

**BASIC ASSESSMENT AND
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS
MOEDING SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR VRYBURG,
NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

**NOTES OF FOCUS GROUP MEETING: ADJACENT LANDOWNERS
HELD ON MONDAY, 06 AUGUST 2018
VENUE: LAVENDER LODGE, 2 MOLOPO STREET, VRYBURG**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Nicolene Venter

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address

MOEDING SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR VRYBURG, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

Venue: Lavender Lodge, 2 Molopo Street, Vryburg

Date: Monday, 06 August 2018

Time: 14h00

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Nicolene Venter, Public Participation Practitioner, Savannah Environmental, welcomed all present and thanked the meeting attendees for availing themselves for the meeting. She provided an opportunity to the project team to introduce themselves and their role in the project. An opportunity was also provided for the attendees to introduce themselves to the project team.

Nicolene presented the Meeting Agenda and no additional points were added. The purpose of the meeting was presented as follows:

- providing technical and general information regarding the proposed development (locality of the proposed developments, information regarding solar energy, etc);
- present potential environmental impacts currently identified;
- provide a description of the Basic Assessment (BA) and Public Participation process being undertaken;
- obtain inputs (comments / concerns / issues) from the attendees for inclusion in the Basic Assessment Report to be submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA); and
- way forward and closure.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation	Position
Mr Flippie Kriel	Farm: Hartsboom	Landowner
Dr Chris van Zyl	Farm: Waterloo	Landowner
Mr Lucas & Mrs Hester van Dyk	Farm: Waterloo	Landowners
Ms Adéle Oberholzer	Farms: Edinburgh & Frankfort	Landowner
Mr Mike Levington	Kabi Solar	Director
Mr Phil Edmunds		Director
Ms Thalita Botha	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Ms Nicolene Venter		Public Participation Practitioner

APOLOGIES

Dr Thiba, Farm: Champions Kloof 731, Remainder, submitted apologies and indicated that he will send a representative to attend the meeting on his behalf.

Mr Nico van Rooyen, Farm Hartsboom 734, Remainder, submitted apologies.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Thalita Botha, Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), Savannah Environmental, presented the background to the proposed project by informing the attendees that Moeding Solar (Pty) Ltd ("Moeding Solar") is proposing the development of the Moeding Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility and associated infrastructure on Portion 1 of the farm Champions Kloof 731, Portion 4 and the Remaining Extent of Portion 3 of the farm Waterloo 730 and the farm Rosendal 673 situated approximately 8km south of Vryburg, located within the Naledi Local Municipality and within the greater Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality in the North West Province.

It was explained that the project site is located within Zone 6 of the Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ), known as the Vryburg REDZ. The procedure to be followed in applying for environmental authorisation for a large-scale project in a REDZ was formally gazetted on 16 February 2018 (in GN113 and GN114). As the project is located within one of the eight REDZ areas, the Moeding Solar PV Facility is subjected to a Basic Assessment (BA) and not a full EIA process.

The proposed project will have a contracted capacity of up to 100MW, and will make use of multiple arrays (static or tracking) of PV solar panels. The development footprint for the proposed facility is anticipated to be approximately 300ha in extent and the infrastructures associated with the solar PV facility will include:

- » Arrays of PV panels (either a static or tracking PV system) with a contracted capacity of up to 100MW.
- » Mounting structures to support the PV panels.
- » On-site inverters to convert the power from a direct current to an alternating current.
- » An on-site substation to facilitate the connection between the solar energy facility and the Eskom electricity grid.
- » A new 132kV power line between the on-site substation and the Eskom grid connection point.
- » Battery storage with up to 6 hours of storage capacity.
- » Cabling between the project components, to be laid underground where practical.
- » Offices and workshop areas for maintenance and storage.
- » Temporary laydown areas.
- » Internal access roads and fencing around the development area.

The 132kV power line is proposed to be developed on the Remaining Extent of the farm Rosendal 673 and the Remaining Extent of Portion 3 of the farm Waterloo 730. Two power line alternatives are being considered:

- » Direct connection to the existing Mookodi Substation located on the northern portion of the project site.
- » A turn-in turn-out connection into the proposed Mookodi - Magopela 132kV power line (along the eastern boundary of the project site).

The development of a 132kV Moeding Collector Substation, another project proposed on the same project site was also presented. An application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) is yet to be submitted.

She informed the attendees that although the project triggers an Environmental Impact Assessment process, the proposed Moeding Solar PV falls within a declared REDZ and for this reason that a Basic Assessment process will be undertaken. A shortened timeframe of 57 days for processing the application is applicable.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Chris van Zyl asked for clarification as to why he was invited to the meeting.	Nicolene Venter explained that the attendees were invited as their properties are adjacent to the affected properties and therefore have a right to be informed regarding the proposed project.
Adéle Oberholzer enquired as to who the actual landowners of the property on which the development is being proposed, are.	<p>Thalita Botha informed Adéle Oberholzer that Tiger Kloof Educational Institution is the registered property owner.</p> <p>Mike Levington elaborated that the property is registered in the name of Tiger Kloof Education Institution and the land is managed by the Tiger Kloof Combined School Management. The purpose of the Tiger Kloof Education Institution is to make land available for proposed developments to raise funds to facilitate improvements of facilities at the school.</p>
Nicolene Venter enquired from Adele Oberholzer on the motivation behind the question regarding the legal status of the ownership of the properties Waterloo 730, Remainder of Portion 3 and Portion 3, and Champions Kloof 731, Portion 1 own by Tiger Kloof Educational Institution.	<p>Adéle Oberholzer responded that she is aware of Tiger Kloof Educational Centre in the area but do not know them as landowners.</p> <p>Mike Levington informed the attendees that he believes the surrounding landowners all knows Mr Maxwell Masasi, Tiger Kloof Educational Centre's farm manager.</p> <p>All present confirmed that they know Mr Masasi.</p>
Chris van Zyl informed the project team that an EIA was conducted for Naledi LM's landfill site and that that process was not successful and using that process as an example expressed his concern regarding the BA process for this application.	Nicolene Venter acknowledged the information provided regarding a historic EIA process and confirm that the BA process followed for this application will be in accordance to the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended.

<p>Chris van Zyl enquired what mitigation measures will be in place to ensure the safety and security of adjacent landowners.</p>	<p>Mike Levington responded that the site will be fenced, and it is therefore believed that this will prevent construction workers traversing neighbouring properties or workers from neighbouring properties accessing the site.</p> <p>The specification of the fence will be of a standard that will be compliant with the National Key Points Act.</p>
<p>Chris van Zyl enquired whether there will be fire breaks around the site.</p>	<p>Mike Levington confirmed that there will be fire breaks inside the fence.</p>
<p>Chris van Zyl enquired as to what mitigation measures will be in place to prevent squatting on the site.</p>	<p>Mike Levington responded that as the site will be fenced, there will be an access control point through which all construction workers will be entering and leaving. It was also confirmed that the only persons allowed on the site after hours will be the Security Officers. Security will be 24/7 consisting of 3 x 8 hours shifts.</p>
<p>Chris van Zyl enquired whether there will permanent housing for employees on the property.</p>	<p>Mike Levington responded that no employee will be housed on the site and, as per the presentation, during the construction phase of the project, workers will be housed in Vryburg or Huhudi. This also applies for the operational phase of the project.</p>
<p>Adèle Oberholzer enquired as to where the construction vehicles and equipment will be stored.</p>	<p>Mike Levington responded that it will be stored on site.</p>
<p>Chris van Zyl asked where water will be sourced from for the construction phase.</p>	<p>Thalita Botha replied that there is an existing borehole on the property and that borehole water will be utilised during the construction phase.</p>
<p>Chris van Zyl asked whether clean water will be used for the cleaning of the panels.</p>	<p>Thalita Botha replied that the project team is aware that the site is located in a dry area and for this reason reverse osmosis will be in place for the cleaning of the panels.</p> <p>Mike Levington added that solar panel maintenance techniques are improving with each development and there is therefore a possibility that a dry-cleaning system might be used.</p>
<p>Adèle Oberholzer raised the concern that there is a possibility that the groundwater could dry up should large quantity of water be</p>	<p>As per the earlier question, Moeding Solar is considering the use of dry cleaning for the panels and believes that this is an option that</p>

<p>abstracted, especially for surrounding landowners.</p> <p>It was requested whether the sourcing of water from another resource i.e. Municipality, could be considered.</p>	<p>should be considered by all solar projects being developed in the area.</p> <p>The developer has also held discussions with Naledi LM and its designated water supplier on the matter of water allocation for the project.</p>
<p>Chris van Zyl informed the project team that there are several centre pivots located on the Farm Waterloo.</p>	<p>Thalita Botha thanked Chris van Zyl for the information and responded that the team will investigate and confirm the location and number of centre pivots on the Farm Waterkloo.</p> <p><u>Post meeting note:</u> No centre pivots were identified within the project site.</p>
<p>Lukas van Dyk and Flippie Kriel support the concern raised regarding the scarcity of water in the study area.</p>	<p>Mike Levington responded that the team will assess the possibility of trucking in water in terms of availability and the costs involved.</p>
<p>Chris van Zyl informed the project team that they can approach Sedibeng Water for water supply.</p>	<p>Phil Edmunds replied that although water supply does not form part of this BA process, it is important to note that as developers, they will need to submit a Water Use License (WUL) with the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). During consultations held with the DWS they indicated that they will only be able to comment on the project after they are selected as a preferred bidder.</p> <p>Phil Edmunds added that they are aware of the existing Sedibeng Water pipeline running parallel to the N18 and in close proximity to the proposed site, and the would therefore be in contact with Sedibeng Water.</p> <p>The possibility of trucking in water from Naledi Local Municipality would also be assessed.</p>
<p>Adèle Oberholzer reiterated that the harvesting of used water be considered.</p>	<p>Phil Edmunds confirmed that this will be considered during the WUL application.</p>
<p>Chris van Zyl enquired that when the plant is decommissioned, if the soil will be rehabilitated to its original state e.g. grazing field.</p>	<p>Phil Edmunds responded that the design, and application, is for a lifespan of 20 years. It can be confirmed that the soil will be rehabilitated to its original state after the 20-year operation phase of the project.</p>

	Provision of funds for rehabilitation is not a requirement by the Department of Energy for renewable projects.
Chris van Zyl informed the project team that rehabilitation funds are a debatable point when considering the track record of the Department of Mineral Resources. It was recommended that developers make provision for rehabilitation and also be held responsible for the rehabilitation of the soil.	Phil Edmunds informed the attendees that renewable projects are not the same as the development of a mine. In terms of renewable projects, reputable developers will build up funds for rehabilitation. It needs to be noted that adjacent landowners' can also take up the responsibility to ensure that rehabilitation does take place as per the rehabilitation plan documented in the Environmental Management Programme.
Adèle Oberholzer asked what will happen with the development after its 20-year life span.	Mike Levington replied that in Europe the trend is to upgrade the plant with new technology when a project nears its lifespan. The re-powering of such a plant will expand the operation time of the plant. If not, as developer they have an obligation to rehabilitate the site to its original state or it can be re-used for a similar type of development. There is also a possibility that once the development is up and running, that the project could be sold to another investor.
Chris van Zyl raised the concern that should the project be sold to another owner, that the new owner will not have the same obligation to properly manage and maintain the site and attend to the decommissioning process. He informed the project team that it is believed that the developer must be held personally responsible for the re-instatement of the property after its lifespan.	Mike Levington responded that it is important to note that the environmental impacts associated with this proposed project. In addition the environmental (and other) obligations stay with the project, whoever the owners are down the line Should the project be decommissioned after its lifespan of 20-years, most of the structure materials will be sold as scrap metal.
Lukas van Dyk enquired as to where the access road to the site is being proposed.	Thalita Botha replied that there is currently not a layout plan. Post-meeting note: The main access road will be constructed from the N18.
Adèle Oberholzer commented that the N18 (Kimberley-Vryburg Road) carries heavy traffic especially by trucks.	Nicolene Venter thanked Adèle Oberholzer for the comment.

Chris van Zyl enquired whether blasting will be done.	Mike Levington replied that no blasting will be done due to dolomite in the area. Drilling will take place.
Flippie Kriel asked for clarification purposes whether the power generated by the proposed project whether it will be fed into Vryburg's electricity network.	Mike Levington responded that the power generated will be fed into the national electricity grid network, therefore it will be sold to Eskom.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Nicolene Venter thanked the attendees for their valuable inputs into the Basic Assessment process. The attendees were informed that they will be notified when the Basic Assessment Report is available for review and comment. The meeting was closed at 15:30.

Nicolene Venter

From: Savannah Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 9, 2019 6:35 PM
To: Tshepo Bloom; Lillian Bome; Lukas Ekhelton; Arnold Makuena; Gilbert Sehlolo
Cc: nicolene@savannahsa.com
Subject: Moeding Solar PV Facility: Focus Group Meeting Notes (Monday, 06 August 2018)
Attachments: SE2141-FGM Minutes Naledi LM_Final 08.01.2019 NV.pdf

Dear Naledi Local Municipality Officials,

Please find attached the notes of the Focus Group Meeting held on Monday, 06 August 2018.

Your inputs on the document is welcomed.

Kind regards,

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant | Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
Tel: +27 (0)11 656 3237 | Fax: +27 (0)86 684 0547

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

**BASIC ASSESSMENT AND
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS
MOEDING SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR VRYBURG,
NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

**NOTES OF FOCUS GROUP MEETING: NALEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY
HELD ON TUESDAY, 07 AUGUST 2018
VENUE: BOARDROOM, NALEDI LOCAL MUNICIPAL OFFICES, VRYBURG**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Nicolene Venter

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address

MOEDING SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR VRYBURG, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

Venue: Boardroom, Naledi Local Municipality, Vryburg

Date: Tuesday, 07 August 2018

Time: 09h00

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Nicolene Venter, Public Participation Practitioner, Savannah Environmental, welcomed all present and thanked the meeting attendees for availing themselves for the meeting. She provided an opportunity to the project team to introduce themselves and their role in the project. An opportunity was also provided for the attendees to introduce themselves to the project team.

Nicolene presented the Meeting Agenda and no additional points were added. The purpose of the meeting was presented as follows:

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- way forward and closure.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation	Position
Mr Tshepo Bloom	Naledi Local Municipality	Municipal Manager
Cllr Lillian Bome		Councillor Ward 5 (Dithakwaneng)
Cllr BJ Moholo		Councillor Ward 9
Mr Arnold Makuena		Manager: Town Planning & Stormwater Management
Mr Gilbert Sehlolo		Acting Manager: Electrical Services
Mr Lukas Ekhelton		Mayoral Management Committee: Infrastructure
Mr Mike Levington	Kabi Solar	Director
Mr Phil Edmunds		Director
Ms Thalita Botha	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Ms Nicolene Venter		Public Participation Practitioner

APOLOGIES

None Submitted

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Thalita Botha, Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), Savannah Environmental, presented the background to the proposed project by informing the attendees that Moeding Solar (Pty) Ltd ("Moeding Solar") is proposing the development of the Moeding Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility and associated infrastructure on Portion 1 of the farm Champions Kloof 731, Portion 4 and the Remaining Extent of Portion 3 of the farm Waterloo 730 and the farm Rosendal 673 situated approximately 8km south of Vryburg, located within the Naledi Local Municipality and within the greater Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality in the North West Province.

It was explained that the project site is located within Zone 6 of the Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ), known as the Vryburg REDZ. The procedure to be followed in applying for environmental authorisation for a large-scale project in a REDZ was formally gazetted on 16 February 2018 (in GN113 and GN114). As the project is located within one of the eight REDZ areas, the Moeding Solar PV Facility is subjected to a Basic Assessment (BA) and not a full EIA process.

The proposed project will have a contracted capacity of up to 100MW, and will make use of multiple arrays (static or tracking) of PV solar panels. The development footprint for the proposed facility is anticipated to be approximately 300ha in extent and the infrastructures associated with the solar PV facility will include:

- » Arrays of PV panels (either a static or tracking PV system) with a contracted capacity of up to 100MW.
- » Mounting structures to support the PV panels.
- » On-site inverters to convert the power from a direct current to an alternating current.
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- » A new 132kV power line between the on-site substation and the Eskom grid connection point.
- » Battery storage with up to 6 hours of storage capacity.
- » Cabling between the project components, to be laid underground where practical.
- » Offices and workshop areas for maintenance and storage.
- » Temporary laydown areas.
- » Internal access roads and fencing around the development area.

The 132kV power line is proposed to be developed on the Remaining Extent of the farm Rosendal 673 and the Remaining Extent of Portion 3 of the farm Waterloo 730. Two power line alternatives are being considered:

- » Direct connection to the existing Mookodi Substation located on the northern portion of the project site.
- » A turn-in turn-out connection into the proposed Mookodi - Magopela 132kV power line (along the eastern boundary of the project site).

The development of a 132kV Moeding Collector Substation, another project proposed on the same project site was also presented. An application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) is yet to be submitted.

She informed the attendees that although the project triggers an Environmental Impact Assessment process, the proposed Moeding Solar PV falls within a declared REDZ and for this reason that a Basic Assessment process will be undertaken. A shortened timeframe of 57 days for processing the application is applicable.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Mr Arnold Makuena asked whether the Environmental Authorisation process include the Rezoning Application.	Mike Levington replied that the Rezoning Application process will be a separate process and as developers, they will be in contact with the Local Municipality directly.
Mr Tshepo Bloom asked for clarification purposes whether the Collector Substation will be a separate Application or is it included in this Basic Assessment process.	Thalita Botha confirmed that the Collector Substation will form part of a seperate Basic Assessment process. There are two proposed alternative locations that will considered of which one is on Portion 4 of the Farm Waterloo 730 and another on Portion 1 of Champions Kloof 731.
Mr Arnold Makuena informed the project team that water is a highly sensitive matter in the area and that is both surface and groundwater. The project team was cautioned about water usage during construction and the operational phase of the project.	Mike Levington thanked the Officials for reiterating the concern and informed the attendees that the project team was made aware of this matter by the adjacent landowners as well.
Mr Tshepo Bloom reiterated the water crisis in Vryburg and informed the project team that there is a huge water shortage to Huhudi which results that they do not have water for days.	Mike Levington responded that they will contact Sedibeng Water to determine whether water for the construction phase can be provided from the water pipeline that passes the site.
Mr Tshepo Bloom informed Mr Levington that he, his Officials, representatives from the District Municipality and the Department of Water and Sanitation must be part of the consultation between Kabi Solar and Sedibeng Water.	Mike Levington acknowledged the request and explained that when the project is at that phase, all the relevant role players as mentioned, will be contacted. Mike Levington informed the attendees that there is a constant improvement in technology and there is a possibility that a dry-cleaning system might be used for cleaning the panels.

<p>Mr Tshepo Bloom raised the concern that in terms of social impacts, that development such as these would have a negative impact in terms of food security for the country due to the footprint taken up from agricultural potential land.</p>	<p>Thalita Botha informed the Officials that impacts on soils and agricultural potential and the impacts on the social and socio-economic environment will be assessed as part of the Basic Assessment process and the impacts and mitigation measures will be documented in the Basic Assessment Report.</p>
<p>Mr Tshepo Bloom raised the concern that these types of developments might have the same social impacts as mining i.e. the developer leaves the area and leave the Municipality with social problems.</p>	<p><i>Post-meeting note: The majority of the project site has a very low to moderately low land capability and is considered suitable for livestock grazing with management practices in place.</i></p>
<p>Mr Lukas Ekhelton reiterated the water crisis experienced by the Local Municipality and requested that Kabi Solar come up with possible technical solutions especially during the construction phase.</p>	<p>Mike Levington acknowledged the request.</p>
<p>Mr Tshepo Bloom informed the project team that they might want to consider using recycled water from their sewage plant project.</p>	<p>Mike Levington acknowledged the recommendation and replied that the project team will look into the usage of recycled water from the sewage plant.</p>
<p>Mr Arnold Makuena requested that detailed maps and/or shapefiles be provided to the Planning Department.</p>	<p>Thalita responded that a map detailing the project layout assessed as part of the BA process will be included in the Basic Assessment Report.</p> <p><i>Post-meeting note: Should the project be should the project be awarded Preferred Bidder status, the final layout will be shared with the Planning Department.</i></p>
<p>Mr Tshepo Bloom requested that a site visit be arranged which will include him and key identified Officials from the Municipality.</p>	<p>Mike Levington acknowledged the request and will be discussed by the project team.</p>
<p>Mr Tshepo Bloom enquired whether there are more than one affected landowner on whose property the proposed development is planned.</p>	<p>Mike Levington responded that the properties on which the photovoltaic facility is proposed, are owned by one landowner which is the Tiger Kloof Educational Institution.</p>
<p>Cllr Moholo asked how many job opportunities there would be for the local community members.</p>	<p>Thalita Botha responded that over a 12 – 18 months construction period that there might be approximately 800 jobs available of which an average of 60% would be unskilled labour. During the operation phase of the plant, it is envisaged that there will be 8 to 10 skilled people employed.</p> <p>Mike Levington added that there would also be training opportunities for local community</p>

	members for areas such as security, electricians, etc.
Cllr Moholo asked whether a Steering Committee will be established prior to the construction phase of the plant.	<p>Mike Levington responded that should the project be awarded Preferred Bidder status, that social development and investment is one of the key sign-off submissions required by the Department of Energy. It can therefore be confirmed that a collaborative process will be followed prior to the construction phase.</p> <p>The Officials was informed that this proposed project will be submitted in Bidding Round 6 as set out by the Department of Energy and this round is envisaged to be in November 2019.</p>

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Nicolene Venter thanked the attendees for their valuable inputs into the Basic Assessment (BA) process. The attendees were informed that they will be notified when the BA Report is available for review and comment. The meeting was closed at 10:30.

Nicolene Venter

From: Savannah Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 9, 2019 6:44 PM
To: Gail du Toit; Maxwell Masasi
Cc: nicolene@savannahsa.com; leoncferris@tigerkloof.org
Subject: Moeding Solar PV Facility: Focus Group Meeting Notes (Tuesday, 07 August 2018)
Attachments: SE2141-FGM TKEI_Final 08.01.2019 NV.pdf

Dear Mrs Du Toit and Colleagues,

Please find attached the notes of the Focus Group Meeting held on Tuesday, 07 August 2018.

Your inputs on the document is welcomed.

Dear Leon: Would you please be so kind and provide copies of these meeting notes to Ms Cecily Salmon, Ms Shirley Moulder and Mr Brian du Toit. We do not have e-mail addresses for them.

Kind regards,

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant | Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
Tel: +27 (0)11 656 3237 | Fax: +27 (0)86 684 0547

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MOEDING SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR VRYBURG, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

Venue: Boardroom, Tiger Kloof Educational Institution, Vryburg

Date: Tuesday, 07 August 2018

Time: 11h00

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MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation	Position
Ms Cecily Salmon	Solon Foundation	Executive Director
Ms Shirley Moulder	Tiger Kloof Educational Institution	Chairperson & Board Member
Ms Gail du Toit		Director
Mr Brian du Toit		Maintenance Manager
Mr Maxwell Masasi		Farm Manager
Mr Mike Levington		Director
Mr Phil Edmunds	Kabi Solar	Director
Ms Thalita Botha	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Ms Nicolene Venter		Public Participation Practitioner

APOLOGIES

None submitted.

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- » A turn-in turn-out connection into the proposed Mookodi - Magopela 132kV power line (along the eastern boundary of the project site).

The development of a 132kV Moeding Collector Substation, another project proposed on the same project site was also presented. An application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) is yet to be submitted.

She informed the attendees that although the project triggers an Environmental Impact Assessment process, the proposed Moeding Solar PV falls within a declared REDZ and for this reason that a Basic

Assessment process will be undertaken. A shortened timeframe of 57 days for processing the application is applicable.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Ms Shirley Moulder asked for clarification purposes whether the red zones as indicated on the Environmental Sensitivity Map are areas that are excluded for development.	Thalita Botha replied that the red is indicative of the 55m buffer zone placed around high Heritage sensitive area and is also reported as no-go areas.
Ms Gail du Toit requested that the Basic Assessment Report be couriered to Tiger Kloof Educational Institution when available for review and comment.	Nicolene Venter confirmed that a CD containing the Basic Assessment Report will be couriered as requested.
Ms Shirley Moulder requested that Savannah Environmental do a presentation to the scholars not only about the proposed project but also what entails an Environmental Authorisation as this could be a career option for the scholars. It was also suggested that the presentation be done to surrounding schools i.e. Huhudi.	Thalita Botha acknowledged the request and replied that the request will be discussed with Savannah Environmental's directors. <i>Post meeting note: Savannah Environmental has been appointed as the independent Environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and prepare the BA Report for Moeding Solar. Such a presentation does not form part of the Basic Assessment and falls outside of Savannah Environmental's scope.</i>
Mr Maxwell Masasi commented that the concern regarding global warming is being raised during talks and debates regarding renewable projects.	Kabi Solar is very aware of the issues around climate change and its effects on areas such as Vryburg. It is in discussions with Tiger Kloof Educational Institution on educational initiatives in this regards that will assist leaners at the school on this issue.
Ms Cecily Salmon enquired as to who else have been identified as key stakeholders such as a lepidopterist.	Nicolene Venter replied that various environmental organisations are registered on the project database i.e. BirdLife Africa, Wildlife & Environment Society of South Africa, etc.
Ms Shirley Moulder enquired whether the project will investigate and assess the impact on water resources.	Mike Levington responded that water source and the associated impacts have been raised throughout the consultation process. It needs to be noted that the Water Use License Application (WULA) does not form part of this Basic Assessment process but forms part of a number of licenses that needs to be applied for and in place when submitting the project in the Department of Energy's next bidding round.

<p>Ms Shirley Moulder informed the project team of the meaning of the name Moeding which means <i>Hope and Spring</i> and that the Board of Directors, Staff and scholars of Tiger Kloof Educational Institution are positive toward the proposed project.</p>	<p>Nicolene Venter thanked the Chairlady for the background provided and the positive approach toward the proposed project.</p>
<p>Ms Shirley Moulder asked whether the various specialist will physically be present on the site for their assessments.</p>	<p>Thalita Botha responded that all the specialists will undertake site investigations as part of their specialist assessments.</p>
<p>Ms Cecily Salmon asked for clarification purposes who is fulfilling what role in the Application.</p>	<p>Thalita Botha replied the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant is Moeding Solar (Pty) Ltd – should all applications be approved and be successful in the Bidding process, they will develop the plant and will be managing the plant during its operation phase. • Savannah Environment has been appointed by Moeding Solar (Pty) Ltd to undertake the Basic Assessment process for the Environmental Authorisation application,
<p>Ms Cecily Salmon enquired as to why Kabi Solar did not appoint a local environmental company.</p>	<p>Mike Levington replied that it is preferred to use companies with a good track record.</p>
<p>Ms Shirley Moulder informed the attendees that discussions between the Board of Directors and Kabi Solar had started approximately four (4) years ago and that these discussions did not form part of the Basic Assessment process.</p>	<p>Nicolene Venter thanked the Chairlady for the background information shared with those present.</p>
<p>Ms Cecily Salmon enquired whether there will be job opportunities for local community members.</p>	<p>Thalita Botha responded that over a 12 – 18 months construction period that there might be approximately 800 jobs available of which an average of 60% would be unskilled labour.</p> <p>During the operation phase of the plant, it is envisaged that there will 8 to 10 skilled people employed.</p> <p>Mike Levington added that there would also be training opportunities for local community members for areas such as security, electricians, etc. Should the project be awarded Preferred Bidder status, that social development and investment is one of the key sign-off submissions required by the Department of Energy.</p>

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Nicolene Venter thanked the attendees for their valuable inputs into the Basic Assessment process. The attendees were informed that they will be notified when the Basic Assessment Report is available for review and comment. The meeting was closed at 12h30.