

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) is South Africa's principal environmental regulatory instrument. NEMA and its Regulations promulgated under the amended NEMA in Government Notice Regulation (GNR.) 982, 983, 984 and 985 of 2014; specify activities subject to environmental authorisation prior to implementation. Activities listed under GNR. 983 (Listing Notice 1) and 985 (Listing Notice 3) require environmental authorisation through the undertaking of a Basic Assessment (BA) and those listed under GNR. 984 (Listing Notice 2) require a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) to be undertaken.

This proposed development triggers activities listed under GN.R 983 and GN.R 985 and therefore requires a Basic Assessment to be undertaken to obtain environmental authorisation in terms of NEMA. The potential listed activities associated with the project are summarised below.

- § GN.R 983 Listing Notice 1: 1, 12, 15, 17 and 19
- § GN.R 985 Listing Notice 3: 12 and 14

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

The following steps have been undertaken to notify I&APs:

- § Newspaper adverts have been placed in Die Burger on the 9th December 2015 and The Capetowner on the 10th December 2015.
- § Two Site notices were placed at the Robben Island Gateway at the V&A Waterfront.
- § Distribution of this BID to potential I&APs.

The draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and draft Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) will be made available for public comment and review. All comments received will be incorporate into a comments and response report and included in the final BAR to be submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) for consideration.

All registered I&APs will be notified of the final decision of the DEA. The public and I&APs will also be informed of the procedure to follow should they decide to appeal the decision issued by the DEA.

BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION FACILITY ON ROB BEN ISLAND, WESTERN CAPE.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

PROPONENT: ROB BEN ISLAND MUSEUM C/O DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This background information document (BID) introduces all stakeholders to the proposed project. This document forms part of the environmental authorisation process undertaken as a component of the stakeholder consultation process and is intended to provide stakeholders with adequate information on the project.

The BID details the project, the environmental authorisation process, the role of the stakeholders in the process as well as seeking to encourage stakeholders to comment on the project, ask questions and raise issues that are to be included in the project documents. Aside from this document, the Draft Basic Assessment Report will be made available for stakeholders to comment on.

The National Department of Tourism is proposing to install land mounted Photovoltaic (PV) Technology on Robben Island to power the desalination plant and reduce the amount of diesel currently being utilised on the island. The PV plant will have a generation capacity of approximately 500 kW.

Project Location: Robben Island, Western Cape.

Who are I&APs?

Any person, group of persons or organisation interested in and / or affected by the proposed activity or development.

WSP|PB has been appointed by the National Department of Tourism as the independent environmental assessment practitioner to facilitate the Stakeholder Engagement and to undertake the Basic Assessment process for the Robben Island Museum to obtain the required environmental authorisation.

To become a registered I&APs and ensure all comments and queries regarding this project are accurately documented and addressed please forward your comments and contact details by the **1st February 2016**.

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The National Department of Tourism is proposing to install land mounted Photovoltaic (PV) Technology on Robben Island to improve its sustainability efforts and reduce power generation costs on the Island.

The proposed facility will cover at least 1ha. All the sites being investigated are relatively flat with limited biodiversity value. The PV plant will have the generation capacity of approximately 500kW.

Two feasible sites have been identified and will be progressed as potential site alternatives for the location of the proposed PV plant. Both sites will be assessed as part of the Basic Assessment Process. The two sites are as follows:

- Site Alternative 1: The old cricket pitch located within the urban precinct.
- Site Alternative 2: Undeveloped land located adjacent to the old piggery and reservoir.

Figure 1 below shows the location of the two sites on Robben Island.

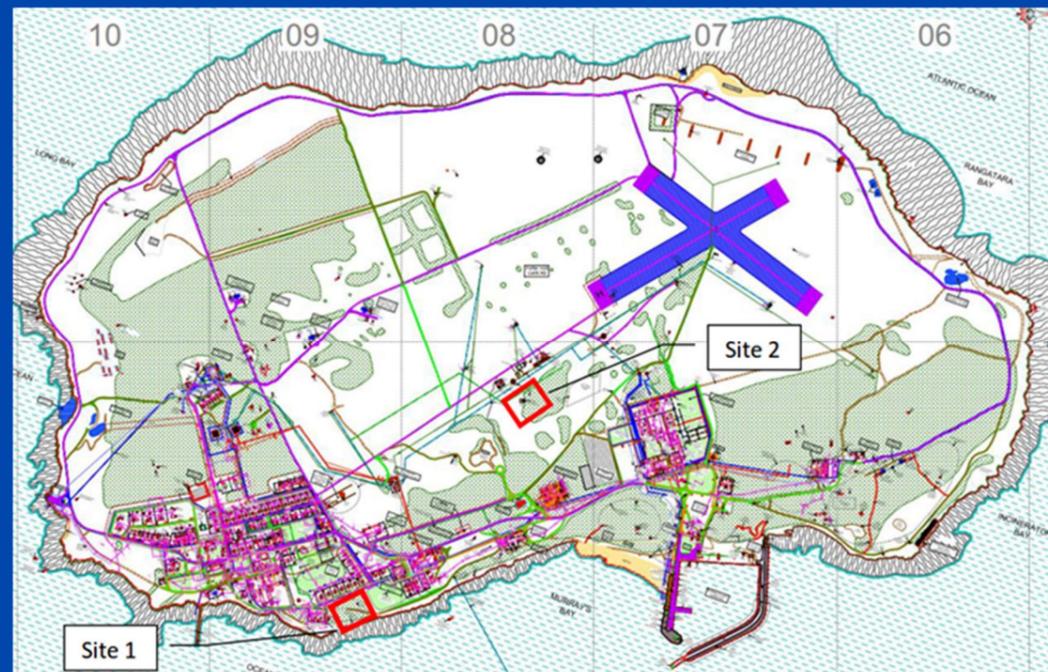


Figure 1: The location of the Site Alternatives 1 and 2

Robben Island is located approximately 6.9 km west of the Coast of Bloubergstrand, Cape Town and approximately 12 km northwest of the V&A waterfront. The Island has a long history and is of great cultural and heritage significance. Political Prisoners were held on the Island since the 17th century and became a prison for both political prisoners and convicted prisoners in 1961 until 1991. Robben Island was declared a World Heritage Site in 1991. Figures 2 and 3 show the proposed positioning of the PV facilities at the two site alternatives.

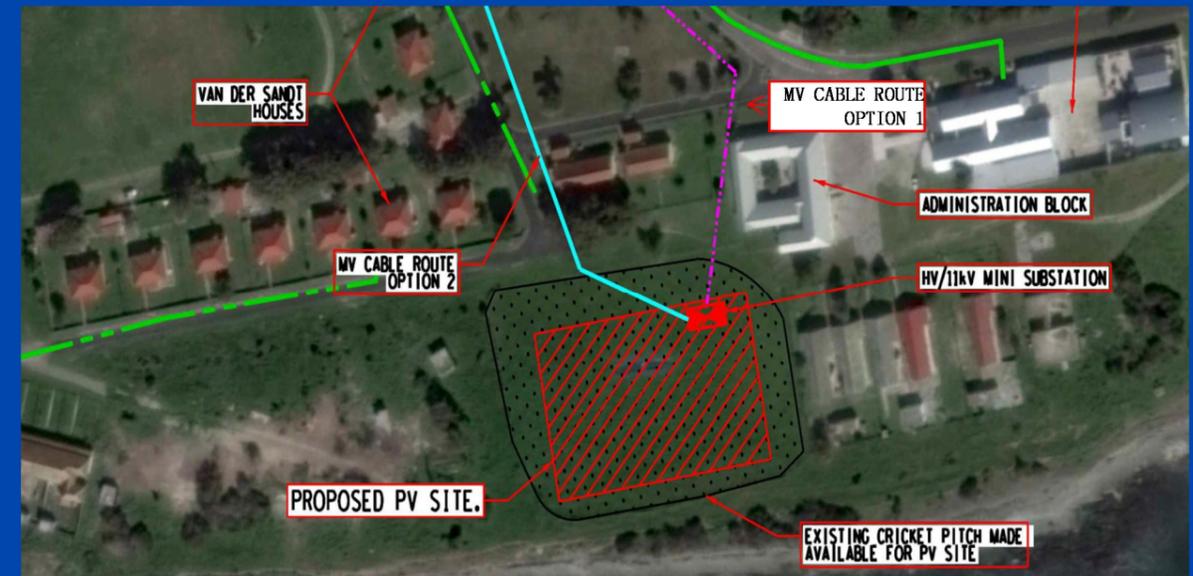


Figure 2: The proposed PV Facility at Site Alternative 1



Figure 3: The proposed PV Facility at Site Alternative 2