

Noko Solar Power Project: Comments and Response Report

Comments received prior to the release of the Draft Basic Assessment Report and during the initial Public Participation 30-day comment period

| Organisation | Person | Issue or comment raised (see Appendix C5 & C6 of the Draft Basic Assessment report) | Addressing or incorporation of issue or comment |
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| MTN | Shirley Hlabisa | <p>In a letter dated 14 October 2021, MTN provided comment on the wayleave application which stated that:</p> <p>No MTN distribution services are affected by this application and MTN has no objection for the proposed application.</p> | <p>It is noted that there are no MTN distribution services are affected by the application and that there is no objection to the development. No comments or issues raised as part of the BA process.</p> |
| Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE): Biodiversity Directorate | Ms. Tsholofelo Sekonko | <p>In an email dated 02 November 2021, the following feedback was received from DFFE: Biodiversity Directorate in response to the Notification of the BA process for the project:</p> <p>DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the Basic Assessment process for the proposed Noko solar photovoltaic (PV) facility. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Ms Makitla and Ms Maifo (both copied on this email).</p> <p>Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries will be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota.</p> | <p>The feedback from the Biodiversity Directorate is acknowledged, as well as the process of the Directorate for the submission of Public Participation Documents.</p> |

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| ESKOM | Mr. John Geering | <p>In an email dated 02 November 2021, the following feedback was received from Eskom in response to the Notification of the BA process for the project:</p> <p>Please find attached Eskom general requirements for work at or near Eskom infrastructure and servitudes. Find attached also an Eskom setbacks guideline for renewable developments near Eskom infrastructure and servitudes for the applicants consideration during planning. Please send me a KMZ file of the affected property, proposed development area and proposed gird connection</p> | <p>It can be confirmed that the Eskom general requirements for work near or at Eskom Servitudes and Infrastructure and the Eskom setback guideline have been submitted to the Applicant for their consideration and implementation.</p> <p>The KMZ (Google Earth) file requested of the affected property, the proposed development area and the proposed grid connection was submitted to Mr. Geering via email by Ms. Christia van Dyk on 02 November 2021.</p> |
| South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) | Ms. Natasha Higgitt | <p>In an email dated, 02 November 2021, the following feedback was received from SAHRA in response to the Notification of the BA process for the project:</p> <p>Please note that all development applications are processed via our online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link: http://sahra.org.za/sahris/. We do not accept emailed, posted, hardcopy, faxed, website links or DropBox links as official submissions.</p> <p>Please create an application on SAHRIS for each EA application and upload all documents pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation Application Process. As per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources</p> | <p>The feedback on the required process received from SAHRA is acknowledged.</p> <p>The project was submitted and relevant documents uploaded on the SAHRIS portal under the Case ID: 17444, as per the requirements.</p> |

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| | | <p>Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA.</p> <p>Once all documents including all appendices are uploaded to each case application, please ensure that the status of each case is changed from DRAFT to SUBMITTED. Please ensure that all documents produced as part of the EA process are submitted as part of each application.</p> | |
| <p>North West Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism (NWDEDECT)</p> | <p>Ms. Eva Mahlangu</p> | <p>In an email dated, 03 November 2021, the following feedback was received from NWDEDECT in response to the Notification of the BA process for the project:</p> <p>Can You Please sent Hard copy of report to Department for comment Attention to Eva Mahlangu to the following Address: Agri- center Building, Opposite to Convention Center Office E35</p> | <p>The feedback from the NWDEDECT is acknowledged. In an email dated 03 November 2021, Ms. Christia van Dyk responded to them by stating that:</p> <p>We are planning on releasing the Draft Basic Assessment Report for the Noko Solar Power Plant early in December. We will send a hard copy of the report to the Department for comment then.</p> |
| <p>South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)</p> | <p>Mr Selaelo Matlhane</p> | <p>In a letter dated 04 November 2021, Mr. Matlhane on behalf of SAROA provided the following comment:</p> <p>SARAO has undertaken a high-level impact assessment and based on the information provided it was determined that the project represents a low risk of interference to the SKA radio telescope with a compliance surplus of 119.42 dBm/Hz. As such, we do not have any objection to the proposed development.</p> | <p>It is noted that SARAO has no objection to the development. No comments or issues raised as part of the BA process.</p> |

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| SENTECH | Mr. Serame Motlhake | <p>In a letter dated 05 November 2021, SENTECH provided comment on the wayleave application which stated that:</p> <p>We wish to advise that SENTECH SOC Ltd (“SENTECH”) has received an application from Noko Solar Power Plant (RF) (Pty) Ltd (“the applicant”), which plans to construct one solar PV facility as described in annexure 1, hereafter referred to as “Noko Solar Power Plant”, in accordance with the provisions of Section 29(1) (b) of the Electronic Communications Act no. 36 of 2005 (“the Act”).</p> <p>SENTECH has analysed the information provided by the applicant in accordance with the provisions of Section 29(1) (c) of the Act, and specifically the location of the site and confirm that there would be limited degradation of SENTECH transmitted Terrestrial UHF/VHF Television (TV), and/or FM radio services in the planned deployment area, as indicated in annexure 1.</p> <p>SENTECH hereby grants the applicant approval to proceed with the construction of its energy project at the site subject to the terms and conditions stated in the letter (see appendix C5)</p> | It is noted that SENTECH has no objection to the development. No comments or issues raised as part of the BA process. |
| Telkom (Openserve) | Mr. Gary Heslop (Operations Manager) | <p>In a letter dated 08 November 2021, Mr. Heslop on behalf of Telkom (Openserve) provided the following comment:</p> <p>The development of up to 150MW Solar Power Plant and associated infrastructure on Portion 15, 19, 45 and 46 of the Farm Goedgenoeg No. 433, Registration Division IP, North West</p> | It is noted that Telkom has no objection to the development. No comments or issues raised as part of the BA process. |

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| | | <p>Province by Noko Solar Power Plant (RF) Pty Ltd - TELKOM/OPENSERVE AFFECTED</p> <p>With reference to your above-mentioned application, I hereby inform you that the proposed services are approved in terms of section 22 of the Electronic Communications Act 36 of 2005.</p> | |
| South African National Roads Agency SOC Ltd (SANRAL) | Statutory Control Officer (Northern Region) | <p>In a letter dated 16 November 2021, SANRAL provided the following comment:</p> <p>SANRAL has no objection to the establishment of the Noko Solar Power Plant (RF)(PTY) Ltd as no national roads will be affected.</p> | It is noted that SANRAL has no objection to the development. No comments or issues raised as part of the BA process. |
| Cell C | Tiyani Hlongwane | <p>In a letter dated 24 November 2021, Cell C provided comment on the wayleave application which stated that:</p> <p>Wayleave Application Ref's: Farm Goedgenoeg No. 433. We acknowledge receipt of your request regarding the abovementioned subject matters. Cell C HAS NO SERVICES IN THE AREA.</p> | It is noted that there are no Cell C services in the area and that there is no objection to the development. No comments or issues raised as part of the BA process. |