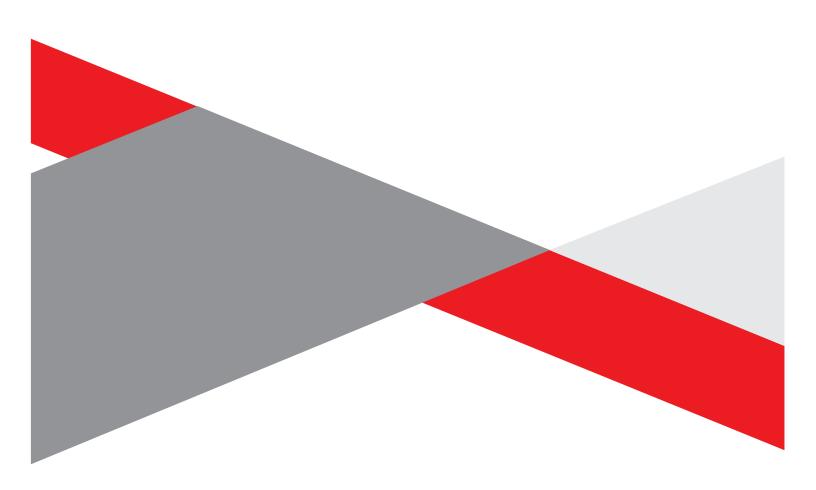
APPENDIX C6 COMMENTS RECEIVED





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

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 Tel +27 (0)51 400 4917 Fax +27 (0)51 400 4842 e-mail: nkoen@destea.gov.za



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

Ms. Nicolene Venter Savannah Environmental PO Box 148 SUNNINGHILL 2157

Telephone Number: (+ 27) 11 656 3237

Email Address: 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

 <u>TNethononda@environment.gov.za</u> 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 for attention of **Mr Seoka Lekota**.

Yours faithfully

HOSTER

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



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 Ntill PROVINCIAL HEAD: FREE STATE

DATE:





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 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 Ntili
PROVINCIAL HEAD: FREE STATE

DATE!

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 ElAr 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>

Sent: 06 December 2022 14:01

To: Natasha Higgitt < 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

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

xxx



T: +27 21 462 4502/8660

M: +27 82 507 0378 E: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za

A: SAHRA, 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town, 8001,

Western Cape, ZA www.sahra.org.za

SAHRA EMAIL DISCLAIMER SAHRA PRIVACY POLICY Sityhilelo Ngcatsha

APM Assistant





T: 021 462 4502 /8663

M:

E: SNgcatsha@sahra.org.za

A: SAHRA, 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town, 8001, Western Cape, ZA

www.sahra.org.za

SAHRA EMAIL DISCLAIMER 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

c: +27 (0)60 978 8396

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

Processing of personal Information / POPIA compliance

We respect your privacy and acknowledge that this e-mail will contain Personal Information, which may belong to you, others and/or to your organization and which we will process. The processing of your personal information by Savannah Environmental may be included in reports submitted to governmental departments or on our public platforms, which processing will be done in accordance with our processing notice housed on our website - https://savannahsa.com/privacy-policy-privacy-policy-page/. By sending and/or receiving this message, you hereby consent to the lawful processing of personal information for the intended purposes, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No 4 of 2013).

This email has been scanned for viruses and malware, and automatically archived by Mimecast SA (Pty) Ltd, and is believed to be clean

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

Tel Office: (+27) 12 649 1503 Work Fax: (+27) 12 649 1560 Cellular: (+27) 82 655 3259



Savannah Environmentsl P.O Box148 Sunninghill 2157

Date: 18 November 2022 Enquiries: D J Monatisa Tel: 051-404 5784

E-mail: 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

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.

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- 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.

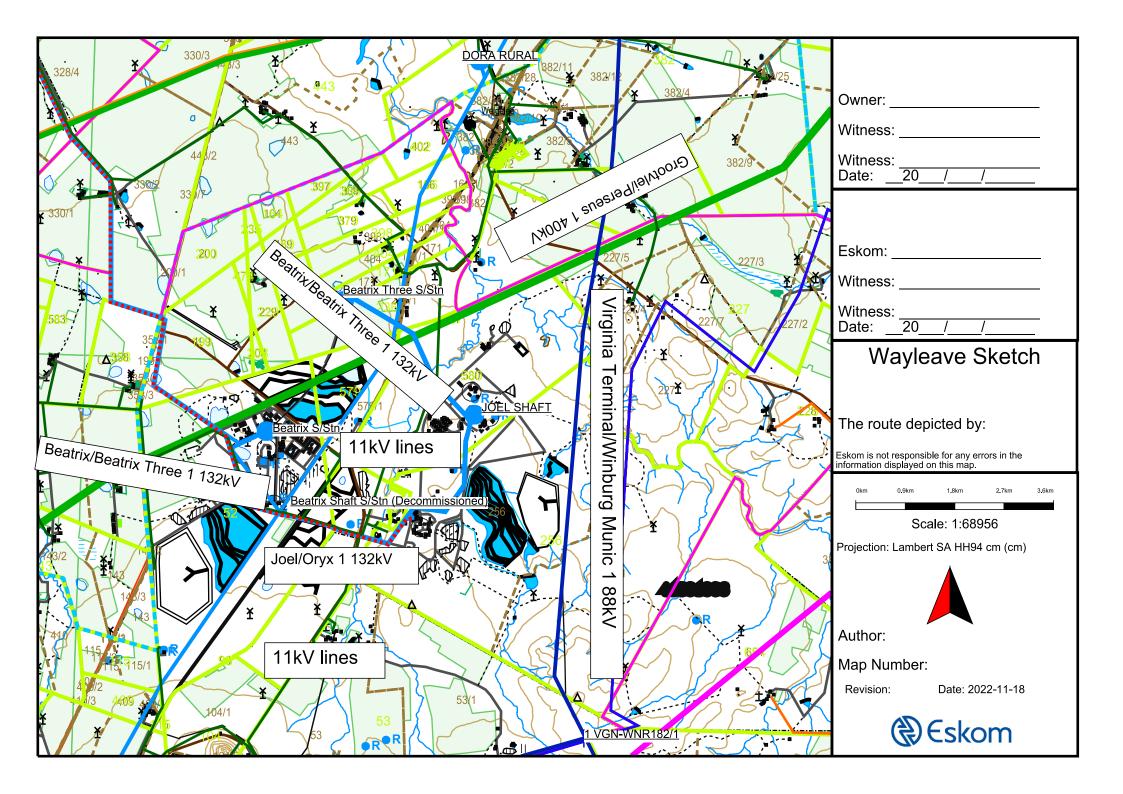
For any further information please contact the writer at the above-mentioned telephone number.

Yours sincerely

Gonalisa

D j Monatisa

For Land Development Manager





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED 30MW HARMONY ONE PLANT SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR WELKOM, 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: Ansone' 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: mkhosanag@destea.gov.za

www.destea.gov.za