Alternative 1). I need to send SANRAL's Route Manager to the site to investigate the access (status of access) and to report back to me before I can give you our comments. I need the km distance where the road intersects with the N14. | | Appendix H |
| Rene de Kock 3 November 2016 Formal Letter | N14/1: Proposed Development of the Letsoai and Enamandla Renewable Energy Projects on Farm hartebeest Vlei 86 near Aggeneys Thank you for your letter dates 11 October 2016.11.14 The South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL) has the following comments: 1) If abnormal loads have to be transported by road to the site, a permit needs to be obtained from the Provincial Government Northern Cape (PGNC) 2) A building restriction of 60m, measured from the road reserve fence of the national road N14, is applicable to structures. The solar panels must be located such that it will not cause visual distraction of vehicle drvers on the national road. 3) SANRAL must be consulted before the transport of abnormal loads on national roads. Please forward | We have captured your comments in the Comment and Response Report. In addition, your letter has been forwarded to the Traffic Specialist and the Client for their attention. We look forward to your continued participation is these projects. | Appendix H |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Comment | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|------------------|
| | Transport Traffic Plan to Garth Julius from this office at juliusg@nra.co.za 4) Both Letsoai and Enamandla Solar Farms will make use of the existing access on the N14/1 at km 110.2 SANRAL is not is favour of new access on N14. 5) Approval must be obtained from the authority responsible for the proposed Lus 10 Road which intersects the N14 at km 110.2. 6) If services need to be constructed over or under the national road or within 60m measured from the road reserve fence, the service owner must apply for a written permission from SANRAL, before wany work may be carried out. | | |
| | Email from WSP Environmental: | Response from Birdlife: | Appendix H |
| Paton 14 October 2016 Email | Thank you for taking my call earlier. As discussed, the Scoping Reports can be found on our website: http://www.wsp-pb.com/en/WSP-Africa/What-we- do/Services/All-Services-A-Z/Technical-Reports/ Would you be able to provide us with comments by next Friday? Please don't hesitate to contact either myself or my colleague Ashlea Strong if you have any questions or require any further information. Ashlea's details are: Tel: 011 361 1392 Cell: 082 786 7819 Email: Ashlea.Strong@wspgroup.co.za | Please could you send me the avifaunal specialist studies for these projects. I am not sure if the error was on our side or yours, but i will do my best to review the documents as soon as possible. Response from WSP: Thanks for the request – unfortunately our website limits us in terms of the amount of information we are able to upload so we will typically include the scoping report and not the appendices (noting that they are available on request). Due to the number of reports involved, I have set up a drop box with this information. Please just confirm receipt of the invitation and that you are able to download the reports (I have invited both you and Simon to the folder). | |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Соммент | ENT RESPONSE | |
|---|--|--|------------|
| | | Thank you so much for your assistance and participation in these processes. | |
| Paton 21 October 2016 Formal Letter | Re: Draft Scoping Reports for the proposed development of the Letsoai and Enamandla Renewable Energy Projects, Aggeneys, Northern Cape Province Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above projects. We would also like to thank WSP and Biotherm for taking up the recommendations in our draft Best Practice Guidelines for Birds and Solar Energy. We have attached the latest version of our guidelines. These guidelines are still draft as, on request of industry, we are awaiting a workshop with industry and the Department of Environmental Affairs before finalising. However, they do represent BirdLife South Africa's recommended approach, and have been reviewed by international experts. While we are pleased with the approach to the impact assessment, we must note our concern with the proximity of the proposed development to the Haramoep and Black Mountain Mine (SA035) Important Bird Area (IBA). This IBA is one of only a few sites protecting the globally threatened Red Lark Calendulauda burra, which inhabits the red sand dunes and sandy plains with a mixed grassy dwarf shrub cover and the near-threatened Sclater's Lark Spizocorys sclateri, on the barren stony plains. It also holds 16 of the 23 Namib-Karoo biome-restricted assemblage species as well as a host of other arid-zone birds. We are concerned that the IBA alone is unlikely to conserve the species it is intended to protect and the impacts of the activities on the borders of the IBA could spill over into the IBA. The proximity to the Koa River Valley, core habitat for the globally threatened Red Lark is a concern and we note that the species has been recorded on site. Some species (e.g. Red Lark and Sclater's Lark) are vulnerable to habitat alteration and possible collisions with the heliostats, while others (e.g. bustards) are vulnerable to colliding with associated infrastructure (i.e. powerlines). While we will apply our minds the | response from Birdlife Africa and take note of its contents. The comments were sent through to the Avifauna Specialist for consideration in the Avifauna Specialist Study. | Appendix M |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|----------------------|--|----------|------------------|
| | outcomes of the EIA, we must highlight that the location of the proposed facility with regards to the IBA is, based on the information at hand, undesirable. We therefore urge that a precautionary approach be adopted; it is also critical that cumulative negative impacts are carefully assessed. | | |
| | While we understand that each aspect of the solar park must be bid separately, we also urge that the entire development is planned together, so as to minimize the negative impacts and maximize the potential environmental benefits. For example, we propose that careful consideration be given to the location of evaporation ponds in context of the entire development. These ponds will almost certainly attract wildlife, including birds and should therefore be placed where the risk will be minimized (e.g. well away from the heliostats and the power tower). Given the potential risk of collisions and solar flux injuries we also recommend that the evaporation ponds are designed to minimize their attractiveness to birds. For example, water diffusers could be used to maximize evaporation, or ponds could be covered with nets. Ponds should also be designed so that they do not pose a risk of drowning for wildlife. | | |
| | We also suggest that careful consideration should be given to the design and management of heliostats. For example, it can be assumed that the risk of collisions for low flying birds will be greatest when heliostats are positioned vertical to the ground, and when the heliostats mirrors are located close to the ground. Would it be technically feasible to minimise or avoid having heliostats in this position and is it possible to maximise the distance of the mirrors from the ground? | | |
| | We also request that more detail be given with regards to the area and intensity of solar flux under different scenarios, and how the risk of solar flux injuries could / will be minimised. | | |
| | There is a large level of uncertainty with regards to the impact of solar energy (both CSP and PV) on birds. We urge that this must be considered in the EIA. Without pre-empting the outcome of the EIA, we also suggest that if the project(s) go | | |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Соммент | Response | REPORT REFERENCE |
|--|---|----------|------------------|
| | ahead, it is important that the impacts are monitored (as has been proposed by the specialist) and if necessary an adaptive management approach should be implemented. If renewable energy is to be developed sustainably in South Africa, it is critical that we learn from existing projects. We therefore request that any monitoring reports and lessons learned are shared with BirdLife South Africa. | | |
| South African Astronor | mical Observatory | | |
| Email to Dr Ramotholo Sefako 19 October 2016 | Email from Bronwyn Fisher of WSP Environmental: WSP Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the relevant Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) Processes the proposed Letsoai CSP and Enamandla PV Solar Developments near Aggeneys. Attached please find the original notification letter. We welcome any comments that the SAAO may have on the proposed developments. Please note that the reports are still available on our website: http://www.wsp-pb.com/en/WSP-Africa/What-we- do/Services/All-Services-A-Z/Technical-Reports/ Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any | | Appendix H |
| Eskom holdings SOC L | questions or require any additional information. | | |
| John Geeringh | Please find attached Eskom requirements for works at or near Eskom infrastructure. Can you please send me KMZ files of all the proposed developments and power line connections. I do | | Appendix H |

| STAKEHOLDERS DETAILS | Comment | Response | | REPORT REFERENCE |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|------------------|
| 15 November 2016 Email | | 2 .kmz's for the powerlines – alternatives.I trust that you will find this use | C C | |
| John Geeringh Senior Consultant | names as per the DEA reference numbers below. | the RE projects As requested please find the list of projects with their low. | | r Appendix H |
| Environmental Management | | Project Name SOLAR | DEA Reference Number | |
| Land Development | | Letsoai CSP 1 Letsoai CSP 2 | 14/12/16/3/3/2/965 14/12/16/3/3/2/964 | |
| 15 November 2016 | | Enamandla PV 1 Enamandla PV 2 Enamandla PV 3 | 14/12/16/3/3/2/968 14/12/16/3/3/2/969 14/12/16/3/3/2/970 | |
| Email | | Enamandla PV 3 Enamandla PV 4 Enamandla PV 5 | 14/12/16/3/3/2/971 14/12/16/3/3/2/972 | |
| | | Solar Transmission Integration | 14/12/16/3/3/2/966 | |

Appendix A

ADVERTISEMENTS

Appendix B

NOTIFICATIONS SENT TO STAKEHOLDERS

Appendix C

ORIGINAL COMMENTS RECEIVED - AUTHORITIES

Appendix D

ORIGINAL COMMENTS RECEIVED - STAKEHOLDERS