

# PROPOSED GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR WOODHOUSE 1 AND WOODHOUSE 2 SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES

North-West Province

Public Participation Process Report

savannah  
environmental

t +27 (0)11 656 3237

f +27 (0)86 684 0547

e info@savannahsa.com

w www.savannahsa.com

**Prepared for:**

Genesis Eco-Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd  
P.O. Box 363  
Newlands  
Cape Town  
7725

**Prepared by:**

savannah  
environmental

## REPORT DETAILS

<b>Report Type</b>	Public Participation Process Report
<b>Project Name</b>	Establishment of 132kV Grid Connection Infrastructure for the Woodhouse 1 and Woodhouse 2 Solar Energy Facilities
<b>Project Code</b>	SE3143

### Prepared by:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Date</b>
Tumelo Mathulwe	Compilation	September 2021
Nondumiso Bulunga	Report Reviewer	September 2021
Jana de Jager	Final Reviewer	September 2021

**Report Revision** : Revision 0

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- C1-** Approved Public Participation Plan
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- C4:** Organs of State Correspondence
- C5-** I&AP Correspondence
- C6-** Comments Received
- C7-** Comments and Responses Report

**TERMINOLOGY/DEFINTIONS**

<b>Basic Assessment</b>	Basic Assessment is applied to activities that are considered less likely to have significant environmental impacts and, therefore, unlikely to require a full-blown and detailed Environmental Impact Assessment. A Basic Assessment Report is a more concise analysis of the environmental impacts of the proposed activity than a Scoping and EIA Report. However, Basic Assessment still requires public notice and participation, consideration of the potential environmental impacts of the activity, assessment of possible mitigation measures, and an assessment of whether there are any significant issues or impacts that might require further investigation.
<b>Interested and Affected Parties</b>	Means an interested and affected party contemplated in section 24(4)(d) of the Act, and which in terms of that section includes – • any person, group of persons or organizations interested in or affected by an activity; and • any organ of state that may have jurisdiction over any aspect of the activity.
<b>Public Participation Process</b>	Means a process in which the broader public, including interested and affected parties, are given an opportunity to be informed of a proposed application, invite them to comment on, or raise issues relevant to specific matters applicable to an application.
<b>Stakeholders</b>	A sub-group of the public whose interests may be positively or negatively affected by a proposal or activity and/or who are concerned with a proposal or activity and its consequences within the project study area. "Key stakeholders" are a smaller sub-group of I&APs. They are people who stand to be directly affected, representatives acting as spokespersons for their sectors, people whose local knowledge is important, people who may want to derail the process for personal gain, and all those who think they are key stakeholders.

**Definitions taken from NEMA EIA Regulations and Other Guideline Information Documents**

## CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

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### INTRODCUTION

Genesis Eco-Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd proposes the construction and operation of a 132kv power line, switching station and collector substation to connect the authorised Woodhouse Solar 1 and Woodhouse Solar 2 PV energy facilities to the Eskom grid via the existing Bophirima Substation. The grid connection infrastructure will consist of:

- » 132kV switching station (footprint up to 1ha)
- » 132kV power line (within 200m wide corridor)
- » Collector substation (footprint up to 1ha)
- » 33kV underground cables to connect to the Solar PV energy facilities' substations
- » Access roads to substation sites and service tracks (up to 4m wide) where no existing roads are available.

Two alternative Collector substation positions are considered as part of this assessment. As such, the 200m wide power line corridor is shared/common for the bulk of its length and deviates only to accommodate these two alternative positions for the Collector substation. This assessment, therefore, considers two alternative grid connection solutions, both originating at the same point, and terminating at Bophirima Substation.

The construction and operation of Woodhouse Solar Grid Connection is subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended), published in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) 107 of 1998.

Genesis Eco-Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd appointed Savannah Environmental as the independent environmental consultant to conduct the Basic Assessment (BA) process for the grid connection solution.

### BACKGROUND




This BA Report is also undertaken in line with Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). The development of the grid connection infrastructure is required to connect the authorised Woodhouse Solar 1 PV and Woodhouse Solar 2 PV energy facilities to the Eskom grid via the existing Bophirima Substation. This is considered as the grid connection solution for Woodhouse Solar 1 PV and Woodhouse Solar 2 PV Solar Development and includes switching and collector substations and a 132kV power line and associated infrastructures.


The BA process comprises of one phase and involves the identification and assessment of environmental impacts through specialist studies, as well as public participation. A Public Participation Process (PPP) proposed for the development is required by Regulation 41(2) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. The public participation process conducted for the grid connection infrastructure was approved by the Department on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

The sharing of information forms the basis of the PPP and offers the opportunity for the registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to become actively involved in the BA process which involves a detailed assessment of potentially significant positive and negative impacts. The PPP is designed to provide sufficient

and accessible information to registered I&APs in an objective manner. This report provides a detailed process of the PPP undertaken with the support of the following appendices as part of the proof of evidence for the application:

**Table 1 included appendices as part of this proof of consultation.**

Appendix	Relevance
<p>C1- Approved Public Participation Plan</p> 	<p>The approved public participation plan is a compliance with regulation GNR660 published on 05 June 2020 in terms of the Disaster Management Act (57/2002) and titled: Directions Regarding Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 Relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences. In compliance with section 5.1 and annexure 2 of these regulations, a public participation plan has been submitted to the competent authority (DFFE) and was approved on <b>20 April 2021</b> and implemented for this application and is included in Appendix C1 of the PPP Report.</p>
<p>C2- I&amp;AP Database</p>	<p>Regulation 42: An Interested and Affected database which represents government authorities, directly affected and adjacent landowners, as well as communities in and around the proposed project area was compiled and will continue to be updated until final submission of the EIA to the DFFE.</p>
<p>C3- Notification Material</p> 	<p>This Appendix includes proof of all public media documents as part of this project including sites notices, and newspaper advertisements. Regulation 40(1), Regulation 40(3), and Regulation 43 of NEMA requires all potential or registered interested and affected parties, including competent authority have access to project related information.</p>
<p>C4: Organs of State Correspondence</p> 	<p>Regulation 40(2) - Provide access to all project information that has the potential to influence any decision regarding the application, unless protected by law, and include consultation with Competent Authority, Organs of State &amp; key stakeholders. This appendix includes all correspondence between Savannah Environmental and any organ of state who may commented on the project.</p>
<p>C5- I&amp;AP Correspondence</p>	<p>Regulation 40(2) - Provide access to all project information that has the potential to influence any decision regarding the application, unless protected by law, and include consultation with registered I&amp;APs. This appendix includes all correspondence between Savannah Environmental and the registered I&amp;P who may commented on the project.</p>

<p>C6- Comments Received</p> 	<p>Regulation 44 – Comments need to be recorded. This appendix shows all proof of comments received in compliance with the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act and comments has been included as proof of evidence.</p>
<p>C7 - Comments and Responses Report</p>	<p>In terms of Regulation 44(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, comments need to be recoded and responded to and submitted to the Competent Authority to inform the decision on the application.</p>

## CHAPTER 2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS OBJECTIVES

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Public participation is an essential and regulatory requirement for an environmental authorisation process and is guided by Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014 (GN R326) (as amended). The purpose of public participation is clearly outlined in Regulation 40 of the EIA Regulations 2014 (GN R326), as amended, and is being followed for this proposed application.

The following objectives: for the environmental process is listed below:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed projects is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs;
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed projects; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

This Public Participation Process Report (PPPR) includes the following information:

- Chapter 1:** Introduction
- Chapter 2:** Public Participation Process Objectives
- Chapter 3:** Public Participation Process
- Chapter 4:** Methodology followed
- Chapter 5:** Key Issues Raised
- Chapter 6:** Decision Making Phase

As part of the support to this PPPR for the Public Participation Process (PPP) includes Appendices C1-C7 as part of the proof of consultation.

As part of the PPP, the consultation during the environmental regulatory process has been detailed below.

## CHAPTER 3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

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During the PPP, the following core PP activities were undertaken:

- » Stakeholders and I&APs were identified, and a database was developed to capture their information.
- » Background Information Document (BID) and letters were distributed to all registered I&APs together with the placement of a newspaper advert and site notices.
- » The Basic Assessment Report and associated documentation were made available for public comment for a period of 30 days.
- » Consultation with I&APs was undertaken (including various meetings held during the Draft Basic Assessment public commenting period);
- » Provide I&APs opportunities to comment on specialist findings, impact assessments and recommendations.
- » Suggestions, comments, and concerns from I&APs were collated and recorded in the Comments and Response Report (C&RR).
- » Inform and consider specialists and the proponent of I&APs comments.

## CHAPTER 4 METHODOLOGY FOLLOWED

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The first step in the public participation process was to identify relevant stakeholders and I&APs. This process was undertaken through utilising Savannah Environmentals' existing contacts and databases, recording responses to site notices and newspaper advertisements, as well as liaison with potentially affected parties<sup>1</sup> in the greater surrounding area, and a registration process involving the completion of a reply form distributed with the Background Information Document.

The legislative requirements indicates that specific media / materials be utilised as part of the PPP. Over and above the legislative requirements, the following media have been utilised for the PPP to inform stakeholders of the proposed project (refer to Table 1 for further details). Copies of the various Public Participation media/ materials used during the Basic Assessment process have been included as Appendices.

The methodological flow for the public involvement followed:

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<sup>1</sup> Liaison with potentially affected parties' forms part of Regulation 42 which requires a project database. The I&APs part of the greater surrounding areas were identified through a process of networking and referral, also obtaining information from Savannah Environmental existing database.



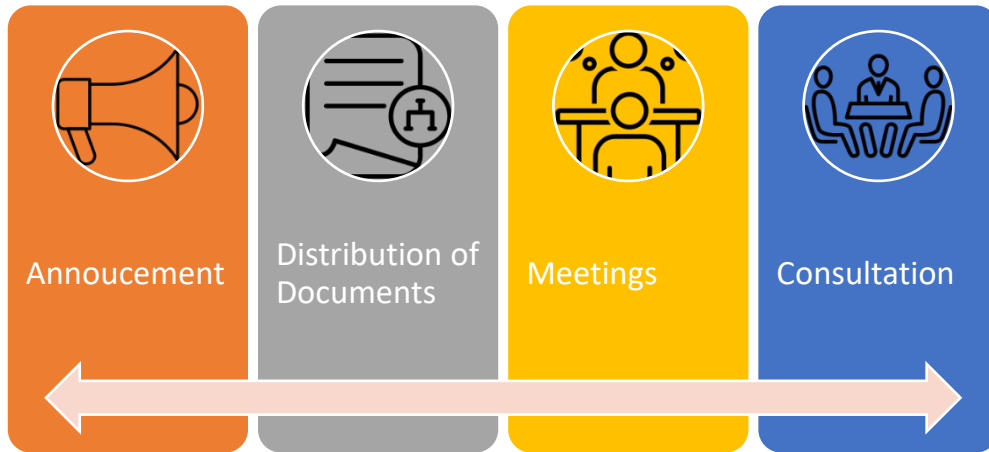


Figure 1: Methodological process flow for public involvement

## CHAPTER 5 KEY ISSUES RAISED

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Views, concerns, and objections provided by registered I&APs will be captured in the Comments and Response Report and the key summary of the issues will be included in the Final Basic Assessment Report (BAR).

## CHAPTER 6 DECISION-MAKING PHASE

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The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, the competent authority, will issue a decision relating to the Environmental Authorisation for the application once the final BAR has been reviewed. The decision will be communicated to all registered I&APs as prescribed by legislation.

**APPENDIX C1:  
APPROVED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN**

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

### ESTABLISHMENT OF 132kV GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE WOODHOUSE 1 AND WOODHOUSE 2 SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

#### BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

July 2021

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The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on the commencement and continuation of the public consultation as part of an EIA process. Considering these limitations, the following consultation process has been designed and will be implemented, on approval by the Department Forestry Fisheries and Environment, (DFFE), to cater for the conducting of the public participation process which includes I&APs, the competent authority, directly impacted landowners/occupiers, adjacent landowners/occupiers, relevant Organs of State departments, Municipalities, ward councillors and other key stakeholders.

#### Projects Details

**Proposed Activity:** Genesis Eco-Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd is proposing the construction of a 132kV power line, switching station and collector substation to connect the authorised Woodhouse Solar 1 PV and Woodhouse Solar 2 PV energy facilities to the Eskom grid via the existing Bophirima Substation.

The grid connection infrastructure will consist of:

- » 132kV switching station (footprint up to 1ha)
- » 132kV power line (within 200m wide corridor)
- » Collector substation (footprint up to 1ha)
- » 22kV underground cables to connect to the Solar PV energy facilities' substations
- » Access roads to substation sites and service tracks (up to 4m wide) where no existing roads are available.

Two alternative Collector Substation positions and power line corridors are considered as part of this assessment.

The proposed grid connection infrastructure will be located within the Naledi Local Municipality on the following farm portions as follows:

- » Farm Waterloo 992 (Switching Station & Overhead Power Line)
- » Portion 2 of Farm Woodhouse 729 (Overhead Power Line, Collector Substation Alt 1, Access Road)
- » Portion 2 of the Farm Bernauw 674 (Overhead Power Line)
- » Remaining Extent of Portion 56 of the Farm Bernauw 674 (Collector Substation Alt 2, Overhead Power Line, Access Road)

Remaining Extent of Farm Woodhouse 729 / Eskom Servitude Area (Underground Power Lines)

#### **Public Participation Plan:**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed development is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs;
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed development; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the basic assessment process.

The traditional means and opportunities available for the undertaking of public participation is still covered and implemented as part of this plan considering the current limitations. Alternative means of undertaking consultation has been designed and will be implemented by Savannah Environmental to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the projects through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person illustrating interest in the projects and enables the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

This online stakeholder engagement platform, which can be accessed via desktop and mobile with internet access, allows the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to visually present details regarding the projects and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans regarding the projects, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time and allow them to participate in a meaningful way in the consultation process. The online platform allows for feedback and comments to be submitted by I&APs, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project's reporting. The online stakeholder engagement platform considers the limitations applied by the Disaster Management Act Regulations prohibiting the gathering of people, as well as limitations which certain I&APs may have in terms of access to computers and internet as well as access to public spaces not open for operation or which have restricted access.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the projects database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive projects documentation.
- Enabling the PP team to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

Where I&APs do not have the applicable facilities (i.e. access to internet, mobile phones, or computers), provision has been made to include these I&APs in the consultation process by consulting with the Ward Councillor, the ward committee members, community representatives and local community forum members.

The schematic illustration below provides an overview of the tools that are available to I&APs and stakeholders to access project information and interact with the public participation team to obtain project information and resolve any queries that may arise, and to meet the requirements for public participation.



The PP plan, as set out in the table below, has been drafted for the above-mentioned projects to ensure compliance with the requirements of the EIA Regulations and that reasonable opportunity is provided to

I&APs and that all administrative actions are reasonable. Proof of all notifications will be included in the public participation appendix included in the Basic Assessment Report.

The PP plan is submitted to the DFFE for discussion and agreement before the PP process is undertaken for the proposed development.

**Public Participation Plan: Discussion of approach and methodology to meet the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended)**

Regulation	Approach & Methodology to meet requirements
<p>Regulation 40(1), Regulation 40(3) &amp; Regulation 43 – provide all potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, <b>access to projects related information</b>, access to the Motivation Report which will be made available for a period of at least 30 days to <b>submit comments on draft reports</b> prior to submission of the final report for decision-making.</p>	<p><u>Notification of the Basic Assessment process to be undertaken for the application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) to be distributed using the following means:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E-mail</li> <li>• Dedicated project page on the Savannah Environmental online stakeholder engagement platform</li> <li>• Post</li> <li>• Process notices placed on site and at locations that are accessible to I&amp;APs</li> <li>• Advertisement in the printed media.</li> </ul> <p><u>Notification of availability of report and period for review using the following means:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Newspaper advert, including details of where the report can be accessed and details of the Savannah Environmental website.</li> <li>• Notification letter (to be sent via email, fax or post) to registered I&amp;APs.</li> <li>• Notifications to communities via Ward Councillor, ward committee members, identified and confirmed community representatives, and local community forum members.</li> <li>• SMS and/ or WhatsApp notifications where no other means are available.</li> </ul> <p><u>Availability of the report for review and comment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report available on the Savannah Environmental website for download.</li> <li>• Electronic copies can be made available to parties via a secure Dropbox link (or other means) that will be emailed upon request for the documentation.</li> <li>• CDs to be posted, if requested.</li> <li>• Hard copy report to be available only where appropriate sanitary conditions can be maintained.</li> <li>• Report will be submitted to the DFFE using the DFFE online portal.</li> </ul>

Regulation	Approach & Methodology to meet requirements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report will be submitted to Organs of State and commenting authorities via an agreed electronic platform (such as on CD, or via a secure Dropbox link or WeTransfer, etc).</li> </ul> <p><u>Submission of comments to PP team:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written comments can also be submitted via email, post or fax.</li> <li>• Any comments provided telephonically or via instant message will be transcribed and recorded as formal comments.</li> </ul> <p><u>Opportunity and means of consultation where applicable facilities are not available to I&amp;APs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post.</li> <li>• Placement of site Notices on all affected properties.</li> <li>• Advertisement in printed media (1x local newspaper).</li> <li>• Consultation and communication through the ward councillor, ward committee members and confirmed community representatives and local community forum members.</li> <li>• SMS or WhatsApp notification.</li> <li>• CDs to be posted, if requested (and where a computer is available).</li> <li>• Hard copy report where sanitary conditions can be maintained.</li> </ul>
<p>Regulation 40(2) - Provide access to all projects information that has the potential to influence any decision regarding the application, unless protected by law, and must include <b>consultation</b> with Competent Authority, Organs of State &amp; registered I&amp;APs.</p> <p>Regulation 41(6) – Relevant <b>information available and accessible</b></p>	<p>Sharing of project information via various means including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telephonic consultation.</li> <li>• Email correspondence.</li> <li>• Correspondence sent via post.</li> <li>• SMS and/or WhatsApp.</li> <li>• The Savannah Environmental online stakeholder engagement platform will ensure that I&amp;APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to participate in the projects and raise comments on the projects to any person with interest in</li> </ul>



Regulation	Approach & Methodology to meet requirements
	<p>the Basic Assessment process for this project. This online stakeholder engagement platform which will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A means to register on the project database and provide details of their interest in the projects.</li> <li>○ Background information on the projects.</li> <li>○ Project maps (including locality map, layout map, sensitivity map, etc).</li> <li>○ Presentation providing a summary of the details and the findings of the Basic Assessment Process.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Communities will be consulted via the relevant Ward Councillor, ward committee members, community representative or local community forum members.</li> </ul> <p><u>Opportunity and means of consultation where applicable facilities are not available to I&amp;APs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Telephonic consultation</li> <li>● Post</li> <li>● SMS and/or WhatsApp</li> <li>● Consultation and communication through the ward councillor, ward committee members and confirmed community representatives and local community forum members.</li> </ul>
Regulation 41(2)(a) – <b>Site notice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Site notices will be placed on the affected properties.</li> <li>● Size and content will be in accordance with Regulation 41(3) &amp; 41(4).</li> </ul>
Regulation 41(2)(b) – <b>Written notification</b> to affected and neighbouring landowners and occupiers; municipality; ward councillors; Organs of State & other parties required by the CA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Notification letter to be sent via email, fax or post.</li> </ul> <p><u>Opportunity and means of consultation where applicable facilities are not available to I&amp;APs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Post.</li> <li>● SMS or WhatsApp notification.</li> </ul>
Regulation 41(2)(c) – (e) – <b>Advertisements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Advert to be placed in one local newspaper.</li> </ul>

Regulation	Approach & Methodology to meet requirements
<p>Regulation 42 – <b>Project database</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project database from the assessment processes for the PV facilities will be used for the basic assessment processes. I&amp;APs details will be verified, and details updated where necessary. Other stakeholders will be required to formally register their interest in the projects through either directly contacting the Savannah Environmental Public Participation team via email, fax, telephone or use of the Savannah Environmental website.</li> <li>• Additional I&amp;APs who register through the basic assessment process will be included on the database.</li> <li>• In order to access the Savannah Environmental online stakeholder engagement platform for a specific project, I&amp;APs will be required to provide their details such that they are automatically registered on the project's database. This is an automated process which does not require I&amp;APs to request any information from the PP team.</li> <li>• The register of I&amp;APs will contain the names of:                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ all persons who requested to be registered on the database through the use of the Savannah Environmental website, or in writing and disclosed their interest in the project.</li> <li>○ all Organs of State which hold jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates; and</li> <li>○ all persons who submitted written comments and viewed virtual presentations on the Savannah Environmental website during the public participation process.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The information captured on the project's database will contain the names, organisation and contact details, as required. In accordance with the POPI Act, contact details will not be made available to the public.</li> </ul> <p><u>Opportunity and means of consultation where applicable facilities are not available to I&amp;APs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process of networking and referral</li> </ul>

Regulation	Approach & Methodology to meet requirements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telephonic registration</li> <li>• SMS and/or WhatsApp</li> <li>• Fax or post</li> </ul>
Regulation 44 – <b>Comments</b> to be recorded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written comments can also be submitted via email, post or fax.</li> <li>• Any comments provided telephonically or via instant message will be transcribed and recorded as formal comments.</li> <li>• I&amp;APs without the applicable electronic facilities to access the Savannah Environmental website will be provided with the opportunity to submit their comments and communicate with the public participation team via SMS, WhatsApp or by sending a Please-call-me notification. These comments will be transcribed and recorded as formal comments.</li> <li>• All comments received throughout the basic assessment process will be acknowledged and captured in the comments and responses report (C&amp;RR) with a relevant response.</li> <li>• The C&amp;RR and all comments received will be included in the final report submitted to the competent authority.</li> </ul> <p><u>Opportunity and means of consultation where applicable facilities are not available to I&amp;APs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written comments via post or fax</li> <li>• Comment submission telephonically and instant messaging (SMS and/or WhatsApp)</li> <li>• Sending a Please-call-me notification to the Public Participation team so that contact can be made.</li> </ul>
Regulation 4(2) – Notification of <b>decision</b> on application	<p><u>Notification of Environmental Authorisation (EA) using the following means:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notification letter with details as outlined in the EA issued will be sent via email, fax or post.</li> </ul>

Regulation	Approach & Methodology to meet requirements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Notifications that the EA has been issued and where to download and/or obtain a copy to communities via Ward Councillor and his/her ward committee members and identified and confirmed community representatives.</li><li>• SMS or WhatsApp notification.</li></ul> <p><u>Opportunity and means of consultation where applicable facilities are not available to I&amp;APs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Post</li><li>• Communication through the ward councillor, ward committee members and confirmed community representatives and local community forum members.</li><li>• SMS and/or WhatsApp</li></ul>

## Jana de Jager

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**From:** Bathandwa Ncube <BNcube@environment.gov.za>  
**Sent:** 20 April 2021 16:13  
**To:** Jo-Anne Thomas  
**Cc:** Masina Litsoane; Davin Chown ; ralph@genesis-eco.com; 'Stevie Txala'; Karen Jodas  
**Subject:** RE: 2021-03-0026: Pre-application meeting for the proposed amendments to EAs for Woodhouse Solar 1 PV; Woodhouse Solar 2 PV and proposed development of associated EGI, Naledi Local Municipality, NWP

Goodday Jo-Anne

**Re: 2021-03-0026: Approval of Public Participation Plan (PPPlan): proposed amendments to EAs for Woodhouse Solar 1 PV; Woodhouse Solar 2 PV and proposed development of associated EGI, Naledi Local Municipality, NWP**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2021 and the Public Participation Plan submitted for approval on 15 April 2021 refer.

the Public Participation Plan dated April 2021, for the abovementioned amendments has been reviewed and is approved, you may submit your online application.

When submitting your application, please attach the Public Participation Plan and this email of approval. Please note that health and safety measures must be implemented as per COVID-19 Guidelines to ensure that hardcopies of the Background Information Document (BID) and reports to be distributed (where necessary), are distributed safely.

Also note that the EAP and/or applicant is requested to follow up on reports sent to stakeholders via electronic methods of sharing large files (links), as there are instances where these emails do not reach their required destination or get sent to junk mail.

Kind regards

**Ms Bathandwa Ncube**

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Regulatory, Compliance and Sector Monitoring

Integrated Environmental Authorisations: National Infrastructure Projects

(T) 012 399 9368

(E) [BNcube@environment.gov.za](mailto:BNcube@environment.gov.za)

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**From:** Jo-Anne Thomas [mailto:joanne@savannahsa.com]

**Sent:** 15 April 2021 05:28 PM

**To:** Bathandwa Ncube

**Cc:** Masina Litsoane; Davin Chown ; ralph@genesis-eco.com; 'Stevie Txala'; Karen Jodas

**Subject:** 2021-03-0026: Pre-application meeting for the proposed amendments to EAs for Woodhouse Solar 1 PV; Woodhouse Solar 2 PV and proposed development of associated EGI, Naledi Local Municipality, NWP

**Importance:** High

Dear Batandwa,

Please find attached the minutes of the pre-application consultation meeting held on 26 March 2021 for the above-mentioned project for your review and comment. Also attached please find the public participation plan for the Part 2 amendment for your review and approval.

Please contact me with any queries in this regard.

Kind regards  
Jo-Anne



t: +27 (0) 11 656 3237  
f: +27 (0) 86 684 0547

**Jo-Anne Thomas**  
Director

e: [joanne@savannahsa.com](mailto:joanne@savannahsa.com)  
c: +27 (0) 82 775 5628

SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015

## Disclaimer

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**APPENDIX C2:  
I&AP DATABASE**

APPENDIX C2: I&AP DATABASE

Company	First Name	Last Name
		...
	Anneliza	Collett
	Anneliza	Collett
	Freyne	du Toit
	Gladys	Knight
	Hettie	Buys
	Michael	Cannon
	Nicolene	Venter
	Orthaniel	Kagiso
	Thapelo	Mohurutshe
ABO Wind	Mike	Magnall
ABO Wind AG	Veera	Juusti
Agri North West	P	Du Toit
Agri North West Farmers Union	Eric	van wyk
AMDA Developments	Charlie	Berrington
BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd	Armandt	Joubert
BirdLife South Africa	Janine	Goosen
BirdLife South Africa	Samantha	Ralston-Paton
BirdLife South Africa	Simon	Gear
CHARMAKOR VRYBURG PTY LTD	George Efstratios	Apostollesis
Chris van Zyl Trust	Chris	Van Zyl
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries -	D	Nhlakad
Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	Hettie	Buys
Department of Agriculture- North West	Lebo	Diale
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Mashudu	Marubini
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Qfakude	Okwetu
Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	Selekane	Phahladira
Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	Selekane	Phahladira
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Thoko	Buthelezi
Department of Communications	.	The Director
Department of Communications	Claude	Nadasen
Department of Communications	Donald	Liphoko
Department of Energy	Pheladi	Masipa
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries	Muhammad	Essop
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Coenrad	Agenbach
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Seoka	Lekota
Department of Labour	Emilly	Moathlodi
Department of Mineral Resources	Kgauta	Mokoena
Department of Mineral Resources	Pieter	Swart
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Nozizwe	Makgalemele
Department of Telecommunication & Postal Services	Elliot	Sibeko
Department of Water and Sanitation - North West	Abe	Abrahams
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District Municipality	O	Keoagile
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District Municipality	Victor	Tlhabanelo
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District Municipality	Zebo	Tshetho
Edinburgh Trust	Adel	Oberholzer
Endangered Wildlife Trust	..	..
ESKOM	John	Geeringh
ESKOM	Kevin	Leask
Eskom Holdings Limited: Eskom Distribution Western Operating Unit	Justine	Wyngaardt
Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	John	Geeringh
Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	Kevin	Leask
Grasslands Society of Southern Africa	Freyne	du Toit
Huhudi Public Library		Huhudi Public Library
Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA)	Praneel	Ruplal
KLONDIKE BELEGGINGS CC	Lourens	De Jager
Klondike Lodge		Klondike Lodge
Leads 2 Business	Melanie	Miles
Luwisi Boerdery CC	Hermanus	van Zyl
Naledi Local Municipality		Office of Municipal Manager
Naledi Local Municipality	BJ	Moholo
Naledi Local Municipality	Bongiwe	Tap
Naledi Local Municipality	George	Ramogogane
Naledi Local Municipality	Lillian	Bome
Naledi Local Municipality	Mpho	Tsanane
Naledi Local Municipality	Tshepo	Bloom
Naledi Local Municipality	Tshepo Macdonald	Bloom
National Department of Environmental Affairs:	Herman	Alberts
National Department of Environmental Affairs:	Mahlatse	Shubane
National Department of Water and Sanitation	Tsunduka	Khosa



Company	First Name	Last Name
National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Andile	Gxasheka
National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Mmoni	Suza
National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Pieter	Buys
National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Tamai	Hore
North West Department of Public Works and Roads	Alfred	Mafune
North West Department of Rural, Environmental and Agricultural Development	Eva	Mahlangu
North West Department of Rural, Environmental and Agricultural Development	Eva	Mahlangu
North West Department of Rural, Environment and Agricultural Development	Motshabi	Mohlalisi
North West Department of Rural, Environmental and Agricultural Development	Ouma	Skosana
North West Department of Rural, Environmental and Agricultural Development	Ouma	Skosana
North West Department of Rural, Environment and Agricultural Development	Tharina	Boshoff
North West Provincial Heritage Resources Agency	Motlhabane	Mosiane
NW Department of Energy	Lesego	Mosadi
NW Department of Energy	Tebogo	Sethosa
Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (PRASA)	Tony	Games
Regional Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries - North West	Bonolo	Mohlakoana
SAEON Arid Lands Node	Joh	Henschel
SANRAL	Nicole	Abrahams
SANRAL	Ria	Barkuizen
SEIPELO FARMING PROJECTS PTY LTD	Israel	Seipelo
Sentech Ltd		Sentech
South African Civil Aviation Authority	Christopher	Isherwood
South African Civil Aviation Authority	Lizelle	Stroh
South African Civilian Aviation Authority	Zukisani	Jakavula
South African Heritage Resources Agency	Natasha	Higgitt
South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	Ragna	Redelstorff
South African National Parks	Howard	Hendricks
South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL)	T	Mashele
South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)	Adrian	Tiplady
South African Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL) Northern Cape (Western Region)	Rene	de Kock
Telkom SA SOC Ltd	Amanda	Bester
Telkom SA SOC Ltd	Leonard	Shaw
Tiger Kloof Educational Institution		Tiger Kloof Educational Institution
Transnet Ltd.	Keabetsoe	Dlamini
TV3	Chris	Cronje
Veroniva (Pty) Ltd	Claude	Bosman
Veroniva (PTY) Ltd - Renewable Energy	Etian	Louw
WC Department of Mineral Resources	Pieter	Swart
WESSA	John	Wesson
WESSA	Lemson	Petha
Wildlife & Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	John	Wesson
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	John	Wesson
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	John	Wesson
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	Morgan	Griffiths

**APPENDIX C3:  
NOTIFICATION MATERIAL**

## NOTICE OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

### WOODHOUSE SOLAR 1 AND SOLAR 2 GRID CONNECTION, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

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**Applicant:** Genesis Eco-Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd.

**Proposed Activity:** Development of a grid connection solution for the currently authorised solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities known as Woodhouse Solar 1 PV and Woodhouse Solar 2 PV facilities. The grid connection infrastructures will include a double circuit 132kV power line, 132kV switching station, collector substation, 33kV underground cables and access roads to substation sites.

**Project Location:** ~Approximately 5.5km south east of the town of Vryburg in the Naledi Local municipality and within the Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality, North West Province. Five properties are affected by the project including:

- » Farm Waterloo 992
- » Portion 2 of Farm Woodhouse 792
- » Portion 2 of the Farm Bernauw 674
- » Remaining Extent of Portion 56 of the Farm Bernauw 674
- » Remaining Extent of Farm Woodhouse 729/Eskom Servitude Area

**Basic Assessment Process:** In terms of Section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998) as read with Government Notice R324 – R327, as amended, and GN R114 (February 2018), a Basic Assessment (BA) is required for the 132kV power line and 132kV switching station and collector substation. Savannah Environmental is undertaking the required environmental assessment and public participation process for the project. An application for the project has been lodged with the competent authority the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE).

**Basic Assessment Report available for public review and comment:** Savannah Environmental has compiled a BA Report in support of the Application for Environmental Authorisation. The Basic Assessment Report and associated documentation will be available for public review and comment from **Monday, 06 September 2021 to Thursday, 07 October 2021**. The BA Report can be downloaded from Savannah Environmental's website (<https://savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/>). The due date for written comment will be **Thursday, 07 October 2021**.

To obtain further information, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the project, in writing, to Savannah Environmental:

**Tumelo Mathulwe at Savannah Environmental**

P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157

Tel: 011 656 3237/ Cell:060 978 8396/ Fax: 086 684 0547

Email: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Website: [www.savannahsa.com](http://www.savannahsa.com)

savannah  
environmental

# Hoërskool Vryburg se graad 11 Top 20



Stellalander-Vryburg- Die volgende leersders in Graad 11 van Hoërskool Vryburg is die akademiese top 20 vir kwartaal 2:

Llenay McCarthy, Marli van Rensburg, Kgakololo Serei, Danielle Nell, Reabetswe Lobelo, Khumiso Ndlovu, Beryl Gouws and La-Jaun McCarthy, Palesa Maselo, Luandi van Zyl, Marijke Janse van Rensburg, Shaunise Engelbrecht, Shaun Celliers, Faith Mokgotho, Farzana Eksteen, Bothale Molefe and Kamogelo Bantsheng, Eldin Ferris, Mathogonolo Seboco and Kgathiso Mokgotho. (Foto: VHS)

Hoërskool Vryburg se graad 11 Top 20

# Hoërskool Vryburg se graad 10 Top 20



Stellalander-Vryburg- Die volgende leersders in graad 10 van Hoërskool Vryburg is die akademiese top 20 vir kwartaal 2:

Carlin Thomas, Anne-Marie Coetzee, Liané van Tonder, Neil van der Vyver, Mmogo Seipelo, Johan Vorster, Naledi Zulu, Otshego Makwana, Tisetso Rantwane, Centia Nelson, Tshwanelo Dithobolo, Didi-Mari Porthumus, Keaboka Seameco, Jacobus Swart, Xanthe du Toit, Marcellus van der Merwe, Lea-Mae Niemann, Amé Schlebuss, Joané Mouton en Kabo Moitlhwe. (Foto: VHS)



Hoërskool Vryburg se graad 10 Top 20

# Buddy Bear cupcake verkope

Stellalander-Vryburg- Buddy Bear hou 'n 'cupcake' verkope op Vrydag (10 September).

Die verkope sal voor Pick 'n Pay wees. Buddy Bear sal ook 'n krat daar neersit waar mense wou, batting, nesies, ogies en teddies kan skenk. Jess, Buddy Bear se poppie en Buddy, die perdjie wat uitgelooi word, sal ook daar wees. Die nie-winsgewende organisasie bedryf deur Lucinda Fourie, versoek die gemeenskap om hulle te ondersteun en om vooruit bestellings vir aflewering te plaas.

# Bedurf jouself met die lekkerste kolwyntjies!



Bestellings kan geplaas word vir 10 September 2021 by Buddy Bear (NPO) teen R10 per kolwyntjie!!



082 845 6340



Buddy Bear hou cupcake verkoping

**STAY HOME**  
STAY SAFE

**BE SAFE!**  
SANITIZE YOUR HANDS

## AUCTION

Duly instructed by KAGISANO-MOLQPO MUNICIPALITY, Auction24 will sell the following vehicles by public auction.

- \*1x Mitsubishi Grader
- \*2x Combi's (Toyota Quantum's)
- \*3x SUV's (Mercedes GL500, Jeep Cherokee, BMW X4)
- \*4x Bakkies (Double & Single Cab's)
- \*1x Sedan (Toyota Yaris) & Tyres

**WEDNESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER @11:00AM**

@ Municipal Building, Tlaskamaneng Road (Next Ganyesa Clinic), GANYESA, 8613

VIEWING & REGISTRATION  
MON 6 & TUE 7 SEPTEMBER FROM 09:00-16:00

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: See Rule 7's & 8's & Auctioneer's website: 020 809 8090 (government approved/FFA only). Bidders must bring FICA documents. THE RULES OF THE AUCTION COMPLY WITH THE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT 68 OF 2008 "Above subject to change without prior notice" (r & sc). All bidders to comply with Covid-19 regulations.

TEL: 0861 999 126 / PHUMI 078 265 4677  
AUCTIONEER: MASANGO P  
www.Auction24.co.za

# Victor speel Inter Pro



Victor Greeff

Stellalander-Hartswater- Een van Laerskool Hartswater se leersders, Victor Greeff het op 6 en 7 Augustus deelgeneem aan die Noord- Kaap Inter Pro- tennistoernooi in Kimberley. Greeff is toe opgeneem in die o/15-Inter Pro-swat wat in September aan die Inter Pro-toernooi gaan deelneem. (Foto: verskaf)

## Masonic Haven

vir bejaardes. Ons gee om...

**NOU BESIKKBAAR:** Pragtige huisies met lewensregte.

Versorgingsenheid vir verswakte bejaardes (privaatkamers en gedeeltes akkommodasie) - 24 uur sorg. Kamers met inloopstort, toilet en wasbak: Lewensregte aankoop of huur. Mededingende tariewe.

**Heffing sluit in:**

- \*Drie maaltye per dag
- \*Wassery / haarsalon / biblioteek
- \*Skoonmaak van die eenheid
- \*Tee / koffie twee keer per dag
- \*24 uur mediese bystand vanaf die versorgingsenheid.

**Veilig, veiligheids-area, geleë in die Willows Estate:**

- \* Bus twee keer per week vir inwoners
- \* Hofkheids-voertuig vir inwoners van en na dokters en hospitale
- \* Verskeidenheid vermaak vir inwoners
- \* Dokterbesoeke op die perseel
- \* Terapie-intervensie: pasiënte met Demensie (Alzheimers).

**Debbie van der Walt**  
Tel: 012 807 5192/3  
Se: 072 481 4121 / 076 261 1387  
E-pos: masonichaven@mweb.co.za

**Jukskei Laan 54**  
Die Wilgers

## NOTICE OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

### WOODHOUSE SOLAR 1 AND SOLAR 2 GRID CONNECTION, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

**Applicant:** Genesis Eco-Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd.  
**Proposed Activity:** Development of a grid connection solution for the currently authorised solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities known as Woodhouse Solar 1 PV and Woodhouse Solar 2 PV facilities. The grid connection infrastructures will include a double circuit 132kV power line, 132kV switching station, collector substation, 33kV underground cables and access roads to substation sites.  
**Project Location:** ~Approximately 5.5km south east of the town of Vryburg in the Naledi Local municipality and within the Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality, North West Province. Five properties are affected by the project including:

- » Farm Waterloo 992
- » Portion 2 of Farm Woodhouse 792
- » Portion 2 of the Farm Bernauw 674
- » Remaining Extent of Portion 56 of the Farm Bernauw 674
- » Remaining Extent of Farm Woodhouse 729/Eskom Servitude Area

**Basic Assessment Process:** In terms of Section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998) as read with Government Notice R324 – R327, as amended, and GN R114 (February 2018), a Basic Assessment (BA) is required for the 132kV power line and 132kV switching station and collector substation. Savannah Environmental is undertaking the required environmental assessment and public participation process for the project. An application for the project has been lodged with the competent authority the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE).  
**Basic Assessment Report available for public review and comment:** Savannah Environmental has compiled a BA Report in support of the Application for Environmental Authorisation. The Basic Assessment Report and associated documentation will be available for public review and comment from **Monday, 06 September 2021 to Thursday, 07 October 2021**. The BA Report can be downloaded from Savannah Environmental's website (<https://savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/>). The due date for written comment will be **Thursday, 07 October 2021**. To obtain further information, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the project, in writing, to Savannah Environmental:

**Tumelo Mathulwe** at Savannah Environmental  
P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157  
Tel: 011 656 3237/ Cell:060 978 8396  
Fax: 086 684 0547  
Email: publicprocess@savannahsa.com  
Website: www.savannahsa.com



**PROOF OF SITE NOTICES** (Date placed: 22 July 2021)



**Figure 1:** Site notice 1 placed at 26.984 75°S 024.783 55°E



**Figure 2:** Site notice 2 placed at 27.005 80°S 024.80326°E



**Figure 3:** Site notice 3 placed at 27.017 33°S 024.81026°E

06 September 2021

Dear Stakeholder and Interested & Affected Party

**BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GRID CONNECTION  
FOR THE WOODHOUSE 1 & 2 SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES, NORTH WEST PROVINCE  
(DFE Ref. No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2396)**

Genesis Eco-Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a grid connection and associated infrastructure, approximately 5.5 km of the Vryburg town in the Naledi Local Municipality and within the greater Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality, North West Province.

The development of the grid connection infrastructure is required in order to connect the authorised Woodhouse Solar 1 PV and Woodhouse Solar 2 PV energy facilities to the Eskom grid via the existing Bophirima Substation. This is considered as the consolidated grid connection solution for Woodhouse Solar 1 PV and Woodhouse Solar 2 PV Solar Development and includes switching and collector substations and a 132kV power line and associated infrastructures.

The grid connection infrastructure will be located within a grid connection corridor, on the following properties:

- » 132kV switching station (footprint up to 1ha)
- » 132kV power line (within 200m wide corridor)
- » Collector substation (footprint up to 1ha)
- » 22kV underground cables to connect to the Solar PV energy facilities' substations
- » Access roads to substation sites and service tracks (up to 4m wide) where no existing roads are available.

Two alternative Collector substation positions are considered as part of this assessment. As such, the 200m wide power line corridor is shared/common for the bulk of its length, and deviates only to accommodate these two alternative positions for the Collector substation. This assessment, therefore, considers two alternative grid connection solutions, both originating at the same point, and terminating at Bophirima Substation. The alternative grid connection configurations assessed include:

**Grid Connection Alternative 1:** A 132kV switching substation located north of the authorised Woodhouse 2 Solar facility, as well as a 132kV power line, positioned to the western side of the Amalia main road, which feeds to Collector Substation Alternative 1. The Collector Substation Alternative 1 is located west of the authorised Woodhouse 1 Solar facility. A 132kV power line will run east from Collector Substation Alternative 1 to connect at Bophirima Substation. The connection to Bophirima



Substation will be at the eastern side of the substation via a 132kV underground power line within the Eskom Servitude Area.

**Grid Connection Alternative 2:** A 132kV switching substation located north of the authorised Woodhouse 2 Solar facility, as well as a 132kV power line, positioned to the western side of the Amalia main road, which feeds to Collector Substation Alternative 2. The Collector Substation Alternative 2 is located north of the authorised Woodhouse 1 Solar facility. A 132kV power line will run from Collector Substation Alternative 2 south to connect to Bophirima Substation. The connection to Bophirima Substation will be at the eastern side of the substation via a 132kV underground power line within the Eskom Servitude Area.

### Basic Assessment Process

As per the EIA Regulations published in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No 107 of 1998), development of a grid connection requires Environmental Authorisation (EA) from the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the environment (DFFE) (in consultation with the North West Department of Rural, Environment and Agricultural Development. In terms of Sections 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998), as read with the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GNR 324 - 327), a Basic Assessment (BA) process is required for the development of the proposed access road. The application for authorisation is required to be supported by comprehensive, independent environmental studies undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, and relevant specialist protocols.

A BA is an effective planning and decision-making tool. It allows the environmental consequences resulting from the construction and operation of a project to be identified and appropriately managed. It provides the opportunity for the developer to be fore warned of potential environmental issues and allows for the resolution of the issue(s) reported on in the BA report, as well as opening a dialogue with interested and affected parties.

**Savannah Environmental** has been appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the required BA process, in order to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed access road and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). As part of these environmental studies, Interested & Affected Parties (I&APs) will be actively involved through the public participation process being undertaken by Savannah Environmental.

### What are the potential environmental impacts associated with the access road realignment?

Based on the nature and extent of the proposed project, the nature of the affected area, and experience of the consultants on similar projects, several potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project have been identified at this stage. Site-specific social and environmental specialist studies will be undertaken for the identified corridors to delineate areas of potential

sensitivity, assess impacts associated with the project and make recommendations regarding avoidance, management and mitigation of impacts. Specialist studies will consider the following:

- » Impacts on biodiversity, including terrestrial and freshwater ecology, avifauna
- » Impacts on visual landscape.
- » Impacts on heritage resources, including the archaeology and palaeontology.

The specialist studies will be informed by existing information, field observations and input from the public participation process. As an I&AP, your input is considered as an important part of the process, and we encourage your involvement.

### **Public Participation Process**

The sharing of information forms the basis of the public participation process and offers you the opportunity to become actively involved in the BA process from the outset. Comments and inputs from I&APs during the EIA process are encouraged in order to ensure that all potential impacts are considered within the ambit of the study.

The public involvement process aims to ensure that:

- » Information containing all relevant facts in respect of the applications are made available to I&APs for review.
- » Participation by potential I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the applications.
- » Adequate review period is provided for I&APs to comment on the findings of the BA reports.

### **Your responsibilities as an I&AP**

In terms of Section 24J of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 and the Department of Environmental Affairs Public Participation Guideline 2017, as part of the EIA process, an I&AP has the responsibility to:

- » Provide comment regarding the proposed project within the specified timeframes (if the I&AP wishes to comment);
- » Submit written comment directly to the PP team;
- » Disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that I&AP may have in the approval or refusal of the application.

### **How to become involved**

1. By responding (by phone, fax or email) to our invitation for your involvement which has been advertised in local newspapers and on site.

2. By returning the attached Reply Form to the relevant contact person.
3. By attending the virtual meetings to be held during the course of the BA process.
4. By contacting the consultants with queries or comments.
5. By reviewing and commenting on the BA report within the stipulated 30-day review period.

If you consider yourself an I&AP for the Woodhouse Solar PVs Grid Connection, we urge you to make use of the opportunities created by the public participation process to provide comment or raise those issues and concerns which affect and/or interest you, and about which you would like more information. Your input into this process forms a key element of the BA process.

### AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from **Monday, 06 September 2021** until **Thursday, 07 October 2021**.

As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), the Impact Assessment Reports are available on the Savannah Environmental online stakeholder engagement platform at <https://savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/>. You can also request that an electronic copy of the Basic Assessment report be sent to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox.

Please submit your written comments on the BA Report by **Thursday, 07 October 2021**.

#### Comments and queries

Direct all comments, queries, or responses to:

**Savannah Environmental**

Tumelo Mathulwe

P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157

Tel: 011 656 3237 / Fax: 086 684 0547

Email: [publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Website: <https://savannahsa.com/public-documents/other/>

**APPENDIX C4:  
ORGANS OF STATE CORRESPONDENCE**

**Will be included in the Final Basic Assessment**

**APPENDIX C5:  
I&AP CORRESPONDENCE**

**Will be included in the Final Basic Assessment**

**APPENDIX C6:  
COMMENTS RECEIVED**

**Will be included in the Final Basic Assessment**

**APPENDIX C7:  
COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT**

**Will be included in the Final Basic Assessment**