ENVIRONMENT



16 April 2013

Dear Interested and Affected Party

Per Email Number of pages: 02

> SEF REF NO.: 504744 DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/514 NEAS Ref: DEA/EIA/0001785/2013

INVITATION TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY (I&AP) AND COMMENT ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED MAREETSANE BATHO-BATHO SOLAR PV FACILITY NEAR MAREETSANE, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

Kgatelopele Private Equity and Venture Capital (Pty) Ltd proposes to establish a 30 Mega Watt (MW) **Solar Photo Voltaic (PV) Facility** and the associated powerlines which will evacuate electricity generated by the proposed facility to the National Grid in order to increase local electrical capacity for the Mareetsane Community. The proposed site is approximately 140 hectares (ha) in extent, located on Tribal Land Mareetsane Batho-Batho approximately 10 km south-west of the Batho-Batho Village within the jurisdiction of the Ratlou Local Municipality, Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality in the North West Province.

In terms of Government Notice No. R.543 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended (NEMA), read with Government Notice No. R.544 (Listing Notice No. 1: Activities 9, 10, 11, 18 and 22, Government Notice No. R.546 (Listing No. 3: Activities 4, 14 and 16) and Government Notice No. R.545 (Listing No. 2: Activities 1 and 15) of **NEMA a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) Process is required in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation (EA)** from the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) for the abovementioned project.

Kgatelopele Private Equity and Venture Capital (Pty) Ltd thus appointed Strategic Environmental Focus (Pty) Ltd (SEF), as independent environmental assessment practitioners, to facilitate the S&EIR Process for the proposed development.

The following S&EIR listed activities in terms of Government Notice No. R.545 (Listing Notice No. 2) of NEMA are triggered by the project:

Activity No: 1: The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more.

Activity No: 15: Physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land for residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the total area to be transformed is 20 hectares or more.

In terms of Section 21(c) and (i) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), the proposed Solar PV Facility and associated powerlines may also require a Water Use License (WUL) for the possible impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse; and altering the beds, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse. This is largely due to drainage lines within close proximity to the proposed site as well as known wetlands identified on site.

Interested and affected parties (I&APs) have an opportunity to **comment on the Draft Scoping Report** by providing issues of concern and/or suggestions for enhanced benefits and/or alternatives and to ensure that the DEA has sufficient information to make a decision.

PRETORIA HEAD OFFICE

PO BOX 74785 LYNNWOOD RIDGE 0040

TEL +27 12 349 1307 FAX +27 12 349 1229

KWAZULU-NATAL

PO BOX 227 PAVILION 3611

TEL +27 31 266 1277 FAX +27 31 266 6880

CAPE REGION

PO BOX 1330 DURBANVILLE 7551

TEL +27 21 979 3822 FAX +27 21 979 3830

> www.sefsa.co.za sef@sefsa.co.za

The **Draft Scoping Report** is available for comment from **Tuesday**, **16 April 2013** to **Tuesday**, **28 May 2013** at the following venue (see Table 1) and on the SEF website (see below for more information).

Name of public venue	Name of Contact Person	Contact Number(s)	Viewing Times	
Mareetsane Tribal Office 636	Chief G.G. Motshegare	072 630 6139	Mon - Fri (09h30 to 16h00)	
Zone 1, Batho-Batho, 2716			and Sat ((09h30 to 14h00)	

Should you wish to participate in the S&EIR process by contributing issues of concerns/comments, please register as an I&AP by completing the enclosed Registration and Comment Sheet or you can visit SEF's website at http://www.sefsa.co.za. To register as an I&AP or comment on the project, click on "Stakeholder Engagement". Click on the "register" button and complete the compulsory fields to register as an I&AP. On completion of these fields, you will receive an email titled "Stakeholder Engagement – New Registration". Click on client login and use the emailed details to login in and view the Draft Scoping Report for the Mareetsane Batho-Batho Solar PV Facility and the associated appendices. Should you have any problems in obtaining the information from the Internet, please feel free to contact SEF for assistance.

The comments are due on or before Tuesday, 28 May 2013.

Meanwhile, should you have any questions, or would like to obtain more information, please feel free to contact Mr. Mandla Zuma, at Tel: (012) 349 1307, Fax: (012) 349 1229 or **E-mail:** <u>mandla@sefsa.co.za</u>.

We look forward to receiving your comments!

Yours sincerely

* Electronically signed

Mr. Mandla Zuma For Strategic Environmental Focus

* An original signed copy can be made available on request.

SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING (S&EIR) FOR THE MAREETSANE BATHO-BATHO SOLAR PV FACILITY COMMENT SHEET FOR THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT			
	SEF Ref: 504744 DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/514 NEAS Ref: DEA/EIA/0001785/2013		
TitleName	2. I have the following comments on the public participation process:		
Surname			
Company Name / Interest			
Postal or Residential Address			
Area			
Postal Code			
Tel ()			
Mobile	3. I have the following comments on the EIA		
Fax ()	technical process:		
Email address			
Date Commented: DD/MM/YYYY			
COMMENTS (You are welcome to attach separate sheets)			
1. The following issues must be considered during the Scoping Phase:			
	Please complete and return to SEF by no later than Tuesday, 28 May 2013		
	Attention: Mr Mandla Zuma Fax: 086 640 5815		
	Email: mandla@sefsa.co.za Post: PO Box 74785; Lynnwood Ridge, 0040		
	Please feel free to phone us on (012) 349 1307 should you not have access to a fax or e-mail facility.		
	Thank you for your participation.		
	Please rest assured that your comments will form part of the final Scoping Report that will be submitted to the decision making authority.		