

## Application for Amendment of Environmental Authorisation



### environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

#### **Application for amendment of an environmental authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2010**

#### **Kindly note that:**

1. This form must be used to apply for the amendment of an environmental authorisation. An amendment includes:
  - a) adding, substituting, removing or changing a condition or requirement of an environmental authorisation, or
  - b) or updating or changing any details or correcting a technical error.

*Please note that amendment **does not** include expansion (according to the EIA Regulations "expansion" means "the modification, extension or alteration of a facility, structure or infrastructure at which an activity takes place in such a manner that the capacity of the facility or the footprint of the activity is increased").*

2. This form is current as of 16 July 2012. It is the responsibility of the Applicant / EAP to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the form have been published or produced by the competent authority.
3. The required information must be typed within the spaces provided in the form. The sizes of the spaces provided are not necessarily indicative of the amount of information to be provided. It is in the form of a table that can extend itself as each space is filled with typing.
4. Incomplete applications may be rejected or returned to the applicant for amendment.
5. The use of "not applicable" in the form must be done with circumspection. Where it is used in respect of material information that is required by the competent authority for assessing the application, this may result in the rejection of the application as provided for in the regulations.
6. **No faxed or e-mailed applications will be accepted.**
7. Unless protected by law, all information contained in and attached to this application, will become public information on receipt by the competent authority. Upon request during any stage of the application process, the applicant / EAP must provide any registered interested and affected party with the information contained in and attached to this application.
8. This form must be submitted to the Department at the postal address given below or by delivery thereof to the Registry Office of the Department. Should the application form and attached reports not be submitted to the addresses given below it will be rejected.

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### **DEPARTMENTAL DETAILS**

**Postal address:**

Department of Environmental Affairs  
Attention: Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations  
4<sup>th</sup> floor ST  
Private Bag X447  
Pretoria  
0001

**Physical address:**

Department of Environmental Affairs  
Attention: Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations  
4<sup>th</sup> floor ST  
Fedsure Forum Building (corner of Pretorius and Van der Walt Streets)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor North Tower  
315 Pretorius Street  
Pretoria  
0002

Queries must be directed to the Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations at:  
Tel: (012) 310-3167 Fax (012) 320-7539

***Please note that this form must be copied to the relevant provincial environmental department(s)***  
View the Department's website at <http://www.environment.gov.za/> for the latest version of the documents.

## Application for Amendment of Environmental Authorisation

### 1. Application Details

Name of person to whom the environmental authorisation was issued:	South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Mierdam (Pty) Ltd		
Contact person:	Linda Thompson		
Postal address:	PO Box 45063		
	Claremont		
	Postal code: 7735		
Telephone:	+27 21 657 4040	Cell:	+27 78 1967097
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:Linda.Thompson@mainstreamrp.com">Linda.Thompson@mainstreamrp.com</a>	Fax:	+27 21 671 5665
Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP):	SIVEST (Pty) Ltd		
Contact person:	Andrea Gibb		
Postal address:	PO Box 2921, Rivonia		
	2128		
	Postal code:		
Telephone:	+27 11 798 0638	Cell:	+27 72 587 6525
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:andreaq@sivest.co.za">andreaq@sivest.co.za</a>	Fax:	+27 11 803 7272
EAP Qualifications:	BSc Honours Environmental Management		
EAP Registrations/Associations:			
Name of landowner if the person to whom the environmental authorisation has been issued is not the owner:	Coenie Viljoen (Portion 1 of the Farm Kaffirs Kolk No. 118)		
Contact person:	Coenie Viljoen		
Postal address:	PO Box 324		
	Prieska		
	Postal code: 8940		
Telephone:	Not available	Cell:	+27 82 932 9510
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:coenieviljoen@vodamail.co.za">coenieviljoen@vodamail.co.za</a>	Fax:	Not available
Name of landowner if the person to whom the environmental authorisation has been issued is not the owner:	Jemima Josina Barnard (Portion 4 of the Farm Klipgats Pan 117)		
Contact person:	Jemima Josina Barnard		
Postal address:	PO Box 39		
	Camarvon		
	Postal code: 8925		
Telephone:	+27 53 383 3051	Cell:	+27 84 619 3940
E-mail:	Not available	Fax:	Not available

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	In instances where there is more than one landowner, please attach a list of landowners with their contact details to the back of this page, together with copies of the notices given to these landowners about the amendment application.
<b>Project Description:</b>	Proposed Construction of a Solar Photovoltaic facility on Mierdam Farm near Prieska, Northern Cape Province
<b>Farm name, Erf No., portion etc:</b>	Portion 1 of the Farm Kaffirs Kolk No. 118 (PV facility) Portion 4 of the Farm Klipgats Pan 117 (Power line alternatives) Portion 7 of the Farm Klipgats Pan 117 (Kronos Substation – owned by Eskom Holdings Soc Limited)
<b>Physical address where authorised activity is taking or will take place:</b>	Portion 1 of the Farm Kaffirs Kolk No. 118, Prieska Portion 4 of the Farm Klipgats Pan 117, Prieska Portion 7 of the Farm Klipgats Pan 117, Prieska
<b>Magisterial District or Town:</b>	Pixley ka Seme District Municipality
<b>Departmental reference number of the previous environmental authorisation in respect of which an amendment is applied for:</b>	Authorisation register number: 12/12/20/2320/2 NEAS reference number: DEA/EIA/0000582/2011
<b>Date of issue of environmental authorisation:</b>	06 September 2012
<b>Activity/ies for which authorisation was granted:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– GN R. 544 Items 10, 11(x)(xi) and 22</li> <li>– GN R. 545 Items 1 and 15</li> <li>– GN R. 546 Items 13</li> </ul>
<b>Please Note: A certified copy of the environmental authorisation must be attached to this application.</b>	

### 2. DETAILS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Was the activity commenced with during the validity period of the environmental authorisation? If yes, please describe the implementation of the previous environmental authorisation to date:	<b>NO</b>
The activity has not commenced.	

### 3. AMENDMENTS APPLIED FOR AND RELATED INFORMATION

Please indicate which of the following is relevant:

- 3.1. The holder of an environmental authorisation may at any time apply to the relevant competent authority for the amendment of the authorisation if:

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(a) there is a material change in the circumstances which existed at the time of the granting of the environmental authorisation;	YES	
(b) there has been a change of ownership in the property and transfer of rights and obligations must be provided for; or		NO
(c) any detail contained in the environmental authorisation must be amended, added, substituted, corrected, removed or updated.	YES	

### 3.2. Describe the amendments that are being applied for:

The environmental authorisation (EA) was granted for the construction of a 40MW solar photovoltaic (PV) facility on Mierdam Farm. The amendment is required in order to increase the output of the solar PV facility from 40MW to 75MW.

### 3.3. Please provide the reasons and/or a motivation for the application for amendment:

South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Mierdam (Pty) Ltd was granted EA to construct a 40MW PV facility on Mierdam Farm as well as to construct a new overhead power line to connect the facility with Kronos Substation. Originally, a 40MW PV facility was proposed in order to allow the electricity output generated at the facility to be fed directly into the existing 66kV power line that traverses the site. Subsequently, Eskom advised that the electricity cannot be fed directly into the existing power line and a new power line would need to be constructed to connect the proposed solar power plant with Kronos Substation. As such, the electricity output of the facility no longer needs to be limited to 40MW and it is proposed that the output be increased to 75MW - the maximum capacity set by the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP).

3.4. Should the amendment being requested result due to 3.1 (b) above, you are requested to furnish the Department with a written undertaking that the new holder of the environmental authorisation is willing and able to assume responsibility of the environmental authorisation issued. Provide a short motivation and explanation below:

Not applicable - the amendment is not due to there being a change in ownership 3.1 (b).

## 4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

4.1. Describe any negative environmental impacts that may occur if the application for amendment is granted, amongst others information on any increases in air emissions, waste generation, discharges to water and impacts of the natural or cultural environment must be included.

The proposed 75MW PV facility would only cover approximately 7% of the area covered by the Mierdam site and would fit within the approved PV field alternative 2 site, which has already been assessed by the various specialists and was granted EA. For this reason, the surrounding environment would be able to accommodate the increased capacity with minimal additional adverse impacts. The negative environmental impacts are expected to be similar in extent to those already mentioned in the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (FEIR).

4.2. Describe any negative environmental impacts that may occur if the application for



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amendment is **not** granted.

Not granting the application for amendment would result in less electricity being generated by the proposed PV facility. This could have some negative social-economic impacts, by altering the tax income and corporate social investment contribution of the development. In addition, not granting the amendment would reduce the number of employment opportunities that could be created, as a result of the development.

4.3. Describe any positive environmental impacts that may occur if the application for amendment is granted, amongst others information on any reduction in the ecological footprint, air emissions, waste generation and discharges to water must be included.

Increasing the electricity generated at the PV facility would have positive socio-economic impacts. The increased output would further contribute to the government's objective to meet future energy demands through renewable energy technologies. In addition, the increased output would, increase the number of employment opportunities, tax income and corporate social investment contribution of the development.

### 5. AUTHORISATION FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

5.1. Are any permission, licenses or other authorisations required from any other departments before the requested amendments can be effected?

**NO**

If yes, please complete the table below.

Name of department and contact person	Authorisation required	Authorisation applied for (Yes/ No)
Not applicable.		

### 6. RIGHTS OR INTERESTS OF OTHER PARTIES

In your opinion, will this proposed amendment adversely affect the rights and interests of other parties?

**NO**

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) should be provided with transparent information regarding the environmental authorisation application for the proposed construction of a solar PV facility on Mierdam farm. As such, all I&APs should be duly notified of the application for the amendment of the EA, in order to increase the generation capacity of the facility.

As explained above, the increased capacity would fit within the approved PV field alternative 2 site and, is unlikely to result in any significant additional negative environmental impacts. As such, a focussed public participation process is expected to be adequate. Due to the lack of attendance at the public meeting held during the review period of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), it is not recommended that any additional public meetings be held.

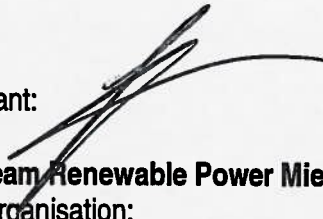
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**NOTE: The Department is entitled to request further information if it believes it is necessary for the consideration of the application. If the application is for a substantive amendment or if the rights or interests of other parties are likely to be adversely affected, the Department will instruct the applicant to conduct a public participation process and to conduct any investigations and assessments that it deems necessary.**

**7. DECLARATION:**

I, **Linda Thompson** declare that I will comply with all my legal obligations in terms of this application and provide accurate information to everyone concerned in respect to this application.

Signature of the applicant:



**South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Mierdam (Pty) Ltd**  
Name of company or organisation:

Date: *5 October 2012.*