

4 April 2016

Dear Stakeholder

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS
NOUPOORT CONCENTRATED SOLAR POWER (CSP) PROJECT,
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Cresco Energy (Pty) Ltd proposes the construction of a concentrated solar power (CSP) project known as the Noupoort CSP Project on the Remaining Extent of the Farm 207, Portion 1 and Portion 4 of the Carolus Poort 167, situated approximately 4 km to the north west of Noupoort. The proposed site falls under the jurisdiction of the Umsobomvu Local Municipality and is located within the greater Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Northern Cape Province. The contracted capacity of the Noupoort CSP Project will be up to 150MW with a development footprint of approximately 900 ha in extent.

The purpose of the proposed Noupoort CSP Project will be to evacuate the generated power into the Eskom electricity grid. The project is proposed to be bid into the Department of Energy's (DoE) Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement (REIPPP) Programme.

Infrastructure associated with the CSP Plant will include:

- » Parabolic trough technology utilising a heat transfer fluid (HTF);
- » Energy centre;
- » Power block;
- » Water supply pipeline;
- » Water storage tanks;
- » Water treatment plant;
- » Lined evaporation ponds;
- » Workshop and office buildings;
- » Access roads and fencing around the development area;
- » On-site substation and overhead power line (to connect to the Eskom electricity grid); and
- » Temporary laydown areas

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

In terms of sections 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act 107 of 1998) as read with Government Notices R982 to R985 a Scoping and EIA process is required to be undertaken for the proposed project. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) is the competent authority for the project in consultation with the Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC). In order to obtain authorisation, comprehensive, independent environmental studies must be undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014.

Savannah Environmental has been appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the required Scoping and EIA assessments to identify and assess all the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project, and propose appropriate mitigation and management measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). As part of these environmental studies, Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) will be actively involved through the public involvement process.

The department and/or the organisation which you represent has been identified as a commenting authority for the proposed project. **In this regard, please can you provide us with the name and contact details of the relevant contact person at your department who we would liaise with regarding this project.** By registering on the project database, you will receive all information relating to the project and will be provided with an opportunity to provide comment and input into the EIA process. A background information document (BID) providing further information on the project, the EIA process and Public Participation Process is attached for your perusal.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the proposed project. Our team welcomes your participation and looks forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind Regards

MRS GABRIELE WOOD
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND SOCIAL CONSULTANT
SAVANNAH ENVIRONMENTAL