

Your reference: N/a

Our reference: 11278 – Farm 198

Date: 9 April 2013

Dear Interested and Affected Party

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A 19MW PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY ON FARM 198 (SLYPKLIP), KIMBERLEY ROAD, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

DEA Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/1/429

NEAS Reference Number: DEA/EIA/0000945/2012

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

SiVEST would like to advise that, after reviewing the relevant documentation, the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) has issued Environmental Authorisation (DEA Ref. No:14/12/16/3/3/1/429 and NEAS Ref no: DEA/EIA/0000945/2012) for the proposed development of 19MV photovoltaic solar energy facility on Farm 198 (Slypklip), Kimberley Road, Northern Cape Province, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, 107 of 1998) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2010.

The Environmental Authorisation was received on the 28 March 2013. The DEA is satisfied, on the basis of the information provided and subject to the compliance with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified in the application form and the Final Environmental Authorisation Report (EIAR). The reasons given are as follows:

1. Information Considered in Making the Decision
 - a. Information contained in the BAR dated May 2012;
 - b. The comments received from SAHRA, Transnet, SANRAL, SKA South Africa, and Interested and affected parties as included in the BAR dated May 2012;
 - c. Mitigation measures as proposed in the BAR dated May 2012 and the EMPr;
 - d. The information contained in the specialist studies contained within Appendix D of the BAR; and
 - e. The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).
2. Key Factors in Making the Decision
 - a. Details provided of the qualifications of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP);
 - b. The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures;
 - c. The need and desirability of the proposed development;

- d. Description of the environment that may be affected by the activity and the manner in which the physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment may be affected by the proposed activity;
- e. Relevant legislation, guidelines and policies considered in the undertaking of the Environmental Impact Assessment process;
- f. Identification of impacts and the methodology used in assessing those impacts;
- g. The public participation process undertaken.

In accordance with Government Notice No. R.543, Chapter 7 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2010), should you or any party, including the applicant, wish to appeal any aspect of the decision, they or the applicant must, *inter alia*, lodge a notice of intention to appeal with the Minister, within 20 days after the date of decision (16th April 2013), by means of the following methods

- By facsimile: 012 320 7561;
- By post: Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001; or
- By hand: 2nd Floor,
Fedsure Building
North Tower
Corner of Lillian Ngoyi and Pretorius Streets
Pretoria

Please refer to the attached appeal document provided by the DEA for the details pertaining to the appeal process.

Appeals must be submitted in writing to Mr Z Hassam, Director (Appeals and Legal Review), to the above mentioned addresses or fax number. Mr Z Hassam can also be contacted at:

- Tel: 012 310 3271
- Email: AppealsDirectorate@environment.gov.za

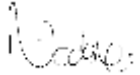
Please note that appeals are not to be sent to SiVEST. A copy of the official appeal form can be obtained from Mr Z Hassam at the details supplied above.

A copy of the Environmental Authorisation can be obtained at request from the Public Participation Office at the details below:

SiVEST Environmental: Nicolene Venter or Shaun Taylor
Tel: (011) 798 0600
Fax: (011) 803 7272
Email: afrika@icon.co.za or shaunt@sivest.co.za

We would like to thank you for participating in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and being part of the public participation process during the EIA for this proposed project. Your participation has been valuable and highly appreciated and was a key factor in assisting the preparation of an informed Environmental Authorisation.

Yours sincerely



Nicolene Venter
Public Participation Practitioner

Documents included: Appeal Procedure