

APPENDIX C3
BACKGROUND INFORMATION LETTER



AGTERGRONDINLIGTINGSDOKUMENT



Januarie 2023

BASIESE EVALUERINGS- EN OPENBARE DEELNAMEPROSES

DAISY FV-SONKRAGAANLEG EN KLEINZEE FV-SONKRAGAANLEG, NOORD-KAAPPROVINSIE



Energy Team (Edms.) Bpk. beoog die ontwikkeling van twee (2) aparte fotovoltaïese (FV) sonkragaanlegte op 'n projekterrein wat sowat 20 km wes van die dorp Komaggas en 24 km suidoos van Kleinsee in die Noord-Kaap geleë is. Die twee FV-sonkragaanlegte staan bekend as die Daisy FV-sonkragaanleg en die Kleinsee FV-sonkragaanleg. Die FV-aanlegte word beoog in die gebied van die gemagtigde Namas Windplaas en Zonnequa Windplaas. Die aanlegte is geleë in die Nama Khoi Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, in die Namakwa Distriksmunisipaliteit.

Die Daisy Sonkragaanleg sal oor 'n gekontrakteerde vermoë van hoogstens 360 MW beskik en die Kleinsee Sonkragaanleg sal oor 'n gekontrakteerde vermoë van hoogstens 200 MW beskik. Albei aanlegte sal spesifieke roosterkonneksie-infrastruktuur en 'n batterykragbergingsstelsel (BESS) insluit.

Die aard en omvang van die FV-sonkragaanlegte en die verwante roosterkonneksie-oplossing word van naderby in hierdie Agtergrondinligtingsdokument (AID) ondersoek. Die projekte se openbare deelnameprosesse sal gelyklopend onderneem word, wat die publiek 'n geleentheid bied om gelyktydig kommentaar op albei projekte te lewer. Elke FV-sonkragaanleg sal as 'n aparte, losstaande projek opgerig word en die projekbesonderhede vir die onderskeie projekte is soos volg:

Applikant	Projeknaam	Gekontrakteerde vermoë	Geaffekteerde eiendom
Energy Team (Edms.) Bpk.	Daisy Sonkragplaas	360 MW	FV-aanleg en roosterkraglyn: die plaas Zonnekwa 326
Energy Team (Edms.) Bpk.	Kleinsee Sonkragplaas	200 MW	FV-aanleg: Gedeelte 4 van die plaas Zonnekwa 328 Roosterkraglyn: Gedeelte 4, 3, 2 en 1 van die plaas Zonnekwa 328 Die plaas Zonnekwa 328

Die studiegebied vir die twee projekte is geleë in die Springbok Hernubare Kragontwikkelingsone (REDZ), gevolglik sal 'n Basiese Evalueeringsverslag (BE-verslag) vir elke projek saamgestel word, ooreenkomstig Staatskennisgewing R114 soos formeel op 16 Februarie 2018 in die Staatskoerant gepubliseer is. Ook sal daar 'n verkorte tydsraamwerk van 57 dae vir die verwerking van 'n Aansoek om Omgewingsmagtiging wees. Die REDZ is sones wat deur die Departement van Bosbou, Visserie en die Omgewing (DBVO) as geografiese gebiede van strategiese belang vir die ontwikkeling van grootskaalse FV-sonkrag- en windkragontwikkelingsbedrywighede geïdentifiseer is.

Die Ontwikkelaar is van voorneme om elke FV-sonkragaanleg aan te bied ingevolge die Departement van Minerale Hulpbronne en Energie (DMHE) se Verkrygingsprogram vir Onafhanklike Hernubare Kragprodusente (REIPPP), ten einde die krag wat opgewek word by die nasionale kragnet te kan invoer. Dit sal bydra tot die diversifisering en stabilisering van die land se elektrisiteitsvoorsiening met die twee beoogde FV-sonkragaanlegte wat 560 MW in die nasionale kragnet sal invoer. Roosterkonneksie-infrastruktuur word beoog om elke aanleg met die gemagtigde Zonnequa Kollektorsubstasie te verbind, wat by Eskom se Gromis Substasie aansluit.

DOEL VAN HIERDIE AGTERGRONDINLIGTINGSDOKUMENT

Hierdie dokument poog om u, as 'n belangstellende en/of geaffekteerde party (B&GP), te voorsien van:

- » 'n oorsig van die beoogde FV-sonkragaanlegte en die verwante roosterkonneksie-oplossing;
- » 'n oorsig van die BE-prosesse en spesialisstudies wat onderneem word om elk van die projekte te evalueer;
- » besonderhede van hoe u by die BE-prosesse betrokke kan raak, inligting kan ontvang of kwessies kan opper wat u dalk kan raak en/of vir u van belang kan wees.

OORSIG VAN DIE BEOOGDE PROJEKTE

In antwoord op die groeiende vraag na elektrisiteit in Suid-Afrika, die behoefte om hernubare krag en volhoubaarheid in die Noord-Kaapprovinsie te bevorder, asook die land se teikens vir hernubare krag, word die ontwikkeling van twee FV-sonkragaanlegte met 'n gekontrakteerde vermoë van hoogstens 360 MW en 200 MW onderskeidelik in die Springbok REDZ en Noordelike Korridor van die Strategiese Transmissiekorridors beoog. Die ontwikkeling van die aanlegte sal nuwe vermoë tot die nasionale kragnet toevoeg.



'n Ontwikkelingsgebied wat as tegnies geskik vir die ontwikkeling van elk van die FV-sonkragaanlegte geag word, is geïdentifiseer (~651,21 ha vir die Daisy FV-sonkragaanleg en ~300 ha vir die Kleinsee FV-sonkragaanleg). Die volle omvang van elke ontwikkelingsgebied moet in die Basiese Evalueringsproses geëvalueer word om omgewingsensitiewe gebiede te identifiseer. Terreinspesifieke studies en evaluering sal deur die BE-prosesse onderneem word ten einde potensieel sensitiewe gebiede in die geïdentifiseerde studiegebied en roosterkonneksiekorridor af te baken. Sodra beperkende faktore bepaal is, kan die uitleg van die FV-sonkragaanlegte en die roosterkonneksie-oplossing beplan word om maatskaplike en omgewingsimpakte tot die minimum te beperk.

Die infrastruktuur wat verband hou met elk van die FV-sonkragaanlegte, sal insluit:

- » 'n FV-sonkragreeks, bestaande uit FV-modules en monterstrukture;
- » wisselrigters en transformators;
- » kables met 'n lae spanning tussen die FV-modules en die wisselrigters;
- » 33 kV kables tussen die projekkomponente en die aanlegsubstasie;
- » 'n 132 kV interne aanlegsubstasie;
- » 'n 132 kV kraglyn om in 'n korridor met 'n breedte van 300 m oor 'n afstand van ongeveer 8,5 km en 3,5 km, onderskeidelik, by die Zonnequa Kollektorsubstasie by die kragnet aan te sluit;
- » 'n batterykragbergingstelsel (BESS);
- » terreinkantore- en instandhoudingsgeboue, met insluiting van werkswinkelgebiede vir instandhouding en berging;
- » stapelwerfgebiede;
- » terreintoegangs- en interne paaie.

Die roosterkonneksie-infrastruktuur sal 'n Skakelsubstasie en 'n 132 kV kraglyn in 'n korridor met 'n wydte van 300 m oor 'n afstand van onderskeidelik sowat 8,5 km en 3,5 km insluit.

Waar moontlik, sal bestaande paaie gebruik word om toegang tot die projekterrein en die ontwikkelingsgebied te kry. Die huidige bestaande grondpad sluit aan by die DR2964 wat noord van die terrein geleë is. Toegang tot die terrein kan ook van 'n provinsiale grondpad af verkry word wat van die geteerde MR751-pad af, wat wes van die projekterrein geleë is, aansluit.

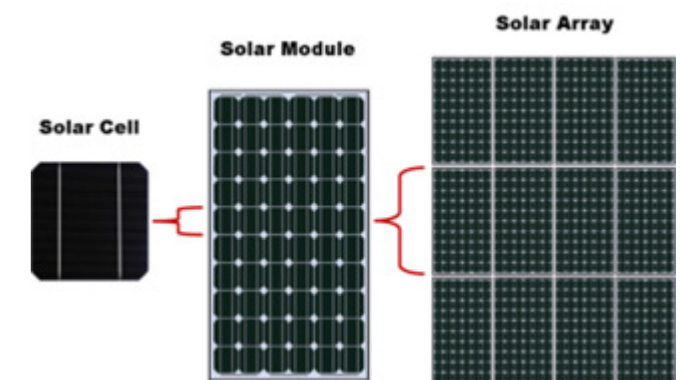
MEER OOR FV-SONKRAGTEGNOLOGIE

Sonkragaanlegte (soos dié wat FV-tegnologie benut) gebruik die son se energie om elektrisiteit op te wek deur 'n proses wat as die Fotovoltaïese Effek bekend staan. Hierdie effek verwys na ligfotone wat met elektrone bots, wat die elektrone gevolglik in 'n hoër staat van energie plaas om elektrisiteit voort te bring. Die sonkragvelde sal uit die volgende komponente bestaan:



Fotovoltaïese Selle

'n Fotovoltaïese (FV) sel word van silikon gemaak wat as halfgeleier optree en gebruik word om die fotovoltaïese effek voort te bring. FV-selle word in veelvoude/reeks gerangskik en agter 'n beskermende glaspaneel geplaas om 'n FV-paneel te vorm. Elke FV-sel se een kant is positief en die teenoorgestelde kant negatief gelaai, met elektriese geleiers wat aan beide kante aangebring is om 'n stroombaan te vorm. Hierdie stroombaan vang die vrygestelde elektrone vas in die vorm van 'n elektriese stroom (d.i. gelykstrom (GS)).



Figuur 1: Oorsig van 'n FV-sel, -module en -reeks/paneel (Bron: pveducation.com)

'n FV-sonpaneel bestaan uit individuele FV-selle wat met mekaar verbind is, terwyl 'n FV-sonkragreeks 'n stelsel is wat bestaan uit 'n groep individuele FV-sonpaneele wat elektries bedraad is om 'n veel groter FV-installasie te vorm. Die FV-paneele sal op steunstrukture aangebring word om blootstelling aan die son te maksimaliseer.

Die FV-paneele sal op steunstrukture gemonteer word en sal hetsy vaste/stilstaande steunstrukture sal gebruik word, of andersins kan hulle enkel- of dubbelas naspoordersteunstrukture gebruik.

Wisselrigters

Wisselrigters word gebruik om elektrisiteit wat deur die FV-selle opgewek word, van gelykstrom (GS) na wisselstroom (WS) om te sit sodat die aanleg met die nasionale kragnet verbind kan word. Om groot sonkragaanlegte, soos dié wat hier beoog word, met die nasionale kragnet te verbind, sal verskeie wisselrigters in verskeie reekse gerangskik word om krag wat deur die aanlegte opgewek word, te versamel en om te sit.

FV-paneele is ontwerp om vir meer as 20 jaar ononderbroke, meestal onbeman en met min instandhouding in bedryf te staan.



BASIESE EVALUERINGSPROSES

Ooreenkomstig die OIE-regulasies, 2014 (soos gewysig), wat ingevolge Artikel 24(5) van die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (Wet 107 van 1998) (NEMA) gepubliseer is, benodig die applikant Omgewingsmagtiging (OM) van die Departement van Bosbou, Visserye en die Omgewing (DBVO) as die Bevoegde Owerheid. Ingevolge Artikel 24(5) van NEMA, die OIE-regulasies, 2014 (Staatskennisgewing R326), Staatskennisgewing R114 en Lyskennisgewing (R327, R325 en R324), sowel as R114 (die terrein is geleë in die Springbok REDZ), is die aansoek om OM vir die Daisy FV-sonkragaanleg en Kleinzee FV-sonkragaanleg en verwante roosterkonneksie onderhewig aan die voltooiing van 'n Basiese Evaluering (BE-proses). Die aansoek om OM moet gestaaf word deur omvattende, onafhanklike omgewingstudies wat ingevolge Bylae 6 van die OIE-regulasies, 2014 (soos gewysig) en, waar van toepassing, in lyn met afgekondigde protokolle onderneem word.

'n Basiese Evaluering is 'n doeltreffende beplannings- en besluitnemingswerktuig. Dit bring mee dat potensiële omgewingsverwante gevolge wat voortspruit uit 'n beoogde aktiwiteit, geïdentifiseer en na behore tydens die oprigtings-, bedryfs- en uitbedryfstellingsfase van ontwikkeling bestuur word. Dit bied ook 'n geleentheid vir die projekapplikant om vooraf gewaarsku te wees van potensiële omgewingskwessies en maak voorsiening vir die oplossing van kwessies wat geïdentifiseer en as deel van die BE-proses oor verslag gedoen is, en bied ook die geleentheid vir dialoog tussen sleutelbelanghebbers en belangstellende en geaffekteerde partye (B&GP's).

Savannah Environmental is aangestel as die onafhanklike omgewingskonsultante wat verantwoordelik is vir die bestuur van die aparte aansoeke om OM en om die stawende BE-prosesse te onderneem wat vereis word om potensiële omgewingsimpakte wat verband hou met die projekte te identifiseer en te evalueer, asook om gepaste versagtings- en bestuursmaatreëls aan die hand te doen wat in die Omgewingsbestuursprogramme (OBPr'e) vervat moet word. B&GP's sal regdeur die openbare deelnameproses aktief betrokke wees in die BE-prosesse.

WAT IS DIE POTENSIËLE OMGEWINGSIMPAKTE WAT VERBAND HOU MET DIE BEOOGDE PROJEKTE?

Diestudiegebiedendiebeoogderoosterkonneksiekorridor sal deur onafhanklike omgewingspesialiste geëvalueer word om die potensiaal vir omgewingsimpakte te identifiseer. Spesialisstudies wat as deel van die BE-prosesse beoog word, sluit die volgende in:

- » Biodiversiteit – wat insluit ekologie, fauna en flora – wat die potensiële impak en verwante versteuring van plantegroei op die biodiversiteit (insluitende kritiese biodiversiteitsgebiede en breëskaalprosesse) evalueer.
- » Avifauna – sluit 'n evaluering van impakte op avifauna se gewoontes en sensitiewe spesies in.



- » Grond, grondgebruik en landboupotensiaal – wat grondsoorte insluit en die omvang van verlies aan landbougrond en gronddegradasie en/of erosie evalueer.
- » Erfenis (argeologie en paleontologie) – sluit argeologie en paleontologie in en evalueer die potensiele versteuring of vernietiging van erfenisterreine en fossiele tydens die konstruksiefase weens opgrawingsbedrywighede.
- » Visueel – sluit die visuele gehalte van die gebied in en evalueer die impak van 'n FV-sonkragaanleg en 'n roosterkonneksie-oplossing op die estetika in die gebied.
- » Maatskaplik – evalueer die positiewe en negatiewe maatskaplike impakte.

Die onafhanklike spesialisstudies sal onderneem word waarin die potensieel wesenlike impakte geïdentifiseer en ter plaatse getoets sal word. Praktiese en uitvoerbare versagtingsmaatreëls sal aanbeveel word ten einde die wesenlikheid van die potensiele impakte wat geïdentifiseer is, te minimaliseer. Hierdie aanbevelings sal in 'n Omgewingsbestuursprogram (OBPr) vervat word, wat vir die verskeie projekte saamgestel sal word.

Spesialisstudies sal toegelig word deur bestaande inligting, veldwaarnemings en insette wat uit die openbare deelnameproses voortspruit. As 'n B&GP word u insette as 'n belangrike deel van die proses geag, en ons moedig u aan om betrokke te raak.

OPENBARE DEELNAMEPROSES

Die deel van inligting vorm die grondslag van die openbare deelnameproses en bied B&GP's die geleentheid om aktief by die BE-proses betrokke te raak wat vir die onderskeie projekte onderneem word. Kommentaar en insette van B&GP's word aangemoedig om te verseker dat potensiele impakte deurentyd oorweging geniet.

Die openbare deelnameproses poog om te verseker dat:

- » inligting wat al die tersaaklike feite met betrekking tot die aansoeke bevat, aan B&GP's beskikbaar gestel word vir oorsig;

- » deelname deur B&GP's op so 'n wyse gefasiliteer word dat hulle 'n redelike geleentheid gegun word om kommentaar te lewer oor die beoogde projekte; en
- » B&GP's voldoende oorsigtydperke kry om kommentaar te lewer op die bevindinge van die BE-verslae.

Om doeltreffende deelname te verseker, sluit die openbare deelnameprosesse in:

- » die identifisering van B&GP's, insluitende geaffekteerde en naburige grondeienaars en -bewoners en tersaaklike staatsinstellings;
- » die plasing van terreinkennisgewings by die geaffekteerde eiendomme;
- » die plasing van advertensies in plaaslike koerante;
- » die opstel en byhou van 'n B&GP-databasis regdeur die BE-prosesse;
- » die verwittiging van B&GP's van die aanvang van die BE-prosesse en die verspreiding van die Agtergrondinligtingsdokument (AID);
- » die verwittiging van B&GP's van tersaaklike mylpale regdeur die BE-prosesse;
- » die verwittiging van B&GP's van die vrystelling van die BE-verslae vir 'n 30-dae openbare oorsigtydperk;
- » die hou van konsultasievergaderings met B&GP's op verkillende tydstippe regdeur die proses, soos van toepassing, om B&GP's 'n geleentheid te bied om met die BE-projekspan te skakel;
- » die verwittiging van B&GP's van die DBVO se finale besluit oor of die OM toegestaan of van die hand gewys word, en van hoe daar teen so 'n besluit geappelleer kan word.

U VERANTWOORDELIKHEDE AS 'N B&GP

Kragtens die OIE-regulasies, 2014 (Staatskennisgewing R326, soos gewysig), word u aandag gevestig op u verantwoordelikhede as 'n B&GP, naamlik om:

- » aan die BE-prosesse deel te neem, moet u uself op die B&GP-databasis registreer;
- » toe te sien dat enige kommentaar rakende die beoogde projekte binne die gestipuleerde tydsraamwerk ingedien word;
- » enige regstreekse sake-, finansiële-, persoonlike- of ander belang wat u dalk in die goedkeuring of weiering van die aansoeke kan hê, bekend te maak.

HOE OM BETROKKE TE RAAK

- » Deur telefonies, per faks of per e-pos te reageer op die uitnodiging vir u betrokkenheid.
- » Deur die Antwoordvorm aan die tersaaklike kontakpersoon terug te besorg.
- » Deur vergaderings by te woon wat tydens die verloop van die BE-prosesse gehou sal word;
- » Deur die omgewingskonsultante met navrae of kommentaar te kontak.
- » Deur oorsig oor en kommentaar op die BE-verslae te bied, en wel binne die gestipuleerde 30-dae openbare oorsigtydperke. Geregistreerde B&GP's sal outomaties in kennis gestel word van die vrystelling van die BE-verslae vir kommentaar, asook van die sluitingsdatums waarteen kommentaar ontvang moet word.

As u uself as 'n B&GP vir die beoogde projekte ag, moedig ons u aan om gebruik te maak van die geleentheid wat geskep word deur die openbare deelnameproses om kommentaar te lewer, kwessies en knelpunte te opper wat u raak en/of waarin u belangstel of om meer inligting te versoek. U insette vorm 'n belangrike deel van die BE-prosesse.

Deur u kontakbesonderhede in te dien, registreer u uself outomaties as 'n B&GP vir die projek en verseker u dat kennis geneem sal word van die kommentaar wat u geopper het. Let asseblief daarop dat alle kommentaar wat ontvang word by die projek se dokumentasie ingesluit sal word en persoonlike inligting kan insluit.

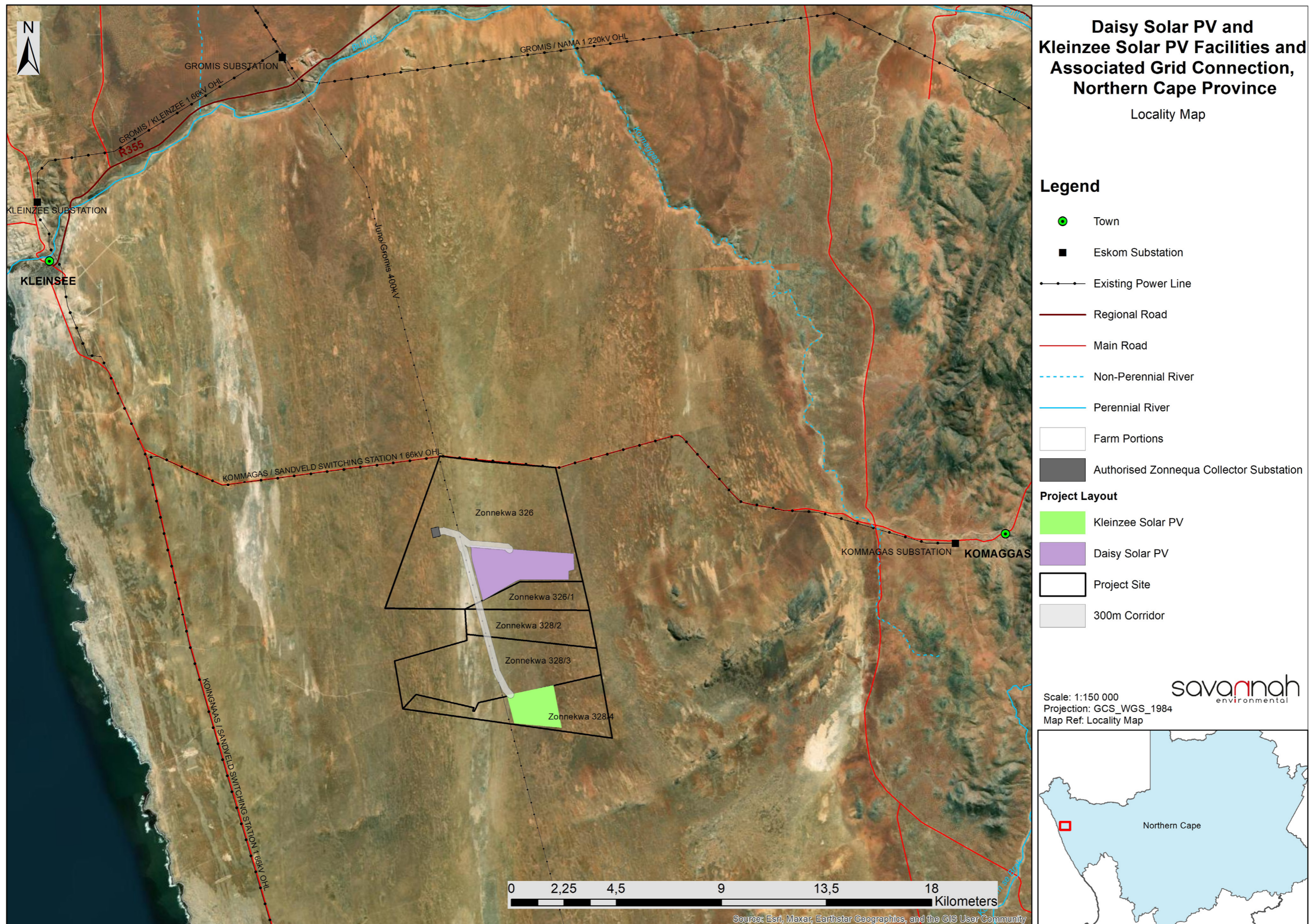
Neem Kennis dat alle verslae slegs in Engels beskikbaar is.



Ingevolge Artikel 18(2) van die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting (Popi-wet), registreer u uself outomaties as 'n B&GP vir die beoogde projekte deur die meegaande Antwoordvorm in te vul en in te dien, en alle kommentaar wat ontvang word sal ingesluit word by die projekdokumentasie, wat persoonlike inligting vir sekere doeleindes sal insluit, insluitende vir doeleindes van die appèlprosesse. As u as 'n B&GP registreer, moet u asseblief kennis dra dat die gevolge van u registrasie is dat u kontakinligting ingesluit sal word in dokumente en verslae wat in die publieke domein beskikbaar sal wees.



Figuur 2: Locality map





KOMMENTAAR EN NAVRAE

Rig alle kommentaar, navrae of antwoorde aan Bregardia Rabbie by:

Savannah Environmental (Edms.) Bpk.

Bregardia Rabbie

Posadres: Posbus 148, Sunninghill, Johannesburg, 2157

Tel: 011 656 3237

Faks: 086 684 0547

E-pos: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

BASIESE EVALUERINGS- EN OPENBARE DEELNAMEPROSES

**KLEINZEE SOLAR FV-AANLEG EN DAISY SOLAR FV-AANLEG
NOORD KAAP-PROVINSIE**

Registrasie- & Kommentaarvorm

JANUARIE 2023

Stuur asseblief voltooide registrasie- en kommentaarvorm aan: **Bregardia Rabbie** by **Savannah Environmental**

Telefoon: 011 656 3237 / **Selfoon (insl. 'please call me'):** 060 978 8396 / **Faks:** 086 684 0547

E-pos: publicprocess@savannahsa.com **Posadres:** Posbus 148, Sunninghill, 2157

U registrasie as in belanghebbende en/of geaffekteerde party (B&GP) is alleenlik van toepassing vir hierdie projek en u kontakligting word beskerm in lyn met die POPI Wetgewing van 2013

Voorsien asseblief u volledige kontakligting:

Naam & Van:			
Organisasie:			
Ampsbenaming:			
Posadres:			
Telefoonnommer		Faks:	
Selfoonnommer:			
E-pos adres:			

In terme van die OIE Regulasies, 2014, soos gewysig, Regulasie 43(1), moet u as n B&GP registreer om verdere korrespondensie rakende die Basiese Evalueeringsproses vir die bogenoemde projek te ontvang, en u moet ook enige direkte besigheid, finansiële, persoonlike of ander belang wat u mag hê met die goedkeuring of weiering van die aansoek te verklaar (gebruik addisionele bladsye, indien nodig):

Lys asseblief u kommentaar rakende die bogenoemde projek (gebruik addisionele bladsye, indien nodig):

Voorsien ons asseblief van die kontakligting van enige ander persoon wie u glo 'n potensiële B&GP is wat in kennis gestel moet word van die projek:

Naam & Van:	
Posadres:	
Telefoonnommer:	
Selfoonnommer:	
E-posadres:	

DANKIE VIR U REGSITRASIE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)



January 2023

BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

DAISY SOLAR PV AND KLEINZEE SOLAR PV, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE



The development of two (2) separate solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities are proposed by Energy Team (Pty) Ltd on a project site located approximately 20km west of the town of Komaggas, and 24km southeast of Kleinzee, in the Northern Cape. The two solar PV facilities are known as Daisy Solar PV facility and Kleinzee Solar PV facility. The PV facilities are proposed within the area of the authorised Namas Wind Farm and Zonnequa Wind farm. The facilities are located within the Nama Khoi Local Municipality, in the Namakwa District Municipality.

The Daisy Solar Energy facility will have a contracted capacity of up to 360MW and Kleinzee Solar Energy facility will have a contracted capacity of up to 200MW. Both facilities will include specific grid connection infrastructure, and a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).

Applicant	Project Name	Contracted Capacity	Affected Property
Energy Team (Pty) Ltd	Daisy Solar Farm	360MW	PV facility and grid line: Farm Zonnekwa 326
Energy Team (Pty) Ltd	Kleinzee Solar Farm	200MW	PV facility: Portion 4 of the Farm Zonnekwa 328 Grid line: Portions 4, 3, 2 and 1 of the Farm Zonnekwa 328 Farm Zonnekwa 328

The study area for the two projects is located within Springbok Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ), and therefore a Basic Assessment (BA) Report will be compiled for each project, in accordance with GNR 114 as formally gazetted on 16 February 2018, as well as a shortened timeframe of 57 days for the processing of an application for environmental authorisation. The REDZ are zones identified by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) as geographical areas of strategic importance for the development of large-scale solar PV and wind energy development activities.

It is the Developer's intention to bid each solar PV facility under the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy's (DMRE) Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement (REIPPP) Programme, with the aim of evacuating the generated power into the national grid. This will aid in the diversification and stabilisation of the country's electricity supply with the three proposed solar PV facilities set to inject 360MW into the national grid. A grid connection infrastructure is proposed to connect each facility to the authorised Zonnequa Collector Substation, which connects to the Eskom Gromis Substation.

The nature and extent of the solar PV facilities and the associated grid connection solution are explored in more detail in this Background Information Document (BID). The public participation processes for the projects will be undertaken concurrently, providing the public with an opportunity to comment on both projects simultaneously. Each solar PV facility will be constructed as a separate stand-alone project, and the project details for the respective projects are as follows:

AIM OF THIS BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

This document aims to provide you, as an interested and/or affected party (I&AP), with:

- » An overview of the proposed solar PV facilities and associated grid connection solution.
- » An overview of the BA process and specialist studies being undertaken to assess each of the projects.
- » Details of how you can become involved in the BA processes, receive information, or raise issues that may concern and/or interest you.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PROJECTS

In response to the growing electricity demand within South Africa, the need to promote renewable energy and sustainability within the Northern Cape Province, as well as the country's targets for renewable energy, the development of two solar PV facilities with a contracted capacity of up to 360MW and 200MW respectively, is proposed within the Springbok REDZ and Northern Corridor of the Strategic Transmission Corridors. The development of the facility will add new capacity to the national electricity grid network.



A development area considered to be technically suitable for the development of each solar PV facility has been identified (~651.21ha for Daisy Solar PV facility and ~300ha for Kleinzee Solar PV facility). The full extent of each development area is to be evaluated in the Basic Assessment process to identify environmental sensitivities. Site-specific studies and assessments will be undertaken through the BA processes in order to delineate areas of potential sensitivity within the identified study area and grid connection corridor. Once constraining factors have been determined, the layout of the solar PV facilities and the grid connection solution can be planned to minimise social and environmental impacts.

The infrastructure associated with each of the solar PV facilities will include:

- » Solar PV array comprising PV modules and mounting structures
- » Inverters and transformers
- » Low voltage cabling between the PV modules to the inverters
- » 33kV cabling between the project components and the facility substation
- » 132kV onsite facility substation
- » 132kV power line to connect to the grid at Zonnequa Collector Substation within a 300m wide and approximately 8.5km and 3.5km long corridor, respectively.
- » Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
- » Site offices and maintenance buildings, including workshop areas for maintenance and storage
- » Laydown areas
- » Site access and internal roads.

The grid connection infrastructure will include a Switching Substation and a 132kV power line within a 300m wide and approximately 8.5km and 3.5km long corridor, respectively.

Existing roads that will be used, wherever possible, to access the project site and development area. current existing gravel road that connects to the DR2964 located to the North of the site. The site can also be accessed off a provincial gravel minor road that connects from the surfaced MR751 road located to the west of the project site.

MORE ABOUT SOLAR PV TECHNOLOGY

Solar energy facilities (such as those that utilise PV technology) use energy from the sun to generate electricity through a process known as the Photovoltaic Effect. This effect refers to photons of light colliding with electrons, and therefore placing the electrons into a higher state of energy to create electricity. The solar fields will comprise the following components:



Photovoltaic Cells

A photovoltaic (PV) cell is made of silicone that acts as a semiconductor used to produce the photovoltaic effect. PV cells are arranged in multiples / arrays and placed behind a protective glass sheet to form a PV panel. Each PV cell is positively charged on one side and negatively charged on the opposite side, with electrical conductors attached to either side to form a circuit. This circuit captures the released electrons in the form of an electric current (i.e., Direct Current (DC)).

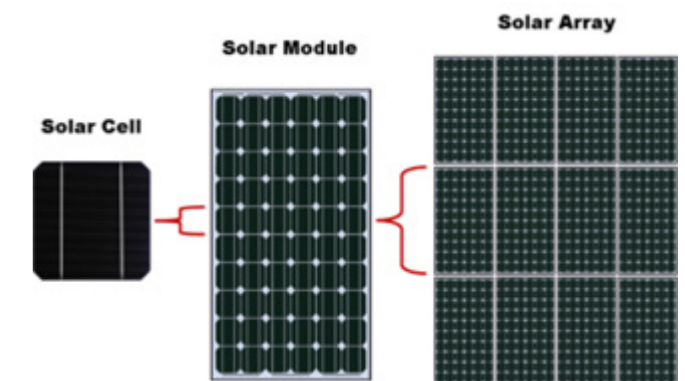


Figure 1: Overview of a PV cell, module and array/panel (Source: pveducation.com)

A PV solar panel is made up of individual PV cells connected together, whereas a solar PV array is a system made up of a group of individual solar PV panels electrically wired together to form a much larger PV installation.

The PV panels will be fixed to support structures and will either utilise fixed/static support structures, or alternatively, they can utilise single or double axis tracking support structures.

Inverters

Inverters are used to convert electricity produced by the PV cells from Direct Current (DC) into Alternating Current (AC), to enable the facility to be connected to the national electricity grid. In order to connect large solar facilities, such as the ones being proposed, to the national electricity grid, numerous inverters will be arranged in several arrays to collect and convert power produced by the facilities.

PV panels are designed to operate continuously for more than 20 years, mostly unattended and with low maintenance.



BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

In accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) published in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), the applicant requires Environmental Authorisation (EA) from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), as the Competent Authority. In terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA, the EIA Regulations, 2014 (GNR 326), GNR 114 and Listing Notices (GNR 327, GNR 325, and GNR 324), as well as GNR 114 (the site is located within the Springbok REDZ), the application for EA for the Daisy Solar PV and Kleinzee Solar PV Energy Facility and associated grid connection are subject to the completion of a Basic Assessment (BA) process. The application for EA is required to be supported by comprehensive, independent environmental studies undertaken in accordance with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, and where relevant, in line with the gazetted protocols.

A Basic Assessment is an effective planning and decision-making tool. It allows for potential environmental consequences resulting from a proposed activity to be identified and appropriately managed during the construction, operation, and decommissioning phases of development. It also provides an opportunity for the project applicant to be forewarned of potential environmental issues and allows for the resolution of issue(s) identified and reported on as part of the BA process, as well as provides opportunity for dialogue with key stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs).

Savannah Environmental has been appointed as the independent environmental consultants responsible for managing the separate applications for EA and undertaking the supporting BA processes required to identify and assess potential environmental impacts associated with the projects, as well as propose appropriate mitigation and management measures to be contained within the Environmental Management Programmes (EMPrs). I&APs will be actively involved in the BA processes through the public participation process.

WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECTS?

The study area and the proposed grid connection corridor will be assessed by independent environmental specialists to identify the potential for environmental impacts. Specialist studies that are proposed as part of the BA processes include the following:

- » Biodiversity – which includes ecology, fauna and flora and assesses the potential impact and the associated disturbance of vegetation on the biodiversity (including critical biodiversity areas and broad-scale processes).



- » Avifauna – includes an assessment of impacts on avifaunal habitats and sensitive species.
- » Soils, Land Use, and Agricultural Potential – which includes land types and assesses the significance of loss of agricultural land and soil degradation and/or erosion.
- » Heritage (Archaeology and Palaeontology) – which includes archaeology and palaeontology and assesses the potential of disturbance to or destruction of heritage sites and fossils during the construction phase through excavation activities.
- » Visual – which includes the visual quality of the area and assesses the impact of a solar PV facility and a grid connection solution on the aesthetics within the area.
- » Social – which assesses the positive and negative social impacts.

The independent specialist studies will be undertaken wherein the potentially significant impacts will be identified, assessed and ground-truthed. Practical and achievable mitigation measures will be recommended in order to minimise the significance of the potential impacts identified. These recommendations will be included within an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) compiled for the various projects.

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 urge you to become involved.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The sharing of information forms the basis of the public participation process and offers I&APs the opportunity to become actively involved in the BA processes being undertaken for the respective projects. Comments and inputs from I&APs are encouraged in order to ensure that potential impacts are considered throughout. The public participation process aims to ensure that:

- » Information containing all relevant facts in respect of the applications are made available to I&APs for review.

- » I&AP participation is facilitated in such a manner that they are provided with reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed projects.
- » Adequate review periods are provided for I&APs to comment on the findings of the BA Reports.

In order to ensure effective participation, the public participation processes include the following:

- » Identifying I&APs, including affected and adjacent landowners and occupiers of land, and relevant Organs of State.
- » Placing site notices at the affected properties.
- » Placing advertisements in local newspapers.
- » Compiling and maintaining a database of I&APs throughout the BA processes.
- » Notifying I&APs of the commencement of the BA processes and distributing the Background Information Document (BID).
- » Notifying I&APs of relevant milestones throughout the BA processes.
- » Notifying I&APs of the release of the BA Reports for a 30-day public review period.
- » Holding consultation meetings with I&APs at various intervals throughout the process as applicable to provide an opportunity for I&APs to engage with the BA project team.
- » Notifying I&APs of DFFE's final decision on whether to grant or refuse EA, and the manner in which such a decision may be appealed.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS AN I&AP

In terms of the 2014 EIA Regulations (GNR 326, as amended), your attention is drawn to your responsibilities as an I&AP:

- » In order to participate in the BA processes, you must register yourself on the I&AP database.
- » You must ensure that any comments regarding the proposed projects are submitted within the stipulated timeframes.
- » You are required to disclose any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest that you may have in the approval or refusal of the applications.

HOW TO BECOME INVOLVED

1. By responding by phone, fax, or e-mail, to the invitation for your involvement.
2. By returning the reply form to the relevant contact person.
3. By attending meetings to be held during the course of the BA processes.
4. By contacting the environmental consultants with queries or comments.
5. By reviewing and commenting on the BA Reports within the stipulated 30-day public review periods. Registered I&APs will automatically be notified of the release of the BA Reports for comment, and the closing dates by which comments must be received.

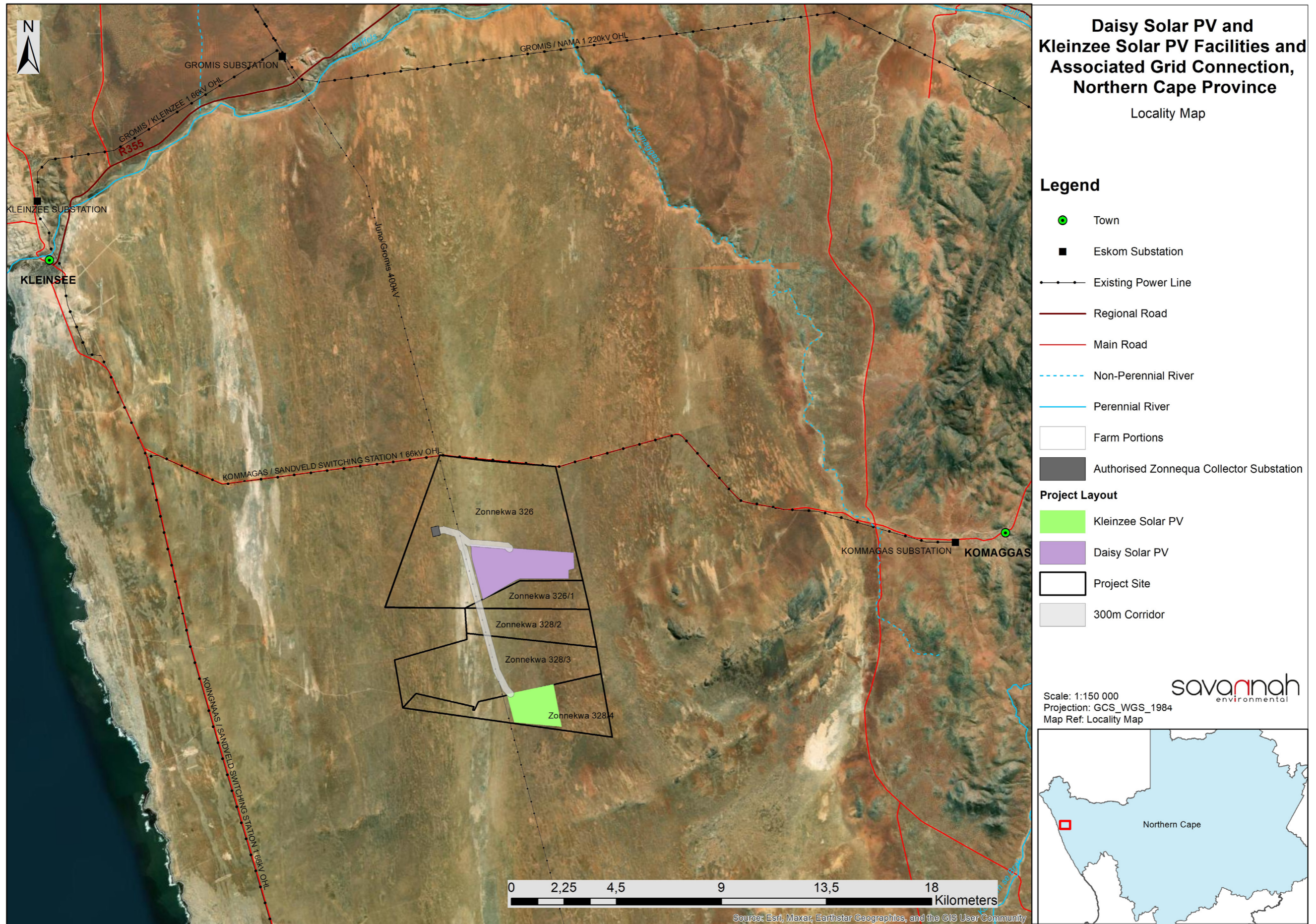
If you consider yourself an I&AP for the proposed projects, we urge you to make use of the opportunities created by the public participation process to provide comment, raise issues and concerns which affect and / or interest you, or request further information. Your input forms a key element of the BA processes.

By submitting your contact details, you automatically register yourself as an I&AP for the project, and are ensured that your comments raised will be noted. Please note that all comments received will be included in the project documentation, and this may include personal information.



In terms of Section 18(2) of the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA), by completing and submitting the accompanying reply form, you automatically register yourself as an I&AP for the proposed projects, and that all comments received will be included in the project documentation, and this will include personal information for certain purposes, including for purposes of the appeal processes. If you register as an I&AP please be informed that the consequences of your registration is that your contact information will be included in documents and reports that will be available in the public domain.

Figure 2: Locality map





COMMENTS AND QUERIES

Direct all comments, queries or responses to:

Savannah Environmental
Bregardia Rabbie

P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157

Mobile: 060 978 8396

Tel: 011 656 3237

Fax: 086 684 0547

Email: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

To visit the online stakeholder engagement platform and view project documentation, visit www.savannahSA.com

BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

**KLEINZEE SOLAR PV FACILITY AND DAISY SOLAR PV FACILITY
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

Registration & Comment Form

JANUARY 2023

Return completed registration and comment form to: **Bregardia Rabbie** of **Savannah Environmental**

Phone: 011 656 3237 / **Mobile (incl. 'please call me')**: 060 978 8396 / **Fax:** 086 684 0547

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com **Postal Address:** PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157

Your registration as an interested and/or affected party will be applicable for this project only and your contact details provided are protected by the POPI Act of 2013

Please provide your complete contact details:

Name & Surname:			
Organisation:			
Designation:			
Postal Address:			
Telephone:		Fax:	
Mobile:			
E-mail:			

In terms of EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 43(1), you are required to register as an I&AP to receive further correspondence regarding the EIA process for the projects and to disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which you may have in the approval or refusal of the application (add additional pages if necessary):

--

Please list your comments regarding your project selection above (add additional pages if necessary):

--

Please provide contact details of any other persons who you regard as a potential interested or affected party:

Name & Surname:	
Postal Address:	
Telephone:	
Mobile:	
E-mail:	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR REGISTRATION