

DU PLESSIS DAM SOLAR PV1 GRID CONNECTION

Comments & Responses Report

Confirmation of Public Participation Process Followed

The process followed in the Public Participation Process undertaken for this project involves in short the following:

Initial Advertising Process

This part of the PPP process was combined for both the Du Plessis Solar PV1 Grid Connection and the Du Plessis Solar PV2 Grid Connection as per agreement with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) on 11 February 2022.

- ❖ Three laminated A2 onsite notifications had been placed on site on 22 February 2022.
- ❖ A newspaper advertisement was placed in Die Echo/Midland Nuus on 25 February 2022
- ❖ A comprehensive list of Interested & Affected Parties has been compiled and is being updated throughout the EIA process.
- ❖ A Notification Letter had been prepared and was distributed on 2 March 2022 (via email and/or registered post where e-mail addresses were not available) to everyone on the IAP list.

Communication of the Draft Basic Assessment Report

- ❖ All registered Interested & Affected Parties stakeholders are now being supplied with an electronic copy of the Draft Basic Assessment Report for perusal.
- ❖ A 30-day commenting period applies.

Final Basic Assessment Report

- ❖ All communication received on the **Draft BAR** will be included and addressed in the **Final BAR** to be submitted to DFFE for their consideration for Environmental Authorisation.

Notification of Environmental Authorisation

- ❖ All registered stakeholders will be informed of the decision of the DFFE as soon as Environmental Authorisation had been received. All stakeholders will also be notified of the relevant appeal procedure.

Proof of the actions referred to above are included in Appendix D of the Basic Assessment Report and is summarised and addressed under the following headings:

All comments and responses thereto are summarised and addressed on the following pages under the following headings:

- Communication resulting from the Initial Advertising Period
- Communication resulting from the distribution of the Draft BAR
- Communication on the Final BAR if relevant

Communication resulting from the Initial Advertising Period

Comment was received from the following stakeholders:-

- ❖ The South African Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) from the Obstacle Inspector, PANS-OPS Section, received via e-mail on 2 March 2022.
- ❖ The Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Land Reform and Rural Development, Biodiversity Management Services, Ms Natalie Uys via e-mail on 15 March 2022.
- ❖ The South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO), the Spectrum and Telecommunication Manager, Mr Selaelo Matlhane

Stakeholder	Comments with Responses from the EAPs
SA Civil Aviation Authority	<p>SACAA confirmed that the relevant obstacle approval was granted to the respected projects – Du Plessis Dam Solar PV1 and Du Plessis Dam Solar PV2.</p> <p><i>Response from Landscape Dynamics</i> <i>Noted – no further action will take place.</i></p>
The Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Land Reform and Rural Development	<p>She requested to be registered as a stakeholder for the project and also requested to be provided with the biodiversity relates reports and maps to enable informed comment from them.</p> <p><i>Response from Landscape Dynamics</i> <i>She has been registered as a stakeholder and she will as a registered stakeholder receive the required documents with the Draft Basic Assessment Report.</i></p>
South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)	<p>They confirmed that SARAO has taken a high-level impact assessment, and based on the information provided, it was determined that the projects represent a low risk of interference to the SKA radio telescope with a compliance surplus of 44,48dBm/Hz for the Du Plessis Dam Solar PV1 Grid Connection and 49,54dBm/Hz for the Du Plessis Dam Solar PV2 Grid Connection. As such, SARAO does not have any objection to the 2x grid connection projects.</p> <p><i>Response from Landscape Dynamics</i> <i>Noted – no further action will take place.</i></p>

Communication resulting from the distribution of the Draft BAR

All communication received on the **Draft BAR** will be included and addressed in the **Final BAR**.

Communication resulting from the distribution of the Final BAR if relevant

If any significant comment on the Draft BAR is received that would significantly change the outcome of the recommendations of report, the Final BAR would be again be circulated for final comment. It is however not expected that this would be required for the Wag 'n Bietjie MTS Project.

Conclusion of the Public Participation Process

Conclusion to be made in the Final BAR that will be submitted to DFFE for consideration for Environmental Authorisation.

