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Public Process Consultants
Environmental Impact Assessment and
Public Participation Management

9 December 2022

Dear Interested and Affected Party / Organ of State / State Department

RE: NOTICE OF CONSULTATION BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT REVIEW: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, ON A PORTION OF PORTIONS 10 & 40 OF FARM T'ZOETGENEUGD NO. 192, KNOWN AS MIDDLEDRIFT, SUNDAYS RIVER VALLEY MUNICIPALITY. (REF: EC06/C/LN1&3/M/65-2022)

As an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) registered on the project database for the above assessment process, this serves as notification of the legislated 30-day comment period being provided for the review of the Consultation Basic Assessment Report (CBAR), which extends from **9 December 2022 to 30 January 2023**. **The comment period has been extended as the period between 15 December 2022 and 5 January 2023 must be excluded in the reckoning days, as required by Regulation 3 (2) of GN 326.**

Availability of Information

In order to assist you with the submission of any comments you may have on the CBAR, please find attached to this correspondence, an **Executive Summary of the CBAR** and a **Comment Form**. The CBAR and Appendices can be downloaded via the following link: <https://publicprocess.co.za/2019/11/12/middledrift-pv-facility/>

Please Note: A copy of the report will be sent to you according to the preferred format previously confirmed via email, if your preferred format was not via a link to the website. Please inform us if, at any stage, your preferred format changes.

The issues that have been raised to date by I&AP's, including Organs of State, are included in the Comments and Response Trail in Appendix E of the CBAR, along with the appropriate responses. The comments made by I&APs during this current comment period, will be included in the Final Basic Assessment Report (FBAR), prior to it being submitted to the competent authority for their decision-making. You are required to submit any comments that you may have on the CBAR by the **30 January 2023**, to the Environmental Assessment Practitioner, contact details provided above.

Next Step in the Process

The next step in the Environmental Assessment Process entails the inclusion of the comments received from I&APs during this comment period into the Final Basic Assessment Report (FBAR), prior to it being submitted to the competent authority, for their decision making. No comment period is proposed for the FBAR. As a registered I&AP on the project database, you will be notified via email of the submission of the FBAR to the competent authority.

Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013 (POPIA)

As required by Regulation 42 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), and as a registered I&AP, your name and contact information has been included on the project register that will be submitted directly to the Competent Authority, the Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT), Sarah Baartman Region. In compliance with the POPI Act (2013), should you submit a comment during this assessment process, only your name, surname and organisation/capacity will be included in the reports placed in the public domain. All other personal information will be redacted from the report and will be safeguarded for the duration of this Basic Assessment Process and the Environmental Authorisation, should one be granted. Therefore, please note that should you submit comments during this assessment process it will be accepted that you have given consent for your name and interest in the assessment to be included in reports and for your contact information to be provided to DEDEAT. If you object to your name, surname and organisation/capacity being included in reports released into the public domain, please clearly indicate such in writing to the EAP using the contact details above. In addition, should an appeal be lodged against the DEDEAT's decision, the appellant will have to be provided with a copy of the I&AP register, containing your contact information, in order to comply with Regulation 4 (1) of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014. Should you not want your information to be included in the I&AP register, which is submitted to DEDEAT, please specifically request to be de-registered. In which case you will no longer receive correspondence regarding this assessment process.

We look forward to your input and participation in this process. Should you have any queries, please contact Sandy Wren, Emily Whitfield, Geena Pringle, or JP Hechter using the contact details provided above.

Yours sincerely

SANDY WREN
EIA PROJECT LEADER