

3 August 2023

Dear Interested and/or Affected Party,

RE: NOTICE OF PART 1 AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED FOR THE GEMSBOK SOLAR PV6 75 MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NORTH-EAST OF KENHARDT, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Reference Numbers: 14/12/16/3/3/2/844; 14/12/16/3/3/2/844/AM1; 14/12/16/3/3/2/844/AM2; and 14/12/16/3/3/2/844/AM3

The proposed Gemsbok Solar PV6 75 MW solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and associated infrastructure project, located north-east of Kenhardt within the !Kheis Local Municipality in the Northern Cape was granted Environmental Authorisation (EA) on 10 September 2018 (Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/844) by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), now operating as the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE). An amended EA was granted on 11 February 2019 (14/12/16/3/3/2/844/AM1) with the removal of Condition 34 of the EA dated 10 September 2018. A second amendment to the EA (14/12/16/3/3/2/844/AM2) was granted on 5 May 2021 to change the holder of the EA to "Mulilo Total Coega (Pty) Ltd"; and to change of the details of the affected farm property so that it aligns with the title deed.

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) on the project database you are hereby notified in terms of Regulation 4 (2) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations promulgated on 8 December 2014 (as amended), that the Competent Authority (i.e. DFFE) has granted a Part 1 Amendment to the EA for the proposed Gemsbok Solar PV6 75 MW project. The Amendment to the EA is dated **28 July 2023** and has the following reference number: **14/12/16/3/3/2/844/AM3**. The approved amendments comprise of the following:

Amendment	Description
Amendment 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of two affected farm properties in the EA (i.e. Portions 18 and 19 of the Farm Gemsbok Bult No. 120) to ensure that all properties affected by the proposed power line and access road are included in the EA. These properties were originally, due to error, not clearly included in the EA application and EIA reporting. However, the power line corridor, including these properties, was assessed in its entirety and included in the EIA Process and Final EIA Report dated May 2016.
Amendment 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update of the approved Layout Plan and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) based on the findings of the pre-construction floral (and avifaunal) walk throughs, which identified the presence of quiver trees (<i>Aloidendron dichotomum</i>), along with provincially protected species in terms of the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act (Act 9 of 2009) (i.e. <i>Hoodia gordonii</i> species) and protected trees in terms of the National Forests Act (Act 84 of 1998) (i.e. <i>Boscia albitrunca</i>) within the layout for the PV facility. Based on this, the layout and relevant impact management actions in the EMPr were updated to accommodate the in situ protection of the quiver trees with either 20 m or 30 m buffers, as required. No changes to the impact management outcomes in the EMPr were made.
Amendment 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update of technical details in the approved EA to ensure that the details are accurately captured based on the updated Layout Plan, and to correct typographical errors.
Amendment 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An extension to the validity of the EA (dated 10 September 2018) was granted. The original EA states that the activity must commence within a period of five years from the date the authorisation (i.e. by 10 September 2023). The validity period of the EA has been extended to 10 September 2028.

The amended EA, dated 28 July 2023, is attached separately to this letter and email, and can also be requested from the undersigned.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulations published in GN R993 on 8 December 2014, and as amended in GN R205 on 12 March 2015, which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. These regulations have been attached to this correspondence. Should you wish to appeal any aspect of the decision (i.e. **the amended EA dated 28 July 2023, Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/844/AM3**), an appeal must be submitted to the Appeal Administrator by the Appellant, and a copy thereof must be submitted to the Applicant, any registered I&AP and any Organ of State that has interest in the matter, within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered I&APs by the Applicant. Based on the above, you are hereby informed that the appeal period extends from **3 August 2023 to 24 August 2023**.

The appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form (obtainable from the Appeal Administrator or DFFE website) to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of the National DFFE, at the below mentioned addresses:
By Email: appeals@dffe.gov.za
By Hand: Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083
By Post: Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001.

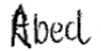
Please visit the DFFE's website at https://www.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authoritions to obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, or request a copy of the documents by sending an e-mail to: appeals@dffe.gov.za. The guidance document has also been attached to this correspondence.

Should you have any queries or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned using the contact details provided above.

In accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act (Act No. 4 of 2013), CSIR will conduct itself responsibly when collecting, processing, storing and sharing any personal information collected for the purposes of PPP in terms of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). As a registered I&AP, you consent to the collection, collation, processing, and storing of such information and the use and disclosure of such information for the aforementioned purpose (<https://www.csir.co.za/csir-privacy-notice>). If you would like to opt out of communications on these projects, please do so by responding to this correspondence via email.



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