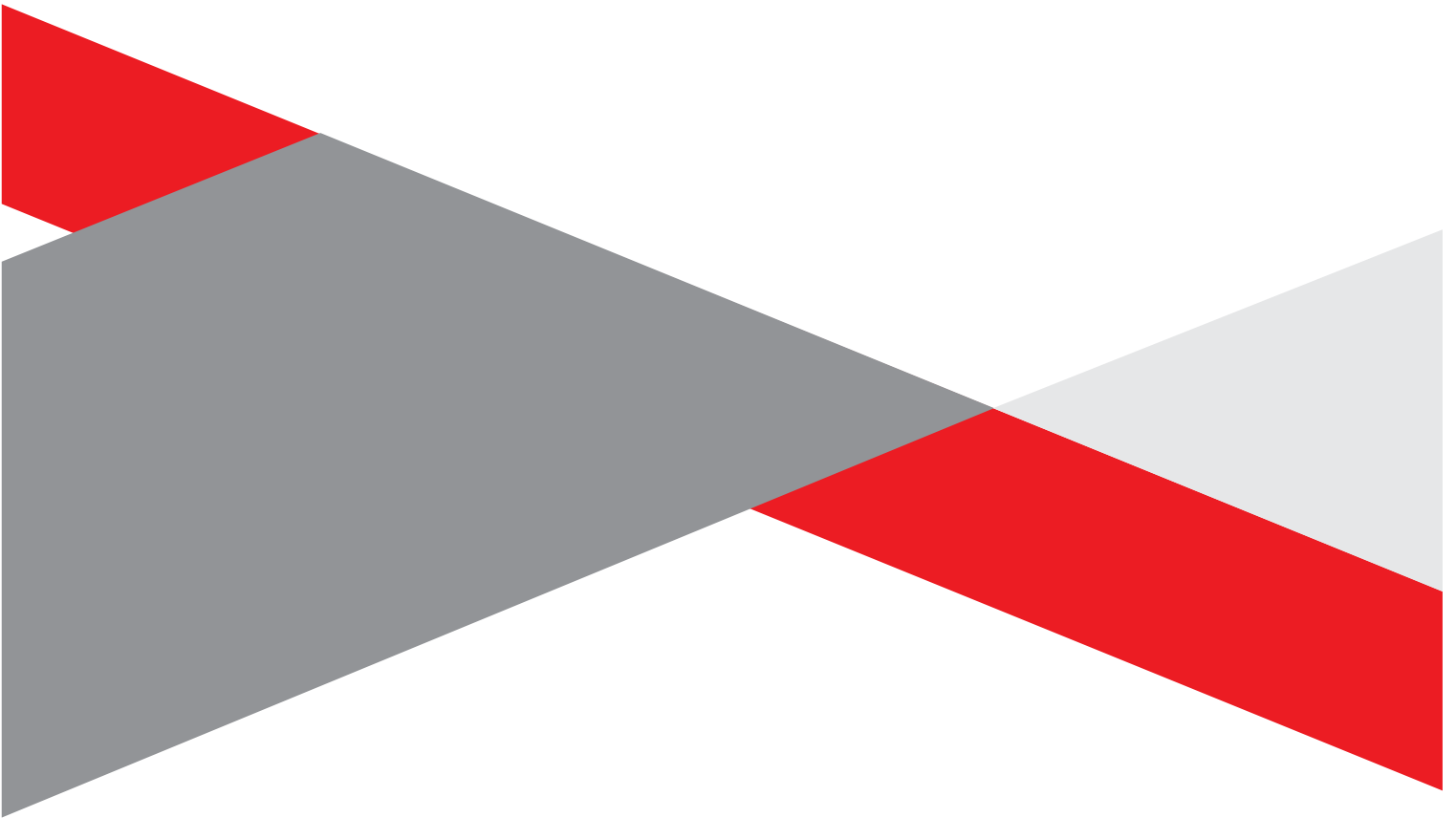


**APPENDIX C6**  
**COMMENTS RECEIVED**



**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: [info@sahra.org.za](mailto:info@sahra.org.za)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Sityhilelo Ngcatsha  
Tel: 0212028663  
Email: [sngcatsha@sahra.org.za](mailto:sngcatsha@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 19409

Date: Thursday March 30, 2023  
Page No: 1

## **Final Comment**

**In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 148  
Sunninghill  
2157

**The development of a renewable energy facility, overhead powerline and associated infrastructure proposed by FREEGOLD HARMONY (PTY) LTD. The project entails the development of an 18MW solar PV over 36 ha of land and will be known as Harmony Joel Solar PV Facility, the facility will include a grid connection solution and other associated infrastructure. The Solar PV facility is based approximately 2.3km north of the Harmony Joel mining operations, located ~20km NorthEast of the town of Theunissen within the Masilonyana Local Municipality, and within the Lejweleputswa District Municipality, Free State Province.**

Freegold Harmony (Pty) Ltd appointed Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd undertake the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed development of Harmony Joel Solar PV Facility on Portion 0 of the Farm Leeuwbult 580 near Theunissen in the Masilonyana Local Municipality, Free State Province.

The Scoping Report was submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The development footprint is about 220ha and the generating capacity of the PV facility will go up to 18MW. The associated infrastructure for the development includes a grid connection.

CTS Heritage and Prof Marion Bamford were appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process as per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA.

*Lavin, J. 2022. Heritage Screener: Proposed development of the Joel PV Facility near Welkom*

It is unlikely that significant heritage resources will be impacted by the development, however burial grounds may be present within the development area. The development area is underlain by the Adelaide Subgroup of the Beaufort Group and Quaternary Sands. There is a very small chance that fossils from the Adelaide

**Our Ref:**



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Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
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Enquiries: Sityhilelo Ngcatsha  
Tel: 0212028663  
Email: [sngcatsha@sahra.org.za](mailto:sngcatsha@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 19409

Date: Thursday March 30, 2023  
Page No: 2

Subgroup below the ground surface may be disturbed and it is recommended that a Fossil Chance Find Protocol be implemented during development. It is recommended that a Heritage Impact Assessment which assesses likely impacts to archaeological and palaeontological heritage be undertaken.

*Lavin, J. 2022. Heritage Impact Assessment: Proposed development of the 18MWac Harmony Joel Solar PV Facility, Theunissen, Free State Province*

Out of context stone artefact scatters (JL1, JL3, JL4) that are of low heritage significance were identified during the site survey. Site JL2 is a concentration of MSA-LSA artefacts that are of grade IIIC significance and site JL5 is a concentrations of artefacts with a grade IIIB significance.

#### Recommendations

- A 30m buffer is recommended to be maintained around site JL2.
- The 50m buffer is recommended to be maintained around site JL5.

*Bamford, M. 2022. Desktop Study: Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed development of the Harmony Joel PV Facility, southwest of Virginia, Free State Province*

The preferred development site lies on the potentially fossiliferous Adelaide Subgroup (Beaufort Group, Karoo Supergroup) and the moderately sensitive Quaternary sands and alluvium. The area has been disturbed by farming and mining activities and no vertebrate fossils have been reported. No potential traps for Quaternary fossils are visible from the satellite imagery. A Fossil Chance Find Protocol has been attached and it should be added to the EMPr.

SAHRA issued an interim comment dated 07/09/2022 which requested that the Draft EIA document along with its appendices be submitted to the case on SAHRIS. The Draft EIA document was subsequently submitted to the development application on SAHRIS on the 24/03/2023.

#### Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final EIA and EMPr:

**Proposed development of the 18MW Harmony Joel Solar PV Facility,  
Theunissen, Free State Province**

**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: [info@sahra.org.za](mailto:info@sahra.org.za)  
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Enquiries: Sityhilelo Ngcatsha  
Tel: 0212028663  
Email: [sngcatsha@sahra.org.za](mailto:sngcatsha@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 19409

Date: Thursday March 30, 2023  
Page No: 3

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development as follows:
- Should it not be possible to avoid impacts to heritage sites, permits to mitigate the sites must be applied for from SAHRA in terms of section 35 of the NHRA;
- 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Sityhilelo Ngcatsha/Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
- With reference to the mitigation work noted above, a qualified archaeologist must be appointed to undertake the work in terms of the permit applied for as noted above;
- If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
- The Final EIA and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

**Proposed development of the 18MW Harmony Joel Solar PV Facility,  
Theunissen, Free State Province**

**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: [info@sahra.org.za](mailto:info@sahra.org.za)  
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CaseID: 19409

Date: Thursday March 30, 2023  
Page No: 4

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Sityhilelo Ngcatsha  
Archaeology, Palaeontology, Meteorite Assistant  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

---

Phillip Hine  
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

---

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/604269>

**Terms & Conditions:**

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

---

Enquiries: B Melato  
Telephone: 051 405 9263  
Reference: 16/2/7/C404/D2/3

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd  
P O Box 148  
**SUNNINGHILL**  
2157

Dear Sir/Madam

### **DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV FACILITY, FREE STATE PROVINCE**

Reference is hereby made to the document submitted to this Department dated August 2022 for the above-mentioned project as presented to this Department by Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd.

This office has evaluated the Draft Scoping Report and the comments are as follows.

- The applicant must take note that any development within 500m from the boundary of any wetland requires to be authorised according to the Department's regulation. The authorisation must be obtained prior commencement of the project.
- Any activity which is located within 100m of the water resource needs to be authorised by the Department. The authorisation must be obtained prior commencement of the project.
- The applicant must clearly state where water for this project will be obtained from and for which stages of the project will it be used. The volumes of water to be used must be stated.
- Soil and stormwater management must be put in place through all stages of the project.
- All sections of the National Environmental Act: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008) pertaining to the disposal of waste must be adhered to.
- All fuel and lubricants must be stored in sealed containers at least 100m from the nearest water course and all reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent any possible pollution.
- Sanitary conveniences which causes or is likely to cause pollution of a water resource should not be located within the 1:50 year flood line or 100m of any watercourse or borehole.
- The applicant shall further note that in terms of Section 19(1) of the National Water Act: Act 36 of 1998 it is stated that: *An owner of land, a person in control of land or a person who occupies or uses the land on which – (a) any activity or process is or was performed or undertaken, or (b) any other situation exists, which causes, has caused or likely to cause pollution to a water resource must take all reasonable measures to prevent any such pollution from occurring, continuing or recurring*". Therefore, any pollution incident(s) originating from this project shall be reported to Department of Water Sanitation: Free State Operations within 24 hours.



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
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- All the commitments stipulated in the various parts of this report must be adhered to and any deviations must be reported to this Department.
- Further comments, if any, will be provided during the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

You are welcome to contact Ms B Melato at telephone: 051 405 9000 or on e-mail: melatob@dws.gov.za should you have any enquiries.

Yours sincerely,

  
Dr T Ntuli  
PROVINCIAL HEAD: FREE STATE

DATE:

27/9/22



## forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: + 27 86 625 1042

**Reference:** Harmony Joel Solar PV

**Enquiries:** Ms M Rabothata / Mr K Mathetja

**Telephone:** (012) 399 9174 **E-mail:** [MRabothata@environment.gov.za](mailto:MRabothata@environment.gov.za)

Ms. Nicolene Venter  
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd  
PO Box 148  
**SUNNINGHILL**  
2157

Telephone Number: (+ 27) 11 656 3237  
Email Address: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

### PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms. Venter

### COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME FOR PROPOSED HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV, FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation reviewed and evaluated the report.

Based on the information provided in the report, the ecological and wetland specialist rated the cumulative impacts of the project and other projects in the area as high significance, yet the description of the cumulative impact indicates that the proposed solar development would not result in a high cumulative impact. The Directorate Biodiversity Conservation requests a clarification on the significance rating of the cumulative impact prior to the decision making.

All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: [BCAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:BCAdmin@environment.gov.za) for attention of **Mr Seoka Lekota**.

Yours faithfully

**Mr. Seoka Lekota**  
**Control Biodiversity Grade B Officer: Biodiversity Conservation**  
**Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment**  
**Date: 21/04/2023**







**destea**

department of  
economic, small business development,  
tourism and environmental affairs  
FREE STATE PROVINCE

DESTEA Ref: EMS/11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 24(ii), 1, 15, 4(b)  
(i)(gg), 10(b) (i)(gg)(hh), 12(b)(i), 14(ii)(a)(b)(i)(hh)/22/16  
NEAS ref: FSP/EIA/0000492/2022

Enquiries: Ms. N. Molokwane  
113 St. Andrews Building, Bloemfontein  
Tel: (051) - 400 4831  
Email: molokwanen@destea.gov.za

**To: Ms. Jo-Anne Thomas**  
**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**  
P. O. Box 148  
Sunninghill  
2191

Cell: 082 755 5628

Email: [joanne@savannahsa.com](mailto:joanne@savannahsa.com)

Dear Ms. Thomas,

**RE: ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF  
18MW HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV FACILITY, THEUNISSEN BLOEMFONTEIN, FREE  
STATE PROVINCE.**

The Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEA) - "The Department" has reviewed your Draft EIA Report for the above-mentioned application.

Therefore, you may proceed compiling the Final EIA Report, as there are no comments at the moment. The Final EIA Report must be submitted in the form of one (1) hard copy and one (1) soft copy.

Please note that the activity applied for may not commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by this Department.

Regards,

**Ms. N. Molokwane**  
**Environmental Officer Production Grade A: EIM**  
**Date: 05/05/2023**

CHIEF DIRECTORATE: ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY & PROTECTION  
Private Bag X 20801 Bloemfontein 9300  
Tel +27 (0)51 400 4917  
Fax +27 (0)51 400 4842  
e-mail: [nkoen@destea.gov.za](mailto:nkoen@destea.gov.za)

[www.destea.gov.za](http://www.destea.gov.za)



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Enquiries: B Melato  
Telephone: 051 405 9263  
Reference: 16/2/7/C404/D2/3

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd  
P O Box 148  
**SUNNINGHILL**  
2157

Dear Sir/Madam

### **DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV FACILITY, FREE STATE PROVINCE**

Reference is hereby made to the document submitted to this Department dated August 2022 for the above-mentioned project as presented to this Department by Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd.

This office has evaluated the Draft Scoping Report and the comments are as follows.

- The applicant must take note that any development within 500m from the boundary of any wetland requires to be authorised according to the Department's regulation. The authorisation must be obtained prior commencement of the project.
- Any activity which is located within 100m of the water resource needs to be authorised by the Department. The authorisation must be obtained prior commencement of the project.
- The applicant must clearly state where water for this project will be obtained from and for which stages of the project will it be used. The volumes of water to be used must be stated.
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- All fuel and lubricants must be stored in sealed containers at least 100m from the nearest water course and all reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent any possible pollution.
- Sanitary conveniences which causes or is likely to cause pollution of a water resource should not be located within the 1:50 year flood line or 100m of any watercourse or borehole.
- The applicant shall further note that in terms of Section 19(1) of the National Water Act: Act 36 of 1998 it is stated that: *An owner of land, a person in control of land or a person who occupies or uses the land on which – (a) any activity or process is or was performed or undertaken, or (b) any other situation exists, which causes, has caused or likely to cause pollution to a water resource must take all reasonable measures to prevent any such pollution from occurring, continuing or recurring*". Therefore, any pollution incident(s) originating from this project shall be reported to Department of Water Sanitation: Free State Operations within 24 hours.



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- All the commitments stipulated in the various parts of this report must be adhered to and any deviations must be reported to this Department.
- Further comments, if any, will be provided during the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

You are welcome to contact Ms B Melato at telephone: 051 405 9000 or on e-mail: melatob@dws.gov.za should you have any enquiries.

Yours sincerely,

  
Dr T Ntuli  
PROVINCIAL HEAD: FREE STATE

DATE:

27/9/22



**destea**

department of  
economic, small business development,  
tourism and environmental affairs  
FREE STATE PROVINCE

DESTEA Ref: EMS/11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 24(ii), 1, 15, 4(b)  
(i)(gg), 10(b) (i)(gg)(hh), 12(b)(i), 14(ii)(a)(b)(i)(hh)/22/16  
NEAS ref: FSP/EIA/0000492/2022  
Enquiries: Ms. N. Molokwane  
113 St. Andrews Building, Bloemfontein  
Tel: (051) - 400 4831  
Email: molokwanen@destea.gov.za

**To: Ms. Jo-Anne Thomas**  
**Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd**  
P. O. Box 148  
Sunninghill  
2191

Cell: 082 755 5628  
Email: [joanne@savannahsa.com](mailto:joanne@savannahsa.com)

Dear Ms. Thomas,

**RE: ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF  
18MW HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV FACILITY, THEUNISSEN BLOEMFONTEIN, FREE  
STATE PROVINCE.**

The Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEA) - 'the Department' has reviewed your Draft Scoping Report for the above-mentioned project. Therefore, you may proceed compiling the Final Scoping Report as there are no comments at the moment.

Please note that the activity applied for may not commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by this Department.

Regards,

**Ms. N. Molokwane**  
**Environmental Officer Production Grade A: EIM**

**Date:** 09/01/2023

CHIEF DIRECTORATE: ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY & PROTECTION  
Private Bag X 20801 Bloemfontein 9300  
Tel +27 (0)51 400 4917  
Fax +27 (0)51 400 4842  
e-mail: nkoen@destea.gov.za

[www.destea.gov.za](http://www.destea.gov.za)



## forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: + 27 86 625 1042

**Reference:** Harmony Joel Solar PV

**Enquiries:** Ms M Rabothata / Mr K Mathetja

**Telephone:** (012) 399 9174 **E-mail:** [MRabothata@environment.gov.za](mailto:MRabothata@environment.gov.za)

Ms. Nicolene Venter  
Savannah Environmental  
PO Box 148  
**SUNNINGHILL**  
2157

Telephone Number: (+ 27) 11 656 3237  
Email Address: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

### PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms. Venter

### COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR PROPOSED HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV, FREE STATE PROVINCE.

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation reviewed and evaluated the report.

Based on the information provided in the report, the site for the proposed solar development falls within a Critical Biodiversity Area 2 (CBA 2) and Ecological Support Areas 1 & 2 (ESA 1 & 2) as per the Free State Biodiversity Plan. The site is quite heavily transformed with dryland crop cultivation and mining activities. However, there are natural areas that may have elements of conservation concern on site. In addition, the study site is also located adjacent to the H.J Joel Private Nature Reserve which is proposed to be included as part of the protected areas expansion strategy. The site is also situated adjacent to the Doring River and from the survey it was also evident that the vegetation on the site is much more representative of the Highveld Alluvial Vegetation type which is associated with riparian areas.

Considering the above, the development can proceed to the next phase of the EIA process. However, the FSR should consider the following recommendations:

- The detailed Biodiversity Specialist studies must comply with the Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on Identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(A) and (H) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998.
- Comments must be obtained from Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Directorate: Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness at Email [TNethononda@environment.gov.za](mailto:TNethononda@environment.gov.za) for attention of Mr Thivhulawi Nethononda and the Management Authority of the nature reserve.



**COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV, FREE STATE PROVINCE.**

- The sensitivity Layout Map overlaid with sensitivities and indicating the final footprint for the proposed development avoiding environmentally sensitive areas must be included in the Final report.

The final report must comply with all the requirements as outlined in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) guideline for renewable energy projects and the Best Practice Guideline for Birds & Solar Energy for assessing and monitoring the impact of solar energy facilities on birds in Southern Africa.

All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: [BCAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:BCAdmin@environment.gov.za) for attention of **Mr Seoka Lekota**.

Yours faithfully



**Mr. Seoka Lekota**  
**Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation**  
**Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment**  
**Letter signed by: Mrs. MP Makitla**  
**Designation: Control Biodiversity Officer Grade A**  
**Date: 19/01/2023**



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Enquiries: B Melato  
Telephone: 051 405 9263  
Reference: 16/2/7/C404/D2/3

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd  
P O Box 148  
**SUNNINGHILL**  
2157

Dear Sir/Madam

### **DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING REPORT: HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV FACILITY, FREE STATE PROVINCE**

Reference is hereby made to the document submitted to this Department dated November 2022 for the above-mentioned project as presented to this Department by Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd.

This office has evaluated the above-mentioned document and the comments that have been sent to your office dated 20 September 2022 still applies.

You are welcome to contact Ms B Melato at telephone: 051 405 9000 or on e-mail: melatob@dws.gov.za should you have any enquiries.

Yours sincerely,

Dr T Ntuli  
**PROVINCIAL HEAD: FREE STATE**

DATE:

9/12/2022



**NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**  
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## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Enquiries: B Melato  
Telephone: 051 405 9263  
Reference: 16/2/17/C404/D2/3

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd  
P O Box 148  
**SUNNINGHILL**  
2157

Dear Sir/Madam

### **DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV FACILITY, FREE STATE PROVINCE**

Reference is hereby made to the document submitted to this Department dated August 2022 for the above-mentioned project as presented to this Department by Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd.

This office has evaluated the Draft Scoping Report and the comments are as follows.

- The applicant must take note that any development within 500m from the boundary of any wetland requires to be authorised according to the Department's regulation. The authorisation must be obtained prior commencement of the project.
- Any activity which is located within 100m of the water resource needs to be authorised by the Department. The authorisation must be obtained prior commencement of the project.
- The applicant must clearly state where water for this project will be obtained from and for which stages of the project will it be used. The volumes of water to be used must be stated.
- Soil and stormwater management must be put in place through all stages of the project.
- All sections of the National Environmental Act: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008) pertaining to the disposal of waste must be adhered to.
- All fuel and lubricants must be stored in sealed containers at least 100m from the nearest water course and all reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent any possible pollution.
- Sanitary conveniences which causes or is likely to cause pollution of a water resource should not be located within the 1:50 year flood line or 100m of any watercourse or borehole.
- The applicant shall further note that in terms of Section 19(1) of the National Water Act: Act 36 of 1998 it is stated that: *An owner of land, a person in control of land or a person who occupies or uses the land on which – (a) any activity or process is or was performed or undertaken, or (b) any other situation exists, which causes, has caused or likely to cause pollution to a water resource must take all reasonable measures to prevent any such pollution from occurring, continuing or recurring*". Therefore, any pollution incident(s) originating from this project shall be reported to Department of Water Sanitation: Free State Operations within 24 hours.





- All the commitments stipulated in the various parts of this report must be adhered to and any deviations must be reported to this Department.
- Further comments, if any, will be provided during the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

You are welcome to contact Ms B Melato at telephone: 051 405 9000 or on e-mail: melatob@dws.gov.za should you have any enquiries.

Yours sincerely,

  
Dr T Ntuli  
PROVINCIAL HEAD: FREE STATE

DATE: 27/9/22

## Savannah Public Process

---

**From:** Sityhilelo Ngcatsha <sngcatsha@sahra.org.za>  
**Sent:** Friday, 09 December 2022 01:21  
**To:** Savannah Public Process  
**Subject:** RE: SE3543: HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV - Reminder of EIAr review and comment period ending soon

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Due By:** Monday, 12 December 2022 12:00  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good day,

Thank you for informing SAHRA of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process that is undertaken to obtain Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the development of the PV facility and associated infrastructure. Please submit all Scoping Report along with its appendices to the respective case on SAHRIS (19409) before further comments can be issued.

Kind Regards  
Sityhilelo Ngcatsha

---

**From:** Savannah Environmental Public Process <[publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)>  
**Sent:** 06 December 2022 14:01  
**To:** Natasha Higgitt <[nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)>  
**Subject:** SE3543: HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV - Reminder of EIAr review and comment period ending soon

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 18MW HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV FACILITY, THEUNISSEN, FREE STATE PROVINCE  
(DESTEa Reference No.: EMS/11(i),12(ii)(a)(c),14,19, 24(ii), 1,15, 4(b) (i)(gg), 10(b) (i)(gg)(hh), 12(b)(i),  
14(ii)(a)(b)(i)(hh)/22/16 and NEAS ref: FSP/EIA/0000492/2022)**

Dear Stakeholder and Interested & Affected Party,

Freegold Harmony (Pty) Ltd (a subsidiary of Harmony Gold Mining Company Ltd) is looking to supplement its energy supply by implementing Photovoltaic (PV) generation, aiding their transition to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly energy mix.

The development of a solar photovoltaic (PV) facility with a generating capacity of up to 18MW is proposed ~20km north east of the town of Theunissen within the Masilonyana Local Municipality and within the Lejweleputswa District Municipality, Free State Province. The PV facility is located on Portion 0 of the Farm Leeuwbult 580 and is owned by the Mine. The solar PV development will be known as Harmony Joel Solar PV Facility

The nature and extent of the solar PV facility is explored in more detail in the Background Information Document (BID) that was distributed with the notification letter on 14 November 2022. This notification letter also served to inform you that a full Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process is being undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the development of the PV facility and associated infrastructure and that the Scoping Report is available for review and comment from **14 November 2022 to 14 December 2022**.

The Scoping Report can be downloadedg from our website [CLICK HERE](#)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those stakeholder who had already submitted their written comments and we would like to urge those who had not yet done so to please submit your written comments before or on **Wednesday, 14 December 2022.**

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information and/or clarification regarding these projects.

Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout the Environmental Impact Assessment Process.

Kind regards,  
[Unsubscribe this type of email](#)



**Nicolene Venter**  
Public Process

t: 011 656 3237  
f: 086 684 0547

e: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)  
c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

**SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015**

### Natasha Higgitt

Heritage Officer: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit



T: +27 21 462 4502/ 8660  
M: +27 82 507 0378  
E: [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)  
A: SAHRA, 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town, 8001,  
Western Cape, ZA  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

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SAHRA PRIVACY POLICY

### Sityhilelo Ngcatsha

APM Assistant



T: 021 462 4502 /8663  
M:  
E: [SNgcatsha@sahra.org.za](mailto:SNgcatsha@sahra.org.za)  
A: SAHRA, 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town, 8001,  
Western Cape, ZA  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

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SAHRA PRIVACY POLICY

## Savannah Public Process

---

**From:** Savannah Public Process  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 16 November 2022 10:02  
**To:** Francois Strydom  
**Cc:** dfacmiem@gmail.com; dwfopsmiem@gmail.com  
**Subject:** RE: Request for information: HARMONY ONE / MOAB / JOEL / TARGET PLANT SOLAR PV FACILITY  
**Attachments:** Harmony One Plant Solar PV Facility.kmz; Joel Solar PV Facility.kmz; Target Solar PV Facility.kmz; Central Plant Solar PV Facility.kmz; Moab Khotsong PV Facility.kmz

Dear Lt Col Strydom,

Please find attached the .KMZ files for the above-mentioned projects.

I had also added the Harmony Central Solar PV Facility's KMZ.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should your Department requires any additional information.

Kind regards,



t: +27 (0)11 656 3237  
f: +27 (0) 86 684 0547

**Nicolene Venter**

Public Participation and Social  
Consultant

e: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)  
c: +27 (0)60 978 8396

SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015

### Processing of personal Information / POPIA compliance

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**From:** Francois Strydom <Francois.Strydom@dod.mil.za>  
**Sent:** Friday, 11 November 2022 13:53  
**To:** Savannah Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>  
**Subject:** Request for information: HARMONY ONE / MOAB / JOEL / TARGET PLANT SOLAR PV FACILITY  
**Importance:** High

Good Afternoon

Herewith to request the .KML files for the above applications, as they are not available in the received application mails.

It is essential to have the .kml files in order to finalise your requests.

Regards,

Lieutenant Colonel Francois P Strydom  
Department of Defence  
Command and Management Information Systems Division  
Directorate CMIS Static Systems  
Radio Spectrum & Communication Site Management  
Eco Glades 1  
Centurion  
Rooihuiskraal  
Pretoria  
South Africa

E-Mail: [Francois.Strydom@dod.mil.za](mailto:Francois.Strydom@dod.mil.za)

Tel Office: (+27) 12 649 1503

Work Fax: (+27) 12 649 1560

Cellular: (+27) 82 655 3259

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#####

**Savannah EnvironmentsI**  
**P.O Box148**  
**Sunninghill**  
**2157**

Date: 18 November 2022  
Enquiries: D J Monatisa  
Tel: 051-404 5784  
E-mail: [MonatiDJ@eskom.co.za](mailto:MonatiDJ@eskom.co.za)

Attention: Nicolene Venetr

Your Ref: FSP/EIA/0000478/2022)  
Our Ref: FSP/EIA/0000478/2022)

Dear Sir / Madam

**RE: WAYLEAVE APPLICATION FOR HARMONY JOEL SOLAR PV THEUNISSEN –  
FREE STATE PROVINCE**

**Applicant/Client:**  
**Freegold Harmony (Pty) Ltd**

Your e-mail dated 14 November 2022 regarding above mentioned project hereby refers. Eskom Distribution (Dx) has no objection to the proposed project. Eskom services are affected as per the attached sketch. However, please adhere to Eskom's conditions and treat Eskom's powerlines as live at all times and keep a building restriction of 9 meters on either side of the power line for 11kV lines, 11 meters on either side of the power line for 88kV lines ,18 meters on either side of the power line for 132kV lines and 27.5 meters on either side of the power line for 132kV lines

- 11 kV,88kV ,132kV and 400kV lines are affected

Please find Eskom's conditions which must always be respected when working near or closer to our services:

1. Eskom Dx shall at all times retain unobstructed access to and egress from its servitudes.
2. Eskom Dx's consent does not relieve the applicant from obtaining the necessary statutory, landowner or municipal approvals.
3. The applicant will adhere to all relevant environmental legislation. Any cost incurred by Eskom Dx as a result of non-compliance will be charged to the applicant.
4. No drilling shall take place within 11 metres from any Eskom Dx power line structure,
5. All work within Eskom Dx's servitude areas shall comply with the relevant Eskom earthing standards in force at the time.

6. If Eskom Dx has to incur any expenditure in order to comply with statutory clearances or other regulations as a result of the applicant's activities or because of the presence of his equipment or installation within the servitude area, the applicant shall pay such costs to Eskom Dx on demand.

e

7. The use of explosives of any type within 500metres of Eskom Dx's services shall only occur with Eskom Dx's prior written permission. If such permission is granted the applicant must give at least fourteen working days prior notice of the commencement of blasting. This allows time for arrangements to be made for supervision and/or precautionary instructions to be issued in terms of the blasting process. If blasting becomes necessary, application in this regard should be made separately.

8. Changes in ground level may not infringe statutory ground to conductor clearances or statutory visibility clearances. After any changes in ground level, the surface shall be rehabilitated and stabilised so as to prevent erosion. The measures taken shall be to Eskom Dx's requirements.

9. Eskom Dx shall not be liable for the death of or injury to any person or for the loss of or damage to any property whether as a result of the encroachment or of the use of the servitude area by the applicant, his/her agent, contractors, employees, successors in title, and assigns. The applicant indemnifies Eskom Dx against loss, claims or damages including claims pertaining to consequential damages by third parties and whether as a result of damage to or interruption of or interference with Eskom Dx's services or apparatus or otherwise. Eskom Dx will not be held responsible for damage to the applicant's equipment.

10. No mechanical equipment, including mechanical excavators or high lifting machinery, shall be used in the vicinity of Eskom Dx's apparatus and/or services, without prior written permission having been granted by Eskom. If such permission is granted the applicant must give at least seven working days prior notice of the commencement of work. **This allows time for arrangements to be made for supervision and/or precautionary instructions to be issued by the relevant Technical Service Centre.**

11. No work shall commence unless Eskom Dx has received the applicant's written acceptance of the conditions specified in the letter of consent and/or permit.

12. Eskom Dx's rights and duties in the servitude shall be accepted as having prior right at all times and shall not be obstructed or interfered with. Note: Where an electrical outage is required, at least fourteen workdays are required to arrange same.

13. Under no circumstances shall rubble, earth or other material be dumped within the servitude area. The applicant shall maintain the area concerned to Eskom Dx's satisfaction. The applicant shall be liable to Eskom Dx for the cost of any remedial action which has to be carried out by Eskom Dx.

14. The clearances between Eskom Dx's live electrical equipment and the proposed construction work shall be observed as stipulated by *Regulation 15 of the Electrical Machinery Regulations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993)*.

**15. Eskom shall be regarded electrically live and therefore dangerous at all times.**

16. In spite of the restrictions stipulated by Regulation 15 of the Electrical Machinery Regulations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993), as additional safety precaution, Eskom Dx will not approve the erection of houses or structures occupied or frequented by human beings under the power lines or within the servitude area.

17. Eskom Dx may stipulate any additional requirements to illuminate any possible exposure to Customers or Public to coming into contact or be exposed to any dangers to Eskom plant.

18. It is required of the applicant to familiarise him/herself with all safety hazards related to Electrical plant.

Should the applicant or his/her contractor damage any of Eskom's services during execution of any work whatsoever, the incident must be reported to Eskom's Technical service centre **Pitso Ramalitsi @051-853 9704 and 082495 8144** immediately. The same person must be contacted **before** commencement of the project as well.

For the re-location of any Eskom's services, our customer service centre should be contacted on **051-404 2211**.

The above conditions should be accepted in writing before any work within Eskom Services commences and the technical service centre must be informed of the future activities.

For any further information please contact the writer at the above-mentioned telephone number.

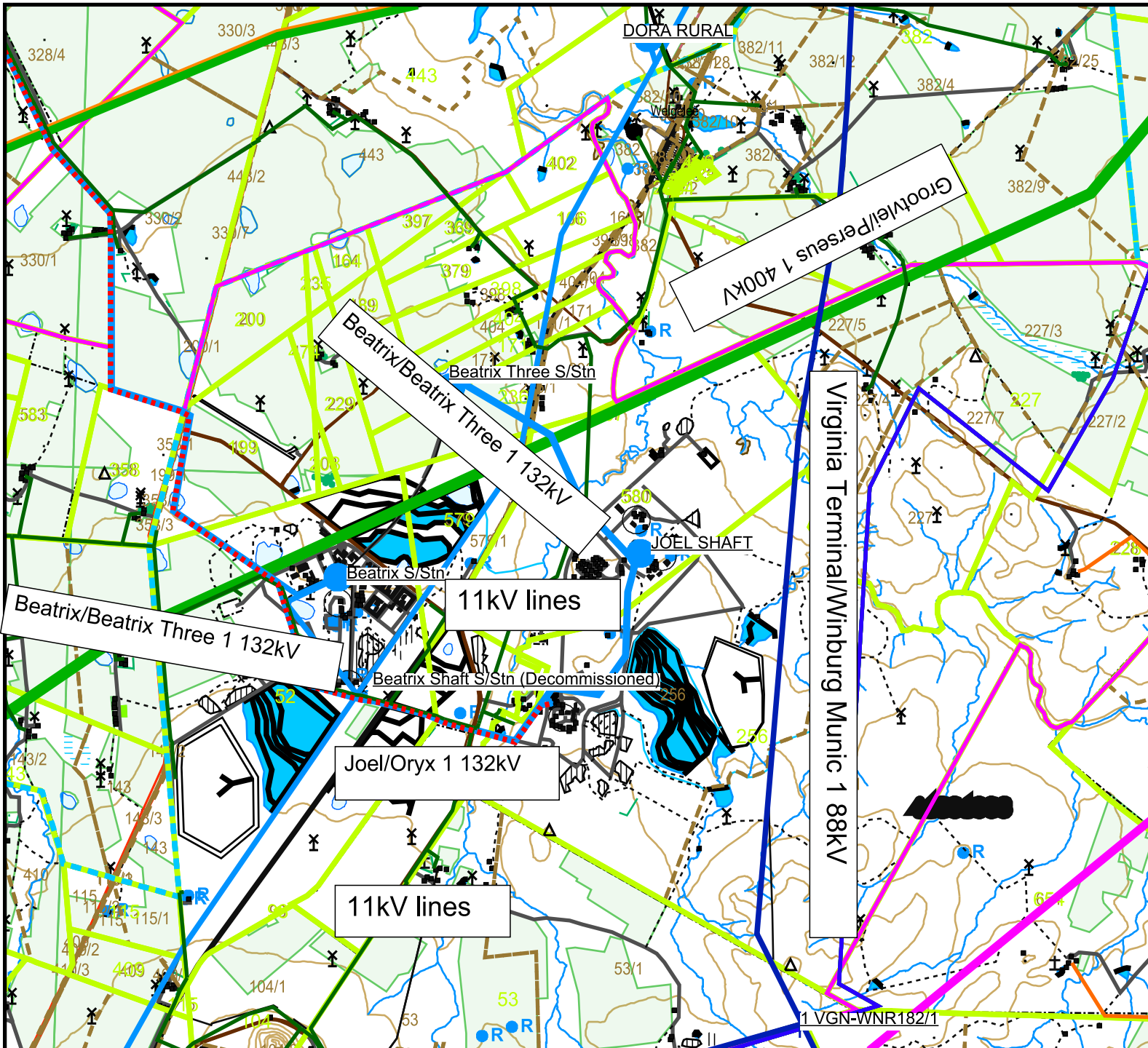
Yours sincerely



---

**D j Monatisa**  
**For Land Development Manager**





Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 20 /    /   

Eskom: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 20 /    /   

## Wayleave Sketch

The route depicted by:

Eskom is not responsible for any errors in the information displayed on this map.



Scale: 1:68956

Projection: Lambert SA HH94 cm (cm)



Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Map Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 2022-11-18



## SCOPING PHASE

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 30MW HARMONY ONE PLANT SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR WELKOM, FREE STATE PROVINCE.**



**destea**

department of  
economic, small business development,  
tourism and environmental affairs  
FREE STATE PROVINCE

Reference: EMS/11 (i), 12 (ii) (a) cc, 14, 19, 24 (ii), I, 15,  
4 (b) (i) (gg), 12 (b) (i), 14 (ii) (a) (b) (i) (hh)/22/13  
NEAS ref: FSP/EIA/0000478/2022  
Enquiries: Ms. Boipelo Mogorosi  
113 St. Andrews Building, Bloemfontein  
Tel: (051) - 400 4815  
E-mail: mogorosib@destea.gov.za

To: Ansoné Esterhuizen  
Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)

**SAVANNAH ENVIRONMENTAL (Pty) Ltd**

First Floor, Block 2  
5 Woodlands Drive Office Park  
C/o of Western Service Road and Woodlands Drive  
Woodmead  
2191,  
Tel: 011 656 3237  
Cell: 076 714 1234  
E-mail: ansone@savannahsa.com

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 30MW HARMONY ONE PLANT SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR WELKOM, FREE STATE PROVINCE.**

The Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEA) - 'the Department' hereby acknowledge receipt of the scoping report on 05 October 2022 for the above-mentioned development.

The Department will consider the scoping report as per Regulation 22 (a) or (b) and you will be notified of the consideration thereof. Please note that the activity applied for may not commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Regards,

  
.....

Ms. B. Mogorosi  
Environmental Officer Production Grade B: EIM

Date: 11/10/22

Sub-Directorate:  
113 Saint Andrew Street  
Bloemfontein  
9300

Environmental Impact Management  
Tel +27 (0)51 400 4812  
E-mail: [mkhosana@destea.gov.za](mailto:mkhosana@destea.gov.za)

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