



# LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM

Enq: Ngoasheng TR Tel: 082 041 3223 E-mail: [NgoashengTR@ledet.gov.za](mailto:NgoashengTR@ledet.gov.za) Ref: 12/1/9/1-W222

Sturdee Energy Proprietary Limited  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Grosvenor Gate, Hyde Park Lane Office Park  
Hyde Lane  
**HYDE PARK**  
2196

For attention: Mr AM Johnson

Email: [Andrew@sturdee-energy.com](mailto:Andrew@sturdee-energy.com)

**ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 10MW AC SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) PLANT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 2 OF THE FARM SCHOONGEZICHT 238 KP, DWAALBOOM WITHIN LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERBERG DISTRICT**

With reference to the abovementioned application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The environmental authorisation and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2014, as amended you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days, of the date of the Department's decision in respect of your application as well as the provisions regarding the lodgement of appeals as provided for in National Appeals Regulations of 2014, as amended.

Should you wish to appeal any aspect of the decision, you must, inter alia, submit an appeal to the MEC for Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, within 20 days from the date of this notification, by means of one of the following methods:

By post : P O Box 55464, **POLOKWANE**, 0700

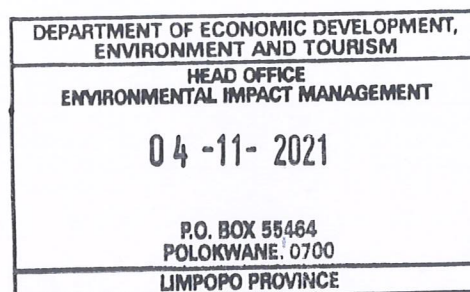
By hand : Evridiki Towers Building, 20 Hans v Rensburg / 19 Biccard Street, **POLOKWANE**, 0699

Should you decide to appeal, you must serve a copy of your appeal on all registered interested and affected parties as well as a notice indicating where, and for what period, the appeal submission will be available for inspection.

Yours faithfully

**DIRECTOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT**

DATE: 4/11/2021



Cc: Coastal Environmental Services

Att: Dr Anthony Avis

Email: [t.avis@cesnet.co.za](mailto:t.avis@cesnet.co.za)

HEAD OFFICE

20 Hans Van Rensburg Street / 19 Biccard Street, Polokwane, 0700, Private Bag X 9484, Polokwane, 0700  
(Switchboard) Tel: +2715 293 8300 Website: [www.ledet.gov.za](http://www.ledet.gov.za)

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM

## ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 10MW AC SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) PLANT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 2 OF THE FARM SCHOONGEZICHT 238 KP, DWAALBOOM WITHIN LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERBERG DISTRICT**

**Environmental Impact Assessment Process: Basic Assessment Reporting**

LEDET Reference	12/1/9/1-W222
NEAS Reference	Lim EIA 0001382 2021
Amendments	First Issue

**Holder of Authorisation:** Sturdee Energy Proprietary Limited

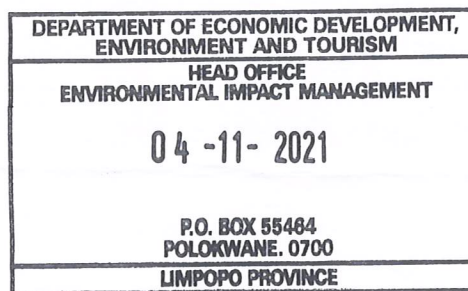
**Address:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Grosvenor Gate, Hyde Park Lane Office Park  
Hyde Lane  
HYDE PARK  
2196

**For attention:** Mr AM Johnson

**Tel/Cell Number:** 083 854 1986

**Email:** [Andrew@sturdee-energy.com](mailto:Andrew@sturdee-energy.com)



**LOCATION OF ACTIVITY:**

Local Area description	Location	District Municipality	Local Municipality
Dwaalboom	Portion 2 of the farm Schoongezicht 238 KP	Waterberg	Lephalale

**GPS Coordinates**

Point	Coordinates (Confirmed by the Department)			
1 Centre point)	South	24°	48'	23.54"
	East	26°	49'	0.28"

**HEAD OFFICE**

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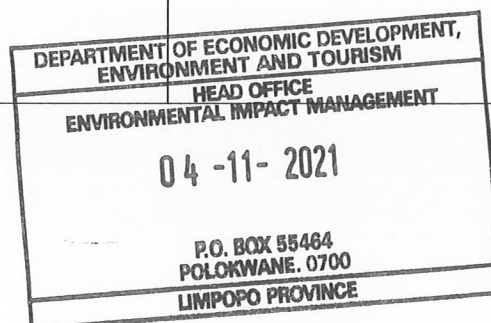
## ACRONYMS

<b>NEMA</b>	The National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998), as amended.
<b>Regulations</b>	EIA Regulations of 8 December 2014 in terms of Chapter 5 of NEMA.
<b>EIA</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment.
<b>Department</b>	Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism.
<b>I&amp;APs</b>	Registered Interested and Affected Parties
<b>EA</b>	Environmental Authorisation.
<b>EMPr</b>	Environmental Management Programme.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

## ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED

Notice and description	Activity Number and description	Component in the proposed development/expansion
Notice 1: R. 983 of 2014	Activity 1 – “The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where— (i) the electricity output is more than 10 megawatts but less than 20 megawatts; or (ii) the output is 10 megawatts or less but the total extent of the facility covers an area in excess of 1 hectare; excluding where such development of facilities or infrastructure is for photovoltaic installations and occurs— (a) within an urban area; or (b) on existing infrastructure.”	A photovoltaic facility with an output of 10 megawatts.
	Activity 14 –“The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or for the storage and handling, of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 80 cubic metres or more but not exceeding 500 cubic metres.”	Storage of dangerous goods of between 80 and 500 m <sup>3</sup> may be required on site.



	<p>Activity 24 – “The development of a road—                  (i) for which an environmental authorisation was obtained for the route determination in terms of activity 5 in Government Notice 387 of 2006 or activity 18 in Government Notice 545 of 2010; or                  (ii) with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres; but excluding a road—                  (a) which is identified and included in activity 27 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014;                  (b) where the entire road falls within an urban area; or                  (c) which is 1 kilometre or shorter.</p>	<p>Access roads of up to 8m wide will be required.</p>
	<p>Activity 28 – “Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development:                  (i) will occur inside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 5 hectares; or                  (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare; excluding where such land has already been developed for residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional purposes.”</p>	<p>The development footprint will be less than 20 hectares.</p>
<p>Notice 1: R. 985 of 2014</p>	<p>Activity 4 – “The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres.                  e. Limpopo                  i. Outside urban areas:                  (cc) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;                  (ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;</p>	<p>Access roads of up to 8m wide will be required.</p>

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
 ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM  
 HEAD OFFICE  
 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT  
 04 -11- 2021  
 P.O. BOX 55464  
 POLOKWANE. 0700  
 LIMPOPO PROVINCE

	Activity 12 – The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. e. Limpopo ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans;	The development footprint will be less than 20 hectares.
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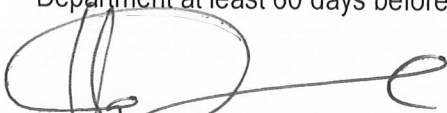
**Associated activities**

- Water reservoirs;
- Dangerous goods storage tanks;
- Roads;
- SCADA and Control rooms;
- Septic tank;
- Offices; and
- Parking area.

**CONDITIONS**

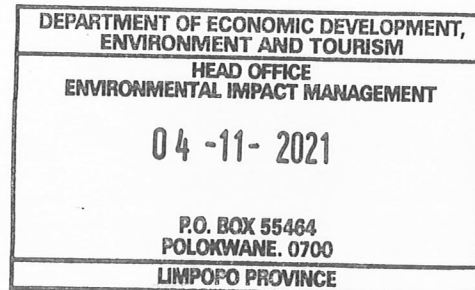
1. Departmental standard conditions attached as Annexure 2.
2. The EMPr attached as part of reports for the above development submitted as part of the application for an EA is hereby approved and must be adhered to throughout the life cycle of the activity.

This activity must commence within a period of ten (10) years from the date when the EA was issued. All construction activities must be finalised within this 10-years validity period of the EA. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the EA lapses and a new application for EA must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken. Any request for extension of the validity period of the EA must be lodged with the Department at least 60 days before the expiry date of the EA.



**DIRECTOR**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT**  
**DATE:**

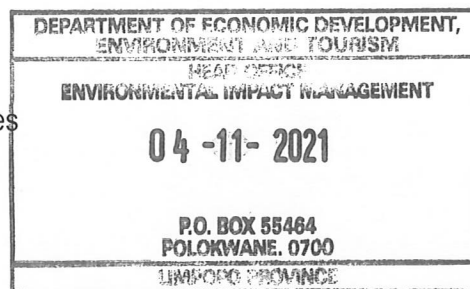
4/11/2021



**ANNEXURE 1: REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

**1. Environmental Assessment Practitioner**

**Names:** Dr Anthony Avis  
**Company (where applicable):** Coastal Environmental Services  
**Telephone Number/Cell Number:** 012 751 2160  
**Email:** [t.avis@cesnet.co.za](mailto:t.avis@cesnet.co.za)



**2. Dates of receipt of information**

Document	Application Form	Basic Assessment Report
Date of receipt	05/08/2021	BAR for consultation – 05/08/2021 BAR for decision – 20/09/2021
Date of acknowledgement of receipt	10/08/2021	BAR for consultation – 10/08/2021 BAR for decision – 30/09/2021

Date of Site visit (where applicable): None undertaken

**3. List of specialist reports and other information:**

Report description	Person (and Company) where applicable, who compiled the report and Date	Location in the BAR
Environmental Screening Report	G Shaw of Coastal Environmental Services (CES), July 2021	Part of Application form
Terrestrial Biodiversity Report (Aquatic and Wetland Assessment)	A Gouws and T Martin of CES, July 2021	Appendix D
Integrated Heritage Impact Assessment Report	N Kruger of Exigo <sup>3</sup> , July 2021	Appendix D
Palaeontological Impact Assessment Report	H Fourie of Plant Fossil, March 2021	Appendix D
Land Capability and Agricultural Impact Assessment	JA Gouws of Index (Pty) Ltd, March 2021	Appendix D
Avifaunal Impact Assessment	J Smallie of WildSkies Ecological Services (Pty) Ltd, July 2021	Appendix D

## Key factors considered in making the decision

### 4.1 Public Participation

Name of newspaper: Platinum Bosvelder

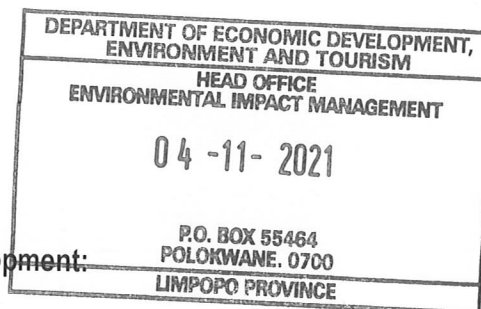
Date of advert in the newspaper: 23 July 2021

Site Notices: Where were the notices placed

Entrance to the PPC Dwaalboom facility;

Notification of interested and affected parties about the development:

How they were notified?: Site notices and emails



Issues raised by I&APs; and responses from the EAP and Department :

Issue	Comment by EAP	Comment by the Department
None raised		

### 4.2 Findings

Activity/Report	Finding
Decision Support Tools Access: Services:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electricity and water services are available on site;</li> <li>The site is within an existing industrial area; and</li> <li>The area is encroached by sickle bush.</li> </ul>
Terrestrial Biodiversity Report (Aquatic and Wetland Assessment)	No fatal flaws were identified.
Integrated Heritage Impact Assessment Report	Special care, in line with the developed Protocol and Management Plan must be taken during digging, drilling, blasting and excavating considering that the larger landscape indicates a rich heritage horizon.
Palaeontological Impact Assessment Report	Phase 1 Field Survey and Phase 2: Mitigation (according to SAHRA Protocol) will be necessary because Impact on fossil heritage is high to low.
Land Capability and Agricultural Impact Assessment	The land is encroached by sickle bush and no high agricultural potential land will be lost.
Avifaunal Impact Assessment	There are no bird species at moderate or high risk as the site is already impacted by industrial infrastructure including roads, railway line and powerlines.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the EA, the proposed activity will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the NEMA and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the proposed activity can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The authorisation is accordingly granted.

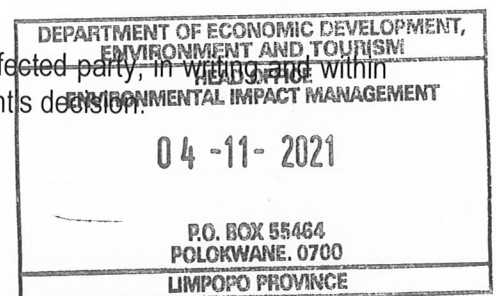
## LEDET DEPARTMENTAL STANDARD CONDITIONS

### 1. SCOPE OF AUTHORISATION

- 1.1 The holder of the EA shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this EA. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the EA.
- 1.2 Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this EA must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the EA to apply for further authorisation in terms of the Regulations.
- 1.3 The activity, which is authorised, may only be carried out at the property indicated in the EA.
- 1.4 The holder of the EA will be held liable for any damages to the environment and associated costs, which results from any activity related to the construction and/or operation of the proposed project.
- 1.5 Where any of the holder of the EA's contact details change, including the name of the responsible person, the physical or postal address and/or telephonic details, the holder of the EA must notify the Department as soon as the new details become known to the holder of the EA.
- 1.6 The Department reserves the right to monitor and audit the development throughout its full life cycle.
- 1.7 This EA does not negate the holder of the EA's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

### 2. APPEAL OF AUTHORISATION

- 2.1 The holder of the EA must notify all registered interested and affected party, in writing, and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days, of receiving notice of the Department's decision.
- 2.2 The notification referred must –
  - 2.2.1 specify the date on which the EA was issued;
  - 2.2.2 inform all the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in Chapter 7 of the Regulations;
  - 2.2.3 advise all the interested and affected party that a copy of the EA will be furnished on request; and
  - 2.2.4 give the reasons for the decision.



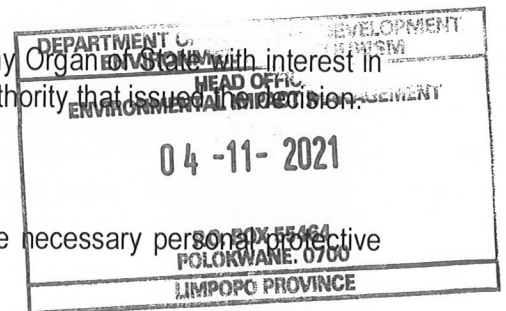


### 3. APPEAL PROCEDURE

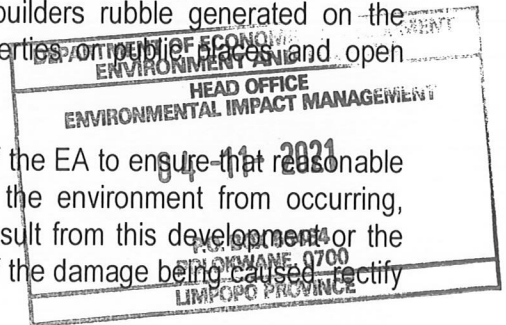
- 3.1 An appellant (if the holder of the decision) must, within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date the notification of the decision was sent to the holder by the Competent Authority;
- 3.2 An appellant (if NOT the holder of the decision) must, within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date the holder of the decision sent notification of the decision to the registered I&APs, submit an appeal in accordance with Regulation 4 of the National Appeal Regulations 2014 (as amended) to the Appeal Administrator;
- 3.3 Submit an appeal in accordance with Regulation 4 of the National Appeal Regulations 2014 (as amended) to the Appeal Administrator; and
- 3.4 Submit a copy of the appeal to any registered I&APs, any ~~Organisation~~ <sup>Organisations</sup> with interest in the matter and the decision-maker i.e. the Competent Authority that issued the decision.

### 4. COMMENCEMENT OF THE DEVELOPMENT

- 4.1 In order to ensure their safety, all employees must be given the necessary personal protective equipment.
- 4.2 This EA must be provided to the site operator and the requirements thereof must be made fully known to him/her.
- 4.3 Appropriate notification signs must be erected at the construction site, warning the public (residents, visitors etc) about the hazards around the construction site and presence of heavy vehicles and machinery.
- 4.4 Hauling routes for construction vehicles and machinery must be clearly marked and appropriate signalling must be posted to that effect. Further, movement of construction vehicles and machinery must be restricted to areas outside of the drainage line/wet area.
- 4.5 Construction must include 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 stormwater run-off.
- 4.6 Vegetation clearing must be kept to an absolute minimum. Mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and the invasion of alien species.
- 4.7 The holder of the EA must note that in terms of the National Forest Act (Act No. 84 of 1998); protected plant species (also listed in Limpopo Environmental Management Act, 2003 (Act No. 7 of 2003) must not be cut, disturbed, damaged, destroyed, and their product must not be possessed, collected, removed, transported, exported, donated, purchased or sold unless permission is granted by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF).
- 4.8 All construction areas (e. g. material lay down area), topsoil and sub-soils must be protected from contamination or pollution and stockpiling must not take place in drainage lines or where it would impede surface water runoff.



- 4.9 If any soil contamination is noted during the construction and operational phase of the proposed activities, the contaminated soil must be removed to a suitable waste disposal facility and the site must be rehabilitated to the satisfaction of this Department and DWS. The opportunity for the on-site remediation and re-use of contaminated soil must be investigated prior to disposal and this Department must be informed in this regard.
- 4.10 Should infill material be required for any purpose, the use of borrow pits must comply with the provisions of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) administered by the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE).
- 4.11 An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate avoidance, reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal where appropriate. Uncontaminated builders' rubble generated during the construction can be re-used as back filling material on site. Ensure that no refuse or builders rubble generated on the premises is placed, dumped or deposited on adjacent properties, on public roads and open spaces during or after construction.
- 4.12 Section 28 of the NEMA places a duty of care on the holder of the EA to ensure that reasonable measures are taken to prevent pollution or degradation of the environment from occurring, continuing or recurring. Should any environmental damage result from this development or the operation thereof, the holder of the EA, must within 14 days of the damage being caused, rectify the situation at his/her own expense.
- 4.13 Movement of construction vehicles and machinery must be restricted to areas outside of the drainage lines/wet area.
- 4.14 Construction vehicles must be serviced and maintained in a manner whereby excessive smoke and noise production is reduced to acceptable levels, and to prevent oil leaks. Contaminated soil must be remediated on site or removed to an appropriately authorised landfill site.
- 4.15 Dust and nuisance must be minimised through damping down of unsurfaced areas.
- 4.16 Residents (if any) on the property and surrounding area must be informed if any unusually noisy activities are planned. Noise impacts must be reduced over distance at a rate of 1db (decibel) per 13 metres.
- 4.17 Chemical sanitation facilities or systems such as "toilets" that do not rely on seepage of liquids must be provided with a ratio of one for every 15 workers. These must be placed such that they prevent spills or leaks to the environment and must be maintained according to operating instructions and the contents thereof must be disposed of at an authorised waste water treatment works.
- 4.18 Mixing of cement, concrete, paints, solvents, sealants and adhesive must be done in specified areas on concrete aprons or on protected plastic linings to contain spillage or overflows onto soil to avoid contamination to underground water and environmental damage.
- 4.19 Construction activities must be suspended and a representative of the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and/ or Limpopo Heritage Resources Agency (LIHRA) be contacted immediately in the event of finding or uncovering any subterranean (middens, graves, etc.).



- 4.20 Care must be taken to ensure that the material and excavated soil required for backfilling are free of contamination from hydrocarbons.
- 4.21 The hydraulic fluids or chemicals required during construction must be stored in a concrete lined surface with bund walls and shall be designed in such a manner that any spillage can be contained and reclaimed without any impact on the surrounding environment. Should any spills occur it should be cleaned immediately by removing the spillage together with the polluted solid and dispose it in an authorised disposal site permitted to dispose of such waste. The Regional Office of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) must be notified within 24 hours of an incident that may pollute surface and ground water.

