

HYPERION SOLAR PV2 DEVELOPMENT, KATHU, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE
COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

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Note: Comments captured in this Comments and Responses Report are verbatim as per comments/concerns/issues submitted and not a summarized version of the submissions

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS / ACRONYMS

BA	Basic Assessment	DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
EA	Environmental Authorisation	EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme	HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
kV	Kilo Volt	NEMA	National Environmental Management Act
NHRA	National Heritage Resources Act	SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Agency
SAHRIS	South African Heritage Resources Information System		

1. COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM STAKEHOLDERS BEFORE SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
1.	The road through the farm Lyndoch, parallel with Vlermuisleegte is the main access road to the farm Saasveld. Comments:	Karl van Heerden Board Member Saasveld Boerdery	It is noted that T26 gravel road is an existing road and is used regularly by residents in the area as the main access road to the farm Saasveld and the farm Lyndoch.
1.1.	Certainty on the use of the access road via Lyndoch and the impact of additional heavy traffic and maintenance on the current access road (T26) from the N4.	Email and Reply Form: 03-10-2018	In-depth specialist studies and field investigations are to be undertaken during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Phase of the project, which will inform the preferred access road alternative. A comparative assessment will be undertaken whereby the potential positive and negative impacts will be weighed up against each other for each alternative route, to determine the preferred environmental option. Suitable mitigation measures will be formulated by the specialists where required.
1.2.	Saasveld farming must please be placed on the circulation of the Environmental Impact study.		Saasveld Boerdery has been added to the project database and will be informed once the Scoping Report is available for public review
1.3.	There has to be a rehabilitation fund to rehabilitate the area should the project be discontinued (for whatever reason) for each of the 4 applicants/developers.		A rehabilitation plan will be compiled as part of the EMPr during the EIA Phase. As the project is in the early stages of the project planning phase, information regarding a rehabilitation fund is not available at this stage of the project.
1.4.	The area is a grass savannah with very reasonable Kameeldoringboom (and also Swarthaak that is contaminated). But the flora keep the topcoat sand in control. What will be the effect of wind erosion around the solar panels?		The impact of soil erosion due to the movement of water and wind has been considered as part of the Soil and Agricultural Potential Assessment for the project (refer to Appendix G of the Scoping Report). Soil erosion is considered a possible impact, especially where vegetation will be removed during the construction phase of the project. The significance of

			the impact will be assessed in detail in the EIA Phase, and detailed mitigation measures will be proposed to minimise and reduce the potential impact of wind and soil erosion as far as possible. The proposed mitigation measures will be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) which will need to be implemented by contractors during the operation phase and the developer in the operation phase, where required.
1.5.	Higher Fire danger as a result of "magnifying glass effect" on broken glass and additional power lines and substation.	Karl van Heerden Board Member Saasveld Boerdery Email and Reply Form: 03-10-2018	The potential increased risk of fire as a result of the proposed development (including the on-site substation) will be assessed as part of the EIA Phase of the project. The 132kV power line will be assessed as part of a separate Basic Assessment (BA) process and the increased risk of fire as a result of the power line will not form part of this EIA process. As per point 1.5 above, the proposed mitigation measures will be included in the EMPr which will need to be implemented by contractors during the operation phase and the developer in the operation phase, where required.
1.6.	Location of offices, workshops, warehouses and temporary sites with regards to the farm Saasveld (Safety risk with regards to rising uncontrollable access to farms). Rehabilitation of temporary sites / unused buildings.		Controlled access will be established at the entrance of the project site. No construction workers will be allowed to wander around onto other properties. Safety and security impacts will be assessed as part of the EIA Phase. All areas where temporary infrastructure will be placed, will be rehabilitated post-construction. Recommended rehabilitation methods will be included in the EMPr to be compiled as part of the EIA Phase.
1.7.	Visual and Noise impact from offices and workshops.		Visual and noise impacts (during construction) will be assessed as part of the EIA Phase of the project.
1.8.	Erection of 135kV overhead powerline. Clarity needed on position of the powerline from the		The power line, which will be a 132kV capacity power line, will be assessed as part of a separate BA process which has

	internal substation to the FERRUM line (or alternative).		not as yet commenced. The power line does not form part of this application.
1.9.	We appreciate the invitation to register as an interested and affected party.		It is acknowledged that it is appreciated that an invitation to participate has been extended to yourself.

2. COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM ORGANS OF STATE BEFORE SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

1.	Thank you for notifying SAHRA of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) application for the proposed Hyperion Solar Development 1 on remaining portion of Lyndoch 432 between Kathu and Kuruman, Northern Cape Province.	Natasha Higgitt Heritage Officer SAHRA Letter: 03-10-2018	No response required as the project team was thanked for notifying SAHRA of the EA.
1.1.	As the proposed development is undergoing an EA Application process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998 (NEMA), and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is done as per section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). This must include an archaeological component, palaeontological component and any other applicable heritage components. The HIA must be conducted as part of the EA Application in terms of NEMA and the NEMA EIA Regulations. The quickest process to follow for the archaeological component would be to contract a specialist (see www.asapa.org.za or www.aphp.org.za to		The recommendation received from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) is acknowledged. A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) as per section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) has been undertaken as part of the Scoping Phase of the project and is included as Appendix I of the Scoping Report. The HIA compiled complies with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Component of Impact Assessments. A detailed impact phase HIA will also be included and submitted accordingly at a later stage, should approval to proceed with the EIA Phase be received by the DEA. This study too, will comply with SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Component of Impact Assessments.

	provide an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA). The AIA must comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Component of Impact Assessments.		
1.2.	The proposed prospecting area is located within an area of moderate sensitivity in terms of palaeontological resources. An assessment of the impact of the development on palaeontological resources is required to be completed by a qualified palaeontologist. The report must comply with the SAHRA 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Component of Heritage Impact Assessments (a list of qualified palaeontologists can be supplied upon request).	Natasha Higgitt Heritage Officer SAHRA Letter: 03-10-2018	It is noted that the project site is located within an area of moderate palaeontological sensitivity. The impact of the proposed development on palaeontological resources has been assessed as part of the Scoping Phase and is included in Appendix I of the Scoping Report. The assessment has been undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist.
1.3.	Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as maritime archaeology, built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.		All heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted by the Hyperion Solar Development 2 has been considered and assessed as part of the HIA included in Appendix I of the Scoping Report. A detailed impact phase HIA will also be included and submitted accordingly at a later stage, should approval to proceed with the EIA Phase be received by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA). This study too, will comply with Section 3 of the NHRA, and will be assessed accordingly.
1.4.	The draft Scoping report and appendices must be submitted at the start of the public review period so that an informed comment may be issued.		The draft Scoping report and appendices will be submitted to SAHRA via the SAHRIS website once it is available for review and comment at the start of the public review period accordingly.