

29 August 2012

Dear Organ of State

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROPOSED PRIESKA SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY
AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON A SITE NEAR PRIESKA,
NORTHERN CAPE
DEA REF NO. 14/12/16/3/3/2/313
NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

Jouren Solar (Pty) Ltd is proposing the establishment of a commercial solar energy facility and associated infrastructure on a site located approximately 30 km North-East of Prieska in the Northern Cape. Jouren Solar has identified a favourable site for consideration and evaluation as per the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed facility will hereafter be referred to as the Prieska Solar Energy Facility.

In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations published in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998), Jouren Solar requires authorisation from the National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) in consultation with the Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation, for the undertaking of the proposed solar energy facility. In terms of sections 24 and 24D of NEMA, as read with the EIA Regulations of GN R453 – GN R546 as amended, a Scoping and an EIA process are required.

In order to obtain authorisation, comprehensive, independent environmental studies must be undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations. This project has been registered under application reference number **14/12/16/3/3/2/313**.

Jouren Solar has appointed Savannah Environmental as the independent environmental consultants to undertake the Scoping and the EIA processes to identify and assess the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project.

The public participation process, which forms part of the overall EIA process, will also be undertaken by Savannah Environmental. **In this regard, please could you kindly 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.

Please find herewith the **Background Information Document** for the solar energy facility project. Please could you kindly submit your formal comments by sending written correspondence in this regard? All comments received will be submitted in the Scoping and EIA reports which will be submitted to the DEA. Comments can be made as written submission via fax, post or email.

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