

PART 1 EA AMENDMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE 14 MW MACHADODORP PV 1 SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

Public Participation Process Report

DFFE Ref.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/738

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REPORT DETAILS

Report Type	Public Participation Process Report
Project Name	The Proposed Construction of the 14 MW Machadodorp PV 1 Solar Energy Facility.
Project Code	SE3631
DFFE Reference	14/12/16/3/3/1/738

Prepared by:

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TERMINOLOGY/DEFINITIONS

Motivation Report as part of Environmental Authorisation.	In accordance with Section 29 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, as amended, this environmental authorisation (EA) amendment process aimed at aligning the proposed project activities with the EA as required within the amendment. An EA may be amended where this will result in a change in the project scope of the existing EA where such change may result in an increased level or change in nature of impact as not previously included in the standing EA. This amendment further does not trigger any listed activities with no exceeded thresholds for activities already authorises but requires an official amendment to be lodged with the competent authority (CA).
Interested and Affected Parties	Means an interested and affected party (I&AP) contemplated in Section 24(4)(d) of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 (Act 107 of 1998), and which in terms of that section includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• any person, group of persons or organizations interested in or affected by an activity; and• any organ of state that may have jurisdiction over any aspect of the activity.
Public Participation Process Stakeholders	Means a process in which the broader public, including interested and affected parties, are given an opportunity to be informed of a proposed application, invite them to comment on, or raise issues relevant to specific matters applicable to an application. A sub-group of the public whose interests may be positively or negatively affected by a proposal or activity and/or who are concerned with a proposal or activity and its consequences within the project study area. "Key stakeholders" are a smaller sub-group of I&APs. They are people who stand to be directly affected, representatives acting as spokespersons for their sectors, people whose local knowledge is important, people who

may want to derail the process for personal gain, and all those who think they are key stakeholders.

Definitions taken from NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and Other Guideline Information Documents

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CA	Competent Authority
C&RR	Comments and Response Report
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
I&APs	Interested and Affected Parties
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act
PPPR	Public Participation Process Report (PPPR)
OoS	Organs of State

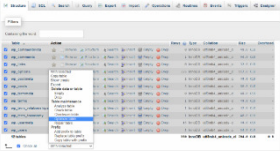



CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION


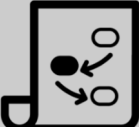
Machadodorp1 PV Project (Pty) Ltd proposes to make an amendment to an existing Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the proposed construction of the 14MW Machadodorp PV 1 Solar Energy Facility on Portion 8 of the farm De Kroon 363 of the Emakazheni Local Municipality in Mpumalanga Province, (DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/738) issued on the 21 May 2013. The amendment being applied for is to extend the commencement period (validity) of the Environmental Authorisation.

An application for amendment has been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE). Additional information has been requested (in terms of Regulation 30(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended) for the Department to be able to process the application for amendment. Savannah Environmental, as an independent consultant, has prepared this Site Verification and Motivation Report in support of the application for the proposed amendment on behalf of Machadodorp1 PV Project (Pty) Ltd.

This report provides a synopsis of the PPP undertaken with the support of the following appendices as part of the proof of evidence for the project:

Table 1-1 included appendices as part of this proof of consultation.

Appendix	Relevance
<p>1 – I&AP Database</p> 	<p>Regulation 42 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, where a database of the project-affected parties is developed including directly affected and greater surrounding area for I&APs. The database included in this report is developed through the EIA process for the project.</p>
<p>2-Advertisements and Site Notices</p> 	<p>As required in terms of the EA for this project, the amendment process will be communicated, and I&AP will be notified of the process. Site notices and a newspaper advert have already been placed in the process of notifying the I&AP.</p>
<p>3 – Consultation with I&AP Correspondence</p> 	<p>As required in terms of the EA for this project, the Motivation Report was made available to registered parties for review and comment. This appendix includes all correspondence between Savannah Environmental and any stakeholder including any IA&P who may have commented on the project.</p>
<p>4 – Consultation with OoS</p> 	<p>As required in terms of the EA for this project, the Motivation Report was made available to registered parties for review and comment. This appendix includes all correspondence between Savannah Environmental and any OoS who may have commented on the project.</p>
<p>5 – Comments Received</p>	<p>This appendix includes the comments received from OoS and/or I&APs on the Motivation Report will be made available for a 30-day review and comment period.</p>

Appendix	Relevance
	
6 – Comments and Responses Report 	All comments received will be recorded and responded to in a Comments and Responses Report, which will be submitted to the CA to inform the decision on the Motivation Report.

CHAPTER 2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS OBJECTIVES

Public participation is an essential and regulatory requirement for an environmental authorisation process and is guided by Regulation 37(2) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

The following objectives for the public participation undertaken for the Motivation Report included:

- » notify registered I&APs of the availability of the Motivation Report for review and comment;
- » the review and comment period of the Motivation Report;
- » how and where the Motivation Report is made available for download or how to request an electronic copy;
- » how and where to submit written comments; and
- » capturing of the comments received into a Comments and Responses Report.

CHAPTER 3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

During the PPP, the following core PP activities were undertaken:

- » The existing Stakeholders and I&APs were verified and where applicable updated. The database was maintained throughout the 30-day review and comment period of the Motivation Report;
- » A notification letter was distributed to all registered I&APs on **Thursday, 13 July 2023** notifying them of the availability of the Motivation Report and associated documentation for a review and comment period of 30 days;
- » The Motivation Report was made available for review and comment from **Thursday, 13 July 2023** until **Tuesday, 15 August 2023**. The Motivation Report and associated documents will be made available on the Savannah Environmental website and also available via Dropbox or WeTransfer, upon request.
- » A reminder notification will be sent to all registered I&APs to remind them before the review and comment period comes to an end.
- » Suggestions, comments, and concerns received from I&APs will be collated and recorded in the Comments and Response Report (C&RR),
- » Updates to the Motivation report will be made before the Final submission date where needed.

CHAPTER 4 DECISION-MAKING PHASE

The Motivation Report will be submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), as the Competent Authority, for review and approval in accordance with the requirements of the EA issued for the project.