



environmental specialists

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South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)
P.O. Box 4637
Cape Town
8001

Attention: Mr. Andrew Salomon

NOTIFICATION OF APPROVAL: THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A 75MW SOLAR FARM AND ASSOCIATED POWER LINES ON THE FARM GROOTSPRUIT 252/0, ODENDAALSRSUS RD.

The purpose of this letter is to notify you as registered Interested and/or Affected Party that the National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) granted Environmental Authorisation in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (June 2010) promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) for the following activities on the farm Grootspuit 252/0, Odendaalsrus RD as listed in Listing Notices 1, 2 or 3 (GN R. 544, 545 & 546):

Listed Activities	Activity/Project Description
GN R. 544 (10)i: The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity: Outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts	The facility will require the construction of a 132 kV overhead power line (Approximately 200m in length), to connect to the Eskom power grid.
GN R. 544 (22)ii: The construction of a road, outside urban areas: Where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres.	Although existing dirt roads will be utilised these will be upgraded and may be wider than 8 metres.
GN R. 545 (1): The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more.	Construction of a Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facility with a generating capacity of 75 MW on an area of approximately 180 ha. Mounting structures, inverters, step-up transformers, reticulation cables and medium voltage connection and protection equipment are ancillary infrastructure for the proposed facility
GN R. 545 (15): Physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land for residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the	The proposed solar energy facility will involve transforming undeveloped (agricultural) land use to industrial use of an area located outside an urban area and where the total area to be transformed will

total area to be transformed is 20 hectares or more.	be bigger than 20 hectares.
GN R. 546 (12)(a): The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation: Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004..	The proposed facility is located outside an urban area and will require the transformation of 180 ha of Endangered (EN) Vaal-Vet sandy Grassland (Gh 10) as listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA.

The applicant, locality and project reference number are given below:

Matjhabeng Local Municipality:

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Farm and Location</u>	<u>DEA Ref. Number</u>	<u>NEAS Ref. Number</u>	<u>Date Approved</u>
Solairedirect Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd	Grootspruit 252/0, Odendaalsrus RD	14/12/16/3/3/2/376 14/12/16/3/3/12/376/1	DEA/EIA/0001321/2012	10/07/2014

The Department is satisfied on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities as specified above.

A copy of the approved environmental authorisations has been attached to this notification letter.

Parties wishing to appeal against the decision should lodge a notice of intention to appeal with the Minister in terms of Regulation 61 (1) and 62(1) of the EIA Regulations within 20 days of the date of the Environmental Authorisation.

The original copies of notice of intention to appeal and appeal should be sent to the Minister by one of the following methods:

By facsimile: 012 320 7561
By post: Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001
By hand: 2nd Floor, Fedsure Building, North Tower,
Cnr. Lilian Ngoyi and Pretorius Streets, Pretoria

Please also take note that should you wish to appeal, a copy of the notice of intent to appeal form as well as a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection by the applicant, should be served to the applicant within 10 days of having submitted the notice of intent to appeal with the Minister in terms of Regulation 60(3) of the EIA Regulations.

Please refer to the attached Final Layout Plan of the proposed facility. You are hereby invited to provide any comments on this layout which will be incorporated into the Amended Final Layout Plan and will also be

included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for approval by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 051 444 4700 if you have any queries or concerns regarding this project.

Kind regards

Darius van Rensburg