

APPENDIX C:
Public Participation

APPENDIX C1:
I&AP Database

SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS ADDITIONAL FOOTPRINT FOR THE SAN SOLAR PV FACILITY NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

APPENDIX C1: INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY DATABASE

Company	First Name	Last Name	Position	Department
WESSA: National	Morgan	Griffiths		
WESSA Northern Cape Region	Suzanne	Erasmus	Chairperson	
WESSA	Suzanne	Erasmus	Chairperson	
WESSA	Lemson	Petha		
WESSA	John	Wesson	Northern Region	Northern Region
Stokkiesdraai Guesthouse		Inquiries		
South African Weather Services	Zamikhaya	Magogotya		Radar Specialist
South African Weather Services	Webster	Ngoepe		
South African Weather Services	Rydall	Jardine		
South African Weather Services	Puseletso	Mofokeng		
South African Weather Services	Bernard	Petlane		
South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)	Selaelo	Mathlane	Spectrum and Telecoms Manager	
South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)	Busang	Sithole	Analyst	Site Categorisation
South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)	Adrian	Tiplady	South African SKA Site Bid Manager	Site Categorisation
South African National Roads Agency Limited	Victoria	Botha		
South African Local Government Association (SALGA)	Xolile	George	Chief Executive Officer	
South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	Ragna	Redelstorf	Heritage Officer	
South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	Phillip	Hine	Heritage Officer: Northern Cape & North West Province	
South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) Head Office Cape Town	Dumisani	Sibayi	Executive Officer Heritage Branch	
South African Civil Aviation Authority	Lizelle	Stroh	Obstacle Specialist	Aviation Obstacle and GIS
South African Civil Aviation Authority	Evelyn	Shogole-Molepo		
South African Astronomical Observatory	Ted	Williams	Director	
South African Astronomical Observatory	Ramotholo	Sefako	Director	
South African Astronomical Observatory	Petri	Vaisanen	Astronomer	
South African Astronomical Observatory	Patricia	Whiteblock	Director	
South Africa Heritage Resources Agency	Ragna	Redelstorf		
Sentech Ltd	Zane	Mannel	Head	National Operations and Planning
Sentech Ltd	Serame	Mothake	Manager	Radio Frequency Network Planning
Sentech Ltd	Marlon	Finnis		
Sentech Ltd	Johan	Koegelenberg	Coverage Planner: RF Networks	Renewable Projects
SANRAL	Nxobile	Mabaso	Regional Environmental Manager	
SANRAL	Nicole	Abrahams	Environmental Coordinator: Western Region	
SAHRA	Natasha	Higgitt	Heritage Officer - Northern Cape	Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
SAEON Arid Lands Node	Joh	Henschel		
Red Rocket South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Matteo	Brambilla	Chief Executive Officer	
Red Rocket (Building Energy)	Magdalena	Logan		
Northern Cape Economic Development Agency	Riaan	Warie		
Northern Cape Economic Development Agency	Babalwa	Mbobo	Deputy Director: Renewable Energy	
Northern Cape Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform	Elsabe	Swart	Scientific Manager: Grade B	Research & Development
Northern Cape Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform	Dineo	Moleko	Assistant Director Impact Management	
Northern Cape Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform	Dewald	Badenhorst	Manager: Protected Areas - West	
Northern Cape Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform	Bryan	Fisher	Director	Environmental Quality Management
Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development	Wonders Dimakatso	Viljoen	Head of Department: Agriculture	
Northern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works	Ruth	Palm	Chief Director: Roads	
Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Onwabile	Ndzumo	Case Officer	Impact Management
Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Natalie	Uys	Candidate Scientist: Botanist	
Northern Cape Department of Roads & Public Works	Menelisi	Sithole		
Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Luzane	Tools-Bernado		
Northern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works	Kholikile	Nogwili	Head of Department	
Northern Cape Department of Roads & Public Works	Jaco	Roelofse	Director: Roads	
Northern Cape Department of Environment & Nature Conservation	Denver	van Heerden	Head of Department	
Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Denver	van Heerden	Head of Department	Head of Department
Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development	Ali	Diteme		
Northern Cape Chamber of Commerce & Industry (NOCCEI)	Sharon	Steyn		
Ngwao-Boswa Ya Kapa Bokone (N Cape Prov Heritage Resource Authority)	Timothy	Ratha	Heritage Officer	Northern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Authority
Ngwao-Boswa Ya Kapa Bokone (NCPHRA)	Andrew	Timothy	Heritage Officer	
NC Dept of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (Provincial)	Jacoline	Mans	Chief Forester: NFA Regulation	Forestry Management
NC Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform	Viljoen	Mothibi		
NC Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform	Samantha	De la Fontaine	Production Scientist Grade A: District Ecologist	Research and Development Support Unit
NC Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform	Peter	Cloete	Research Development Officer	Namakwa District Municipality
National Khoisan Council	William	Petersen	Secretary	
National Khoisan Council	Cecil	Le Fleur	Chairman	
National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Tamai	Hore	Senior Engineer: Generation Licensing	Generation Licensing
National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Siphiwe	Khumalo	Senior Engineer: Distribution Licensing	Electricity Licensing, Compliance and Dispute Regulation
National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Pieter	Buys		
National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Phindile	Nzimande	The Chief Executive Officer	
National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Mmoni	Suza		
National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Andile	Gxasheka	Renewable Energy Specialist	
Mvelaphande Trading	Chris	Schutte		
MTN	Ms S (Shery)	Grey	National Property Manager	
Kumba Iron Ore Sishen Mine	Sydney	Ntiti		Public Affairs
Kathu Solar Power Park	Marius	Vivier		
Kathu Solar Park	Susan	Yanguya		
Kathu Solar Park	Nyasha	Paradza		
Kathu Solar	Cedric	Faye		
John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality	T	Tongwane	Municipal Manager Secretary	
John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality	Sofia	Mosikatsi	Executive Mayor	

John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality	Sofia	Mosikatse	Secretary	
John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality	Moses	Eilerd	Acting Municipal Manager	
John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality	Molemoeeng	Bokgwathile	Municipal Manager	
John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality	MG	Molale	Secretary	
John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality	Masabata	Molale	Personal Assistant: Office of the Mayor	
John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality	Disang	Molaole	Municipal Manager	
John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality	Disang	Molale	Secretary	
John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality	Dineo	Leserwane	HOD: Communications	
John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality				
Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA)	Praneel	Ruplal		
Gamagara Local Municipality	Virginia	Modise	Personal Assistant: Office of the Mayor	
Gamagara Local Municipality	Thusoeng	Itumeleng	Municipal Manager	
Gamagara Local Municipality	Lebo	Bitsang	Municipal Manager Secretary	
Gamagara Local Municipality	Kgomodikae J	Leserwane	Municipal Manager	
Gamagara Local Municipality	Kgomodikae	Leserwane	Municipal Manager	
Gamagara Local Municipality	Kathy	Fleming		
Gamagara Local Municipality	Kagiso	Osttang	Director	Technical Services
Gamagara Local Municipality	Jerome	Bob	Electrical Engineer	Technical Services
Gamagara Local Municipality	Janine	De Wee	Town Planner	
Gamagara Local Municipality	Ingrid	de Koker	Personal Assistant	
Gamagara Local Municipality	Edwin	Hantise	Executive Mayor	
Gamagara Local Municipality	Domingos	Estavao	Electrical Technician	
Gamagara Local Municipality	Dineo	Seetile	Speaker of the Council	
Gamagara Local Municipality				
Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	Nondwe	Khanye	Environmental Officer	
Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	Nolan	Dominick	Telecommunication	
Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	Lungi	Motsis	Manager	Land and Rights
Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	Lianne	Muller	Snr Supervisor Tech Network Data	Eskom Distribution
Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	Kubentheran	Nair		Eskom Generation
Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	John	Geerinhg	Senior Environmental Advisor	GC Land Development
Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	Debbie	Harding		Northern Cape
ESKOM	Kevin	Leask		
Endangered Wildlife Trust	Constant	Hoogstad	Programme Manager	Climate Change Mitigation
Dranax Energy Pty Ltd	Neels	Kruger		
Department of Water and Sanitation	Steven	Shibambu		Water Quality Management: Lower Orange
Department of Water and Sanitation	Sifiso	Mkhize		Water Management Area
Department of Water and Sanitation	Shaun	Cloete		Lower Orange WMA
Department of Water and Sanitation	Kobus	Streuders	Acting: Provincial Head	
Department of Science and Technology	Mere	Kgampe	Director: Astronomy Management Authority (AMA)	
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Ryan	Oliver	Senior Registry Clerk	Commission on Restitution of Land Rights
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Nozizwe	Makgalemele	Deputy Director General: Spatial Land Use and Management	
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Nomfundo	Ntloko-Gobodo	Chief Land Claims Commissioner	
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Mangalane	Du Toit	Chief Director: Land Restitution Support	Northern Cape
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Lorato	Sehularo	Communication Officer	Provincial Land Reform Office: Northern Cape
Department of Public Enterprises	Donald	Nkadimeng	Chief Director	
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy	Sunday	Mabaso	Regional Manager	
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy	Pheladi	Masipa	Acting Project Manager: Renewable Energy Initiatives	
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy	Mthetheleli	Maphinda	Regional Energy Director	
Department of Mineral Resources	Kgauta	Mokoena		
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy	Kevin	Mutheiwana		Regional Manager: Northern Cape - Springbok
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy	Jasper	Nieuwoudt	Regional Manager	
Department of Labour	Monica	Lepheane		
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Wilma	Lutsch		
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Thoko	Buthelezi	Administration Clerk: National Office	AgriLand Liaison Office
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Seoka	Lekota	Deputy Director	Biodiversity Mainstreaming EIA
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Portia	Makitla	Biodiversity Officer	Biodiversity Mainstreaming EIA
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Pamela	Kershaw	Project Manager: Environmental Planning	Biodiversity Planning (Offset Unit)
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Mulalo	Sundani		Forestry Regulation and Oversight
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Mashudu	Manubini	Delegate to the Minister	
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Aulicia	Maifo		Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries	Tsholofelo	Sekonko		DFFE
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries	Thabile	Sangweni	Environmental Officer	
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries	Muhammad	Essop		Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries	Mmatlala	Rabothata		Biodiversity
Department of Environment and Nature Conservation: Northern Cape	M	Mathews		
Department of Environment and Nature Conservation: Northern Cape	Anga	Yaphi	Environmental Officer	
Department of Energy	Nomawethu	Qase	Director	Renewable Energy Initiatives
Department of Energy	Enid	Babuseng		Northern Cape Regional Office
Department of Energy	.	The Director: Mpuma	Director	
Department of Economic Development and Tourism	Riaan	Warie	Senior Manager	
Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	Wonders	Mothibi	Head of Department	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	Thebe	Thebe	Regional Manager	DAFF Northern Cape Province
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	D	Nhlakad	Land Use and Soil Management	AgriLand Liaison office
Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	Anneliza	Collett		Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	Anneliza	Collett		
Cell C	Roger	Everett		
Cell C	Marius	Otto	Manager	
Cell C	Harish	Kasseepursad		
Cell C	Brian	Joubert		
C.A.P.E. Co-ordination Unit: Northern Cape	Lubabalo	Nisolo		
BirdLife South Africa	Samantha	Ralston-Paton	Manager	Birds and Renewable Energy
Atlantic Energy Partners	David	Peinke	Director	
Anglo American	Thokozani	Hlophe	Principal Mineral Right	
Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS)	Simphiwe	Masilela	Obstacle Evaluator	
Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS)	Johanna	Morobane	Manager: Corporate Sustainability and Environment	Aviation
AgriSA	Janse	Rabie	Head	Natural Resources
Agri Northern Cape	Nicol	Jansen	President	
Agri Northern Cape	Melanie	Theron	Secretary: Orange River Agricultural Union	
Agri Northern Cape	H	Myburgh		
Agri Northern Cape	Abra	Van Wyk	Chairman: Sutherland Farmers Union	
African Farmers Association of South Africa	Vuyo	Mahlali	President	
AEP Mogbe Soklar	David	Peinke	Director	
AEP Lekogo Solar	David	Peinke	Director	
AEP Kathu Solar	David	Peinke	Director	
	Wonders	Mothibi	Head of Department: Agriculture	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development
	Willem	Maritz	Landowner	
	Unai Brtavo	Urtasun	Landowner	
	Portia Penelope	Derby		
	Mark	Moorhouse	Landowner	
	Heinrich	Nortje	Landowner	
	Gregory	Babaya	Landowner	
	Casper	Van Der Walt	Landowner	

APPENDIX C2:
Site Notices and Newspaper Advertisements

Site and Process Notices

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

SAN SOLAR PV FACILITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Applicant: San Solar Energy (Pty) Ltd

Activity: Development of a 100MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Facility and associated infrastructure. The infrastructure associated with the project will include:

- » PV modules and mounting structures
- » Inverters and transformers
- » Cabling between the panels, to be laid underground where practical.
- » Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
- » Site and internal access roads (up to 8m wide)
- » Laydown area.
- » Operation and Maintenance buildings including a gate and security building, control centre, offices, warehouse, and workshop areas for maintenance and storage.
- » Grid connection solution including a 132kV facility substation, 132kV switching station to be connected via a Loop-in-Loop out (LILLO) connection to the Fox - Umtu 132kV overhead power line located east of the site.

Project Location: Remaining extent of the Farm Wincanton 472, approximately 16km north west of the town of Kathu in the Northern Cape Province within the Gamagara Local Municipality of the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality.

Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) Process: In terms of Sections 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998), as read with Government Notice R324 to R327, as amended, a S&EIA process is required for the facility. Savannah Environmental is undertaking the required S&EIA and public participation processes for the project.

Public Participation Process: To obtain further information on the projects and to register on the project database, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the project, in writing, to:

Lehlogonolo Mashego at Savannah Environmental

P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157

Tel: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including Please Call Me)

Fax: 086 684 0547

Email: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Website: www.savannahsa.com



This notice is not for job applications but rather an opportunity to **register/comment** on the project. Should you know of any **vulnerable person** that needs to be informed of and be part of this proposed project, please contact us.

Proof of Site Notice: Placed on 07 March 2022



27°34'44.69"S 22°56'22.13"E

Newspaper Advertisements

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

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Scoping Report Available for Review: The Scoping Report is available for review and comment from **Tuesday, 08 March 2022** until **Friday, 08 April 2022**. The reports are available for download from Savannah Environmental website: <https://savannahsa.com/public-documents/energy-generation/>. The final date to submit comments is **Friday 08 April 2022**.

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Email: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Website: www.savannahsa.com

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Premier prioritises infrastructure development & jobs in SOPA

Northern Cape Premier Dr Zamani Saul said that investment in infrastructure development is vital if the province is to grow economically. The premier was delivering the State of the Province Address (SOPA) in Upington on Thursday 24 February 2022.

"South Africa and the Northern Cape require local and foreign investment to grow the economy. The unique resource portfolio of the Northern Cape must be utilised to benefit our raw material. What industry consumes must be manufactured locally.

Thus, we need to provide industrial centres of excellence with world class infrastructure. As the Northern Cape, we are in the process of initiating a Western SADC (Southern African Development Community) export and manufacturing corridor to connect Namibia, Botswana and several South African provinces," he said. The corridor, Dr Saul said, would consist of the Kathu Industrial Park at the centre of the Gamagara mining corridor; Upington Industrial Park as a service centre for road, rail and air transport, agriculture, agro-processing and manufacturing and Namakwa SEZ in Aggeneys - an industrial cluster for mining and agriculture services, beneficiation and manufacturing.

"All of these projects are at an advanced stage. We are especially excited for the prospects of the SASOL hydrogen pre-feasibility study outcome, the Boegoebaai Harbour nearing final planning stages, Namakwa SEZ designation, Upington Industrial Park



Premier of the NC Dr Zamani Saul delivering the 2022 SOPA in Upington.

construction and Kathu Industrial Park business plan. Each of these investments are game changers for the Northern Cape, South Africa and SADC.

"To underpin these investments, province-wide infrastructure and investment is required and thus we are working in partnership with the presidency to realise these infrastructure investment opportunities," the premier said.

At the SOPA, Dr Saul announced that the Northern Cape state-owned construction company - initially announced in 2019 - is expected to be launched at the end of June this year. "We are in the process of registering the Northern Cape state-owned construction company. We hope to launch the company before the end of June this year and the MEC of Finance, Economic Devel-

opment and Tourism will elaborate on this and indicate the funding for the company for the 2022/23 financial year," he said.

The company, in collaboration with the provincial Department of Roads and Public Works (DRPW) is expected to: Build RDP houses for human settlements, roads and other infrastructure; train and upskill people with a special focus on unemployed youth; absorb young people who have been trained; serve as a training institution for mass production of artisans; implement 30% of the provincial government's infrastructure project and serve as an incubator for small businesses in the Northern Cape province.

The premier said that the youth unemployment rate in the province, which stands at about 37% is "an indictment on us all". Dr Saul said interventions are underway to creating more youth employment opportunities through: Industrialisation, which includes the implementation of catalytic projects; skills development, which will be done in partnership with institutes of higher learning (FET colleges, universities) and SITAs to provide training and skills to unemployed youth and enterprise development focusing on township economy.

In addition, government will be creating descent and sustainable jobs by beginning a process of insourcing security guards in the province's departments. Further support functions such as cleaning, gardening and catering that are currently outsourced are being considered for insourcing.

SAnews.gov.za

Renewables come in at less than half the current cost of energy

Failure to wholeheartedly embrace the generation of renewable energy is out-and-out business folly.

Anglo American and Engie made this perfectly clear on Thursday 03 February 2022

when they revealed that renewables come in at less than half the price of South Africa's current high-priced carbon-intensive power - which is set to rise even further this year.

Anglo American Platinum (Amplats) CEO

Natascha Viljoen, who is also the deputy chairperson of the Energy Council of South Africa, summed it up with these words: "The cost of renewables comes in at less than 50% of what we are currently paying for energy."

On renewables' intermittency, Engie Thermal Supply and Hydrogen Africa MD Jonathan Debas, outlined how hydrogen was able to assist significantly on the energy storage front by helping to solve the problem presented by a sun that did not always shine and a wind that did not always blow.

Ms Viljoen emphasised the huge role that renewables and storage could play in slashing energy insecurity.

"I certainly think that we're absolutely underestimating the value that renewables can have for us as a country," said Ms Viljoen, in reference to the economic stimulation that could be provided by stable and secure solar, wind and storage (SWS), which provided the opportunity to deliver near-zero-marginal-cost excess green energy.

Concentration on SWS had the power to reverse the huge opportunity loss that South Africa had suffered through load-shedding, as well as bring with it significantly lower electricity costs, while green hydrogen could be stored for deployment when needed.

Mr Debas, rated South Africa's sun and wind as being amongst the best in the world and on a par with those of Chile, Saudi Arabia and Australia.

Moreover, South Africa's overall hydrogen knowledge base was decades long and now needed to be applied to green hydrogen. The country already had the hydrogen assets and the people who knew how to manage them. With the Hydrogen Valley being developed, close-proximity demand would be available for locally produced green hydrogen.

With those pillars, South Africa could eventually be transformed into an exporter of green hydrogen to those countries unable to generate their own green hydrogen.

Mining Weekly

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Lehlogonolo Mashego at Savannah Environmental
P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: 011 656 3237
Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including Please Call Me)
Fax: 086 684 0547
Email: publicprocess@savannahsa.com
Website: www.savannahsa.com

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APPENDIX C3:
Background Information Document

MARCH
2022



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS
SAN SOLAR PV FACILITY,
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The development of a Solar photovoltaic (PV) facility, with a generating capacity of up to 100MW, is proposed by San Solar Energy (Pty) Ltd on the Remaining Extent of the Farm Wincanton 472 located approximately 16km north west of the town of Kathu in the Northern Cape Province. The solar PV facility is to be known as San Solar PV. The site is located within the Gamagara Local Municipality of the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality.

The nature and extent of the solar PV facility is explored in more detail in this Background Information Document (BID). A full Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process is being undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the development of the PV facility and associated infrastructure. The public participation process provides the public with an opportunity to comment on the project.

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 infrastructure.
- » An overview of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) process and specialist studies being undertaken to assess the project.
- » Details of how you can become involved in the S&EIA process, receive information, or raise comments that may concern and/or interest you.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

A project site considered to be suitable for the development of the solar PV facility, with an extent of approximately 991.5 hectares in total, was identified by the project developer. The dedicated development area for the solar PV facility will be approximately 400ha in extent. The full extent of the project site is to be evaluated in the Scoping phase to identify sensitivities. Site-specific studies and assessments will delineate areas of potential sensitivity within the identified study area. Once constraining factors have been confirmed, the layout of the solar PV facility within the development area can be planned to avoid sensitive environmental areas and features.

The infrastructure associated with each 100MW solar PV facility will include:

- » PV modules and mounting structures.
- » Inverters and transformers.
- » Cabling between the panels, to be laid underground where practical.
- » Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).
- » Site and internal access roads (up to 8m wide).
- » Laydown area.
- » Operation and Maintenance buildings including a gate and security building, control centre, offices, warehouse, and workshop areas for maintenance and storage.
- » Grid connection solution including a 132kV facility substation, 132kV switching station to be connected via a Loop-in-Loop out (LILo) connection to the Fox-Umtu 132kV overhead power line located east of the site.

The site is accessible via the R380 provincial route which branches off the N14 National Road, approximately 3km south of Kathu.

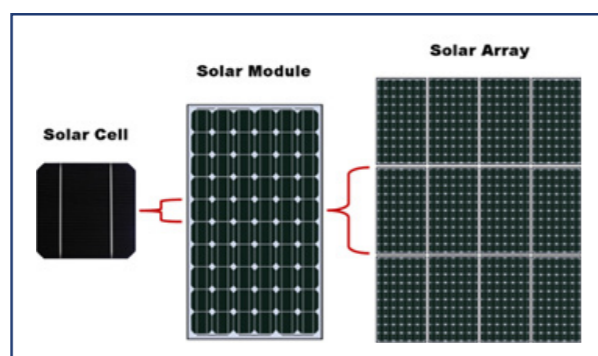


MORE ABOUT SOLAR PV TECHNOLOGY

Solar energy facilities 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 of the PV facilities 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)).



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

A solar PV module is made up of individual solar PV cells connected together, whereas a solar PV array is a system made up of a group of individual solar PV modules electrically wired together to form a much larger PV installation. The PV panels will be fixed to support structures to maximise exposure to the sun.

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

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. Numerous inverters will be arranged in several arrays to collect and convert power produced by the facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT 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 applicants require an Environmental Authorisation from the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) in consultation with the Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform for the development of the proposed project. In terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA, the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended) and Listing Notices (GNR 327, GNR 325, and GNR 324), the application for EA is subject to the completion of S&EIA process. The application is required to be supported by comprehensive, independent environmental studies undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

An EIA 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 impacts identified and reported on as part of the S&EIA 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 consultant responsible for managing the applications for EA and undertaking the supporting EIA process required to identify and assess potential environmental impacts associated with the project, 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 S&EIA process through the PPP.

WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED SAN SOLAR PROJECT

The study area will be assessed by independent environmental specialists to identify the potential for environmental impacts. Specialist studies that are proposed as part of the S&EIA process include the following:

- » Biodiversity – includes ecology & freshwater, fauna and flora and assess the potential impact and the associated disturbance of vegetation on the biodiversity (including critical biodiversity areas and broad-scale process).
- » Avifauna – includes an assessment of impacts on avifaunal habitats and sensitive features.
- » Soils, Land Use, and Agricultural Potential – 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 the solar PV facilities and the grid connection solution on the aesthetics within the area.
- » Social – which assesses the positive and negative social impacts.



Specialist studies will be informed by existing information, previous experience in the area, 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 PPP and offers I&APs the opportunity to become actively involved in the S&EIA process. Comments and inputs from I&APs are encouraged to ensure that potential impacts are considered throughout the S&EIA process. The PPP aims to ensure that:

- » Information containing all relevant facts in respect of the applications is 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 project.
- » Adequate review periods are provided for I&APs to comment on the findings of the Scoping and EIA Report.

To ensure effective participation, the PPP includes the following:

- » Identifying I&APs, including affected and adjacent landowners and occupiers of land, and relevant Organs of State (OoS), and recording details within a database.
- » Notifying registered I&APs of the commencement of the S&EIA process
- » and distributing the BID.
- » Providing access to registered parties to Savannah Environmental's website, which centralises project information and stakeholder input in a single digital platform.
- » Providing an opportunity for I&APs to engage with the S&EIA project team.
- » Placing site notices at the affected property/ies.
- » Placing an advertisement in a local newspaper.
- » Notifying I&APs of the release of the Reports for a 30-day review and comment period.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS AN I&AP

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and the Public Participation Guidelines, 2014 your attention is drawn to your responsibilities as an I&AP:

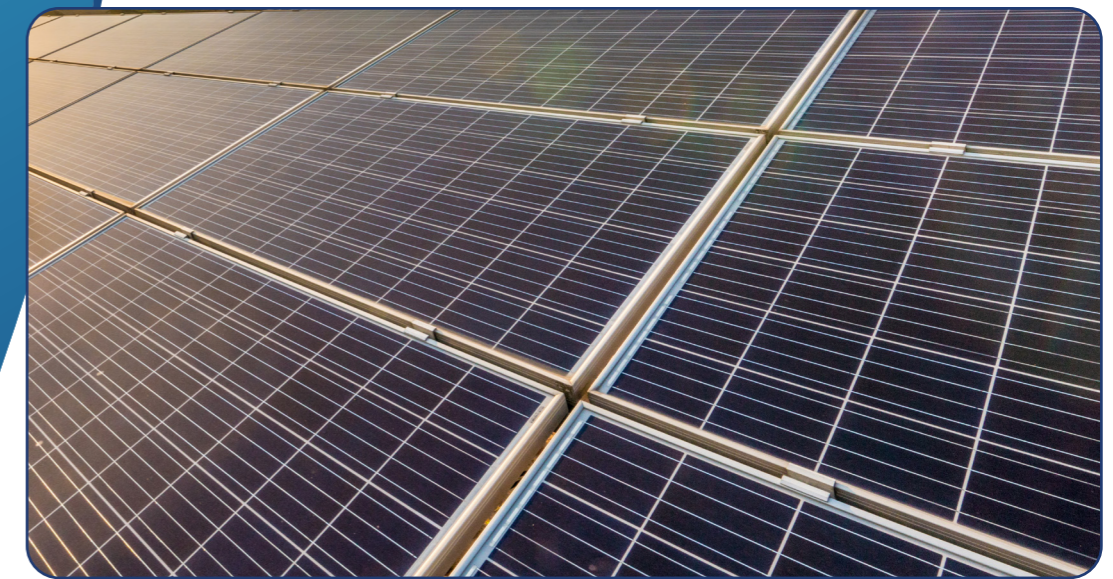
- » To participate in the S&EIA process
- » , you must register yourself on the I&AP database.
- » You must ensure that any comments regarding the project are submitted within the stipulated timeframes.
- » You are required to disclose any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest that 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 contacting the environmental consultant with queries or comments.
4. By reviewing and commenting on the Reports within the stipulated 30-day review and comment periods. Registered I&APs will automatically be notified of the release of the Scoping and EIA Reports (respectively) for comment, and the closing dates by which comments must be received.

If you consider yourself an I&AP for the project, we urge you to make use of the opportunities created by the PPP 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 S&EIA process.

By completing and submitting the accompanying reply form, you automatically register yourself as an I&AP for the project, and are ensured that your comments, concerns, or queries raised regarding the project will be noted. Please note that all comments received will be included in the project documentation. This may include personal information.





COMMENTS AND QUERIES

Direct all comments, queries or responses to:

Lehlogonolo Mashego

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157

Tel: 011 656 3237

Mobile number: 060 978 8396

Fax: 086 684 0547

Email: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

To view project documentation, visit

www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/energy-generation/



APPENDIX C4:
Organs of State Correspondence

Lehlogonolo Mashego

From: Lehlogonolo Mashego
Sent: Wednesday, 09 February 2022 16:05
To: 'sdelafontaine@gmail.com'; 'elsabe.dtec@gmail.com'; 'msmit@ncpg.gov.za'; 'christine.dtec@gmail.com'; 'nuys.denc@gmail.com'; 'Jmans@dffe.gov.za'
Cc: Rendani Rasivhetshela; Nondumiso Bulunga; Karen Jodas; 'Simon.Todd@3foxes.co.za'
Subject: SE3203_San Solar PV: Meeting Notes of Focus Group Meeting
Attachments: SE3203_DFFE Meeting Notes 18012022 FINAL.pdf

Tracking:	Recipient	Recall
	'sdelafontaine@gmail.com'	
	'elsabe.dtec@gmail.com'	
	'msmit@ncpg.gov.za'	
	'christine.dtec@gmail.com'	
	'nuys.denc@gmail.com'	
	'Jmans@dffe.gov.za'	
	Rendani Rasivhetshela	Failed: 2022/02/10 05:59
	Nondumiso Bulunga	Failed: 2022/02/09 16:07
	Karen Jodas	
	'Simon.Todd@3foxes.co.za'	

Good day Colleagues,

Following the Focus Group Meeting held on 18 January 2022, please find attached are the meeting notes for your reference. Should you have any comments on the notes, kindly send these for us to consider incorporating into the notes. May you be advised that should we not receive any comments by **Monday, 14 February 2022** then we will note that you have accepted the meeting notes in its current state.

Kind regards



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

Lehlogonolo Mashego
Public Participation & Environmental
Consultant

e: lehlogonolo@savannahsa.com
c: +27 (0)76 837 5240

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

Processing of personal Information / POPIA compliance

We respect your privacy and acknowledge that this e-mail will contain Personal Information, which may belong to you, others and/or to your organization and which we will process. The processing of your personal information by Savannah Environmental may be included in reports submitted to governmental departments or on our public platforms, which processing will be done in accordance with our processing notice housed on our website - <https://savannahsa.com/privacy-policy-privacy-policy-page/>. By sending and/or receiving this message, you hereby consent to the lawful processing of personal information for the intended purposes, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No 4 of 2013).

This email has been scanned for viruses and malware, and automatically archived by **Mimecast SA (Pty) Ltd**, and is believed to be clean.

Lehlogonolo Mashego

From: Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 04 March 2022 08:31
To: Rendani Rasivhetshele
Cc: Lehlogonolo Mashego; Nondumiso Bulunga; Olivia Letlalo; Thando Booii; Makhosi Yeni; Thembisile Hlatshwayo
Subject: PP plan approval for 2022-03-0001
Attachments: SE3203 - San Solar PP Plan Updated 03032022 Final.pdf; SE3203 - San Solar PP Plan Updated 03032022 with amendment ref.pdf

Dear Rendani,

The amended Public Participation (PP) Plan received by this Department on 03 March 2022, refers.

Based on the information provided this Department decided to approve the PP Plan for the proposed project. You may proceed with the PP process in accordance with tasks contemplated in the PP plan. Should you wish to deviate from the submitted PP Plan, the amended PP Plan must be submitted to the Department for approval prior commencement.

A copy of the PP Plan and this approval must be submitted as part of the application form when the application is lodged.

Also note that submission of a PP Plan and approval thereof do not negate your responsibility to comply with the requirements for public participation in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Best regards,

APPENDIX C5:
Stakeholder Correspondence

No stakeholder correspondence has been received to date, records with further be incorporated into the Final Scoping Report.

APPENDIX C6:
Comments Received

Record of comments received will be incorporated into the Final Scoping Report as no comments have been received to date.

APPENDIX C7:
Minutes of Meetings

SAN SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

**MEETING NOTES OF THE SAN SOLAR PV PROJECT MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, 18 JANUARY 2022 AT 09H00
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Lehlogonolo Mashego

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address

SAN SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation	Position
Samantha De la Fontaine	Northern Cape: Department of Agriculture, Environment, Rural Development and Land Reform (DAEARDLR)	District Ecologist
Elsabe Swart	DAEARDLR	Environmental Research and Development
Natalie Uys	Department of Environment and Nature Conservation - Ecological and Botanical	Researcher in Plant Ecology and Botany
Simon Todd	3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions	Ecologist for the San Solar PV EIA
Jacoline Mans	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Chief Forester: NFA Regulations
Shabeer Abdool	Acciona Energia (Pty) Ltd	QSES Manager
Luke Colvin	Acciona Energia (Pty) Ltd	Business Development
Karen Jodas	Savannah Environmental	Project Manager and Senior Environmental Consultant
Rendani Rasivhetshela	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Nondumiso Bulunga	Savannah Environmental	Facilitator and Public Participation Consultant
Lehlogonolo Mashego	Savannah Environmental	Public Participation Consultant

APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Nondumiso Bulunga welcomed the attendees at the Focus Group Meeting for San Solar Photovoltaic (PV) energy facility as located 16km northwest of Kathu, Northern Cape Province. The virtual meeting was held on Microsoft Teams and all meeting attendees were granted an opportunity to formally register. The online registration record of the virtual participants is attached as **Appendix A**.

The agenda was provided, and purpose of the meeting was presented by Karen Jodas.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Karen Jodas provided an overview of the proposed San Solar PV facility project located within the Northern Cape Province, a summary of the planned approach and offered an opportunity to confirm any additional aspects to be considered. The aim of the meeting was to hold an upfront discussion with the Department to engage with Officials, provide the environmental setting, an opportunity to understand the extent and get early feedback on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process along with the requirements needed.

Karen Jodas then proceeded to present the following key information:

- » project description for the proposed San Solar PV facility;
- » the locality of the solar PV facility and its development area as assessed within the scoping phase;
- » project overview and identified sensitivities; and
- » way forward.

Simon Todd, the specialist ecologist for the San Solar EIA was provided with an opportunity to provide his feedback and some insights regarding the project site and surrounding area. He indicated that this site is considered to be of lower sensitivity than those areas characterized by deeper sandy soils with more trees. He indicated that the initial estimation of tree density is one (1) tree per hectare for each species (i.e., *Erioloba* and *Boscia*). As a note, a previous walk-through report was compiled when the site was previously assessed in 2012.

The presentation shared by Savannah Environmental is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Simon Todd	What is the expected development footprint area?	Shabeer Abdool explained that the development footprint is not yet known. Karen Jodas added that with technology becoming more efficient, the project development areas are reducing in size, and it would not be expected that the total facility footprint would exceed 400ha.
Jacoline Mans	Simon Todd only made reference to two species. Is it likely that there could be Grey Camel thorn trees on the site, as these are also a protected species?	Simon Todd indicated that the previous walk-through survey conducted did not identify any on the site. Either the species was not present, or the density was low. From the species previously identified, as well as the prevailing soil conditions, it is unlikely that the Grey Camel thorn occurs in any numbers on the site. This will be further

		assessed through the field survey and the environmental impact assessment.
Jacoline Mans	What percentage of the anticipated footprint is to be located in the ecological support area (ESA)?	Simon Todd responded that there is still the opportunity to guide the developer on the best location for the development footprint to be positioned within the site to minimize impact. This will be done through the EIA.
Natalie Uys	What is the current land use for the site and the surrounding area?	Shabeer Abdool indicated that the development site is currently vacant with no activity taking place. This is confirmed as they are the owners of the site.
	What is the current land use for the properties in the surrounding area?	Shabeer Abdool indicated that the adjacent land uses are all livestock grazing with local community members making use of the farmland for grazing purposes.
Jacoline Mans	When the Ecology Assessment is being conducted, the focus should not only include the big trees. All trees, irrespective of their size must be permitted for removal (even if the trees are dead). The size classes are based on size: juvenile; intermediate and mature.	Simon Todd indicated that his assessment will include this detail, and will further evaluate all ecological aspects within the project site.
Natalie Uys	Would it be possible to include the previous walk-through report as additional information in this EIA?	It was agreed that the previous walk-through report can be included as an Appendix to the report (Strohbach, M. 2012. Plant Ecological Report – San Solar Energy Facility near Kathu, Northern Cape).
Natalie Uys	The need for a biodiversity offset is dependent on the number of trees which are required to be removed (i.e. density trigger). The EIA should consider the need for a biodiversity offset and motivate accordingly. The report must also consider all the species of trees to be impacted/removed from the site.	It was agreed that the EIA would consider the need for a biodiversity offset and a reasoned motivation provided by the ecologist accordingly.
Samantha De la Fontaine	The cumulative impacts should be assessed as the proposed development is in close proximity to other solar projects.	Nondumiso Bulunga indicated that cumulative assessment will be considered in the impact assessment phase.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

It was noted by all attendees that no further comments needed to be raised at this time.

Nondumiso Bulunga thanked the participants for making time available to attend the Focus Group Meeting and for their valuable inputs into the Scoping process.

The meeting was closed at 09h33.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

DAEARDLR	Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	ESA	Ecological Support Area
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	PV	Photovoltaic

APPENDIX A: Attendance List

LC 2022/01/18 09:07
Luke Colvin - Business Development

2022/01/18 09:07 Recording has started

RR 2022/01/18 09:08
Rendani Rasivhetshela - Savannah Environmental

S 2022/01/18 09:08
Simon (Guest) - 3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions. Ecologist on the project.

SA 2022/01/18 09:08
Abdool, Shabeer - Acciona - QSES Manager

KJ 2022/01/18 09:22
Karen Jodas - Savannah Environmental

ES 2022/01/18 09:09
Elsabe Swart (Guest) - Environmental Research and Development, DAEARDLR

SF 2022/01/18 09:09
Samantha De la Fontaine - NC Department Agriculture, Environment, Rural Development and Land Reform

2022/01/18 09:09
Lehlogonolo Mashego - Savannah Environmental - PP

NB 2022/01/18 09:09
Nondumiso Bulunga, Savannah Environmental, Facilitator PP

JM 2022/01/18 09:09
Jacoline Mans (Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment)

NC 2022/01/18 09:10
Natalie Uys Northern Cape, Environmental Research & Development Unit, Northern Cape Department Agriculture, Environment, Rural Development and Land Reform

APPENDIX B: Presentation

SAN SOLAR PV AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

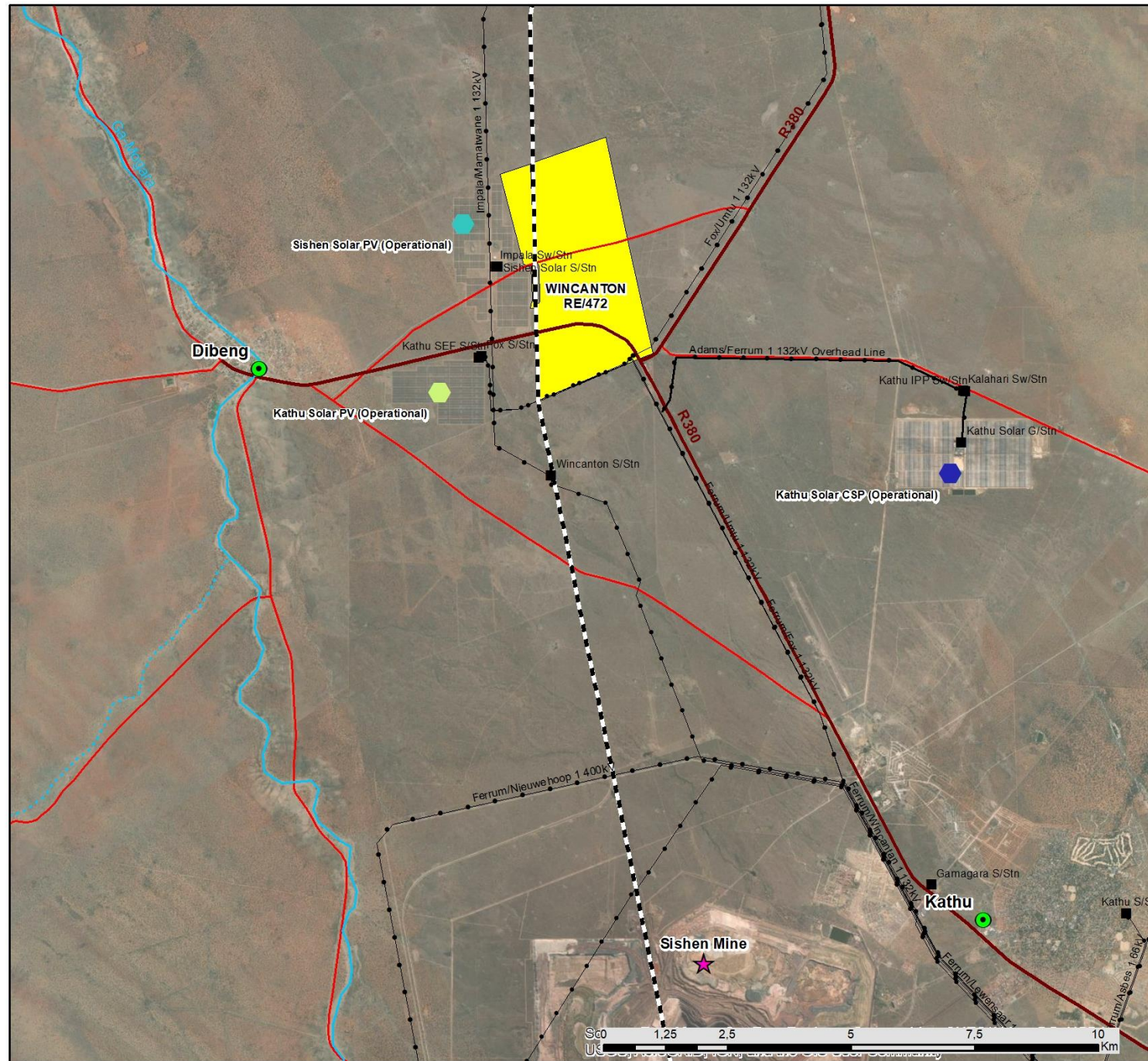
January 2022

MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Purpose of the meeting
3. Project Overview
4. Discussion & Way Forward

San Solar PV Facility Northern Cape

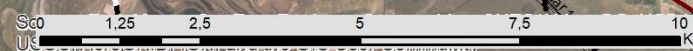
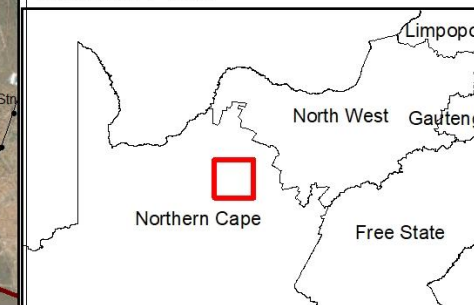
Locality Map



Legend

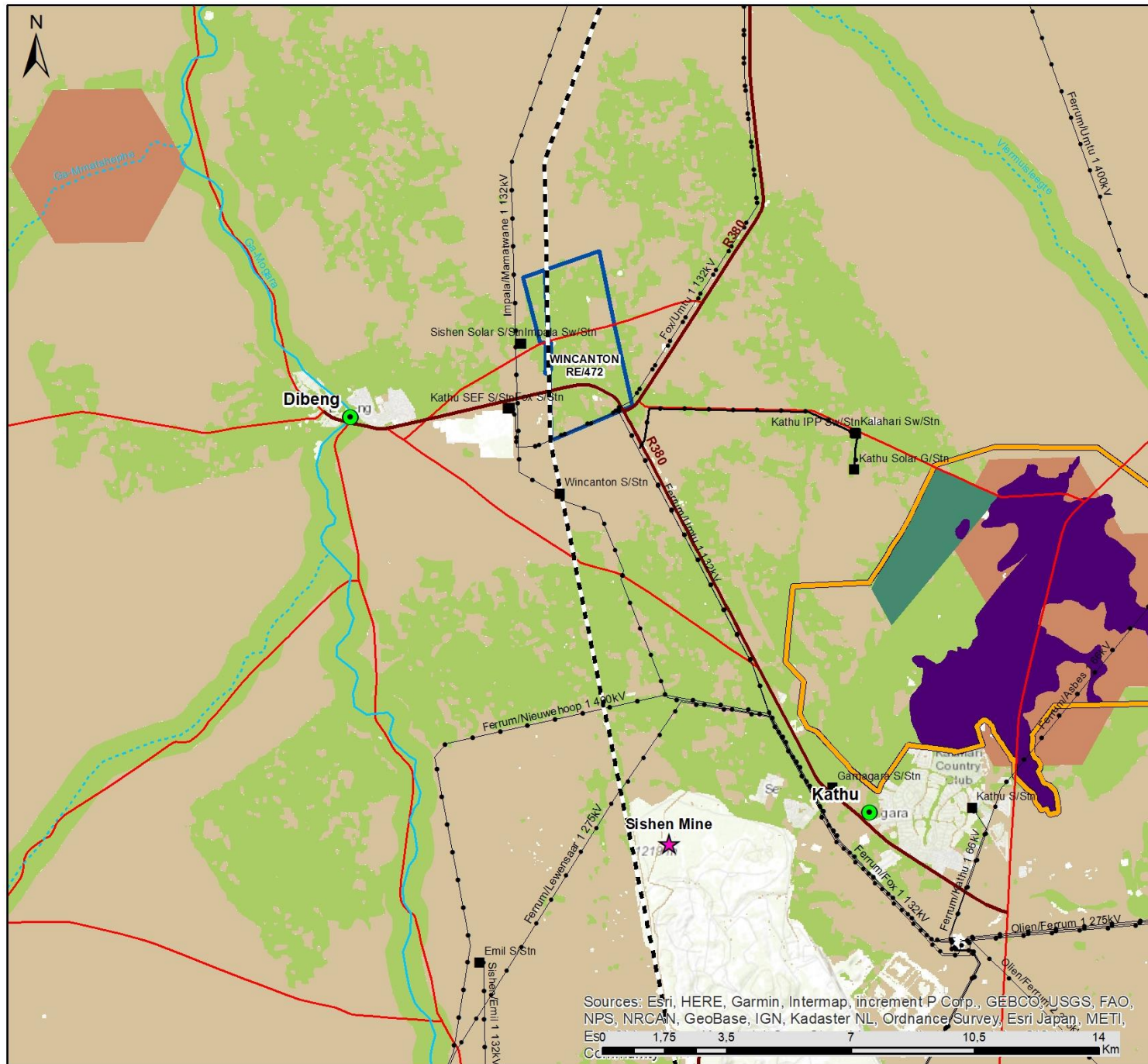
- Town
- ★ Sishen Mine
- Existing Substation
- ⬢ Kathu Solar CSP (Operational)
- ⬢ Kathu Solar PV (Operational)
- ⬢ Sishen Solar PV (Operational)
- - - Railway Line
- Existing Power Line
- Perennial River
- - - Non-perennial River
- Regional Road
- Main Road
- Project Site

Scale: 1: 101 000
 Projection: L023
 Ref: San Solar PV - Locality



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- **Project name:** San Solar PV
- **Capacity:** 100MW
- **Applicant:** San Solar Energy Facility (Pty) Ltd
- **Location:** ~16km north west of the town Kathu in the Northern Cape Province
- **Proposed infrastructure/components:**
 - PV modules and mounting structures
 - Inverters and transformers
 - Cabling between the panels, to be laid underground where practical
 - Battery Energy Storage System (BESS);
 - Site and internal access roads (up to 8m wide);
 - Laydown area;
 - Operation and Maintenance buildings including a gate and security building, control centre, offices, warehouse, and workshop areas for maintenance and storage;
 - Grid connection solution including a 132kV facility substation to be connected via a Loop-in-Loop-out (LILLO) connection to the Umtu 132kV overhead powerline (located ~5km east of the site)



San Solar PV Facility Northern Cape

Desktop Sensitivity Map

Legend

- ★ Sishen Mine
- Existing Substation
- Town
- - - Railway Line
- - - Existing Power Line
- Perennial River
- - - Non-perennial River
- Regional Road
- Main Road
- Project Site

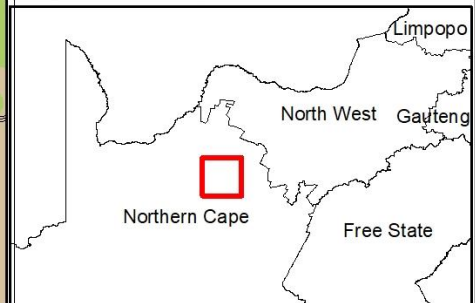
Desktop Ecologically Sensitive Areas:

- Kathu Forest Buffer
- Kathu Forest
- Kathu Forest Nature Reserve

Northern Cape CBA (2016):

- Critical Biodiversity Area One
- Critical Biodiversity Area Two
- Ecological Support Area
- Other Natural Areas

Scale: 1: 101 000
 Projection: L023
 Ref: San Solar PV - Desktop Sens



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri
 1.75 3.5 7 10.5 14 Km



Ecological Sensitivity

- Legend**
- High sensitivity deeper sands
 - High sensitivity pans
 - Large Trees
 - Very high sensitivity pans

Google Earth

Image © 2022 Maxar Technologies
Image © 2022 CNES / Airbus

RE/472

RE/472

R380

Haakboskerm

R380

Kathu Truck diesel depot



1 mi

DISCUSSION AND WAY FORWARD

APPENDIX C8:
Comments and Responses Report

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS: SCOPING REPORT FOR THE SAN SOLAR PV FACILITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

DFFE Ref. No.: To be Issued

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
1. COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE SCOPING PHASE	1
1.1. Organs of State (OoS)	1
1.2. Key Stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)	1

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the Public Participation Process (PPP) for the San Solar PV Facility commenced in January 2022. All comments received to date have been included in this Comments and Responses Report (C&RR) and included in **Appendix C8** of the Scoping Report.

The Scoping Report has been made available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Tuesday, 08 March 2022** until **Friday, 08 April 2022**. As advertised to announce the Scoping and EIA processes, as well as the availability of the Scoping Report this was placed in the Kathu Gazette Newspaper on 04 March 2022.

Notes for the record from meetings are included as part of **Appendix C7** of the Scoping Report, and are not included as part of this C&RR.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS / ACRONYMS

C&RR	Comments and Response Report	PPP	Public Participation Process
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Agency
I&APs	Interested and Affected Parties	SAHRIS	South African Heritage Resources Information System
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	SANRAL	South African National Roads Agency Limited
FSR	Final Scoping Report	S&EIA	Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment
PV	Photovoltaic		

1. COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE SCOPING PHASE

1.1. Organs of State (OoS)

No comments have been received to date; these will further be incorporated into the FSR.

1.2. Key Stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)

No.	Raised by	Comment	Responded by	Response
1.	Sydney Ntli Sishen Mine Telecom correspondence: 18 January 2022	<u>Database:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of the municipality especially the local municipal manager should be included in the communication. Engagement with the municipality would assist in sourcing the correct community members to include in the database that represent the Deben area Include LED and include director of community services 	Nondumiso Bulunga Public Participation Consultant Savannah Environmental	The municipal representatives have been incorporated into the database and on-going engagement will take place.
2.		<u>Communication:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are network issues in the area where you find some people do not have access to some platforms. A recommendation is presented to have a live read in the Kurara FM to benefit those with limited access. 	Lehlogonolo Mashego Public Participation Consultant Savannah Environmental	The raised comments have been noted and the platforms used will be guided by these limitations.
3.		<u>Community Meeting:</u> Should there be information sessions held it is best to have a physical meeting, which accommodates the local people, often at times with access being an issue virtual meetings may not reach the masses.	Lehlogonolo Mashego Public Participation Consultant Savannah Environmental	The suggestion has been noted and necessary arrangements will be made should we encounter the need for a physical/face to face meeting.

No.	Raised by	Comment	Responded by	Response
4.		<u>Newspaper:</u> Kathu Gazette is a better local newspaper to use as compared to Gemsbok.	Lehlogonolo Mashego Public Participation Consultant Savannah Environmental	The newspaper advertisement was released in the Kathu Gazette as recommended and verified against the distribution details.

APPENDIX C9:
Public Participation Plan and Approval

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN
IN TERMS OF THE DIRECTIONS REGARDING MEASURES TO ADDRESS, PREVENT AND COMBAT THE
SPREAD OF COVID-19 RELATING TO NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PERMITS AND
LICENCES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

SAN SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR KATHU,
GAMAGARA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

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 public consultation as part of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) processes. Considering these limitations, the following consultation process has been designed and will be implemented, on approval by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), to cater for the conducting of the public participation process which includes Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), the Competent Authority (Competent Authority), directly impacted landowners/occupiers, adjacent landowners/occupiers, relevant Organs of State departments, Municipalities, ward councillors and other key stakeholders.

The Public Participation Plan is submitted as per the requirements of the General Provisions of Annexure 2 of the Regulations issued in terms of Section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No.57 of 2002) and published on 05 June 2020 in Government Notice No R560 of Government Gazette No 43412. According to Section (2)(4)(f) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), the participation of all I&APs must be promoted and all potential I&APs must be informed early and in an informative and proactive way regarding applications that may affect their lives or livelihood in order to give effect to the above sections, and that it is essential to ensure that there is adequate and appropriate opportunity for public participation in decisions that may affect the environment.

Savannah Environmental as the independent assessment practitioners have adopted this plan in compliance with the regulations. The submission of this and approval does not negate our responsibilities to comply with the requirements for public participation in terms of Regulations 39,40,41,42,43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Project Details:

San Solar Energy Facility (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of the San Solar PV facility, a photovoltaic (PV) solar energy facility and associated infrastructure, on a site located approximately 16km north west of Kathu in the Northern Cape Province. The solar PV facility will be developed on the Remaining extent of the Farm Wincanton 472 and comprise several arrays of PV panels and associated infrastructure with a contracted capacity of up to 100MW. The study area¹ falls within the Gamagara Local Municipality within the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality. The site is located east of Deben and is accessible via the R380 provincial route which branches off the N14 National Road, approximately 3km south of Kathu.

¹ The study area is defined as the Remaining extent of the Farm Wincanton 472, which has the extent of ~ 1000ha.

A facility development area², which will include the PV facility, BESS and a 132kV facility substation, 132kV Eskom switching station, and a Loop-in-Loop out (LILO) 132kV power line to connect the San Solar PV to the Eskom Electricity grid.

Applicant	San Solar Energy Facility (Pty) Ltd
Project	San Solar PV
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » PV modules and mounting structures » Inverters and transformers » Cabling between the panels, to be laid underground where practical. » Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) » Site and internal access roads (up to 8m wide) » Laydown area. » Operation and Maintenance buildings including a gate and security building, control centre, offices, warehouse, and workshop areas for maintenance and storage. » Grid connection solution including a 132kV facility substation, 132kV switching station to be connected via a Loop-in-Loop out (LILO) connection to the Umtu 132kV overhead power line (located ~5km east of the site).
Affected Properties	» Remaining extent of the Farm Wincanton 472

Public Participation Plan:

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the 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 project 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 project.
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The traditional means and opportunities available for the undertaking of public participation are still covered and implemented as part of this plan considering the current limitations in terms of the Regulations to limit risks associated with COVID-19; the detailing COVID protocol has been appended as **Appendix A**. Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed and will be implemented by Savannah Environmental to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person illustrating interest in the project and enables the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time and allows them to participate in a meaningful way in the consultation process. The online platform allows for project information to be shared and made available.

² The development area is that identified area (located within the study area) where the San Solar PV facility would be located.

Access to the project documentation via the Savannah Environmental website will be unrestricted to all I&APs. I&APs wanting to access the project information via this portal will be required to register and will receive a unique code (via an automated system) to access the report of interest. This step and the online portal support the EAP in maintaining a complete and accurate record and database of all parties who have interest in the project (and who choose to access the report via the online portal), in line with the requirements of the Regulations.

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 which are 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 project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- Enabling the EAP 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 the 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 to ensure broader inclusion.
- Consulting with community representatives and local community forum members to ensure broader inclusion.
- Inviting direct consultation with the Public Participation team to ensure broader inclusion and support by assisting with the submission of comments.
- Use of the 'Please call me' alert of the dedicated cellphone number to allow a call-back at zero expense to the I&AP.
- Hard copy documentation may be made available to local public facilities, but will only be provided where appropriate sanitary conditions can be maintained.

The schematic illustration overleaf 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.

<p>i. Stakeholder identification and register of I&APs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register as an I&AP on the online platform, via completion of a form and provision of contact information, by responding to an advert, or sending a 'please call me' which will be responded to • State interest in the project • Receive all project related information via email or other appropriate means.
<p>ii. Notifications</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertisements, site notices, and written notifications provide information and details on where to access project information. • Notification regarding the EIA process and availability of project reports for public review to be sent via email, post or SMS notification.
<p>iii. Public Involvement and consultation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of project information will be via the Savannah website which is accessible and user friendly. • An opportunity for I&APs and stakeholders to request virtual meetings with the project team. • Where limited connectivity is encountered, in-person meeting/s will be arranged with strict COVID protocols followed.
<p>iv. Comment on the Scoping/EIA reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of the project reports via the online platform for a 30-day comment period. • Where applicable, other electronic platforms (WeTransfer or DropBox), and upon written request CD, USB and/or hard copies will be made available. • Submission of comments facilitated through email, WhatsApp/SMS, direct on-site engagement and where required via post to the PP team. • Comments recorded and responded to, as part of the process.
<p>v. Identification and recording of comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments and Responses Report, including all comments received throughout the process to be included in the reporting.

The PP plan, as set out in the table below, has been drafted for the above-mentioned project 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 Scoping and EIA Reports.

The PP plan is submitted to the DFFE for acceptance before the PP process is undertaken for the proposed project.

Public Participation Plan: Discussion of approach and methodology to meet the requirements of the Regulations.






Regulation	Approach & Methodology to meet requirements
<p>Regulation 40(1), Regulation 40(3) & Regulation 43 – provide all potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, access to project related information, access to the EIA reports which will be made available for a period of at least 30 days to submit comments on draft reports prior to submission of final reports for decision-making.</p>	<p><u>Notification of EIA processes to be distributed using the following means:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-mail. • Dedicated project page on the Savannah Environmental online stakeholder engagement platform. This platform is accessible and user friendly. • Post (where email or other means are not possible). This form of notification cannot be excluded considering that some parties may wish to use it. • Site notices placed on site as well as process notices placed at other relevant public locations. <p><u>Notification of availability of reports and period for review using the following means:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newspaper advert (Kathu Gazette), including details of where the report can be accessed and details of the Savannah Environmental website. • Radio live read using a local radio station (Kurara FM), and using SeTswana as the local language to maximise the benefit and reach to I&APs. • Direct notification to I&APs: Notification letter (to be sent via email, fax and/or post, as may be most applicable) to registered I&APs. • Direct notification to I&APs: SMS and/ or WhatsApp notifications where possible and available. • Indirect notification to I&APs: Where direct notification is restricted, notifications to communities via one of the following will be implemented: Ward Councillor, ward committee members, identified and confirmed community representatives, and local community forum members. It is critical to note that all avenues to exhaust direct notifications will be exercised (i.e., including forming part of any local communication groups WhatsApp and Telegram groups). <p><u>Availability of reports for review:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports available on the Savannah Environmental website for download. Upon registering their interest, I&AP s will be able to download the respective project documentation. • 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. • CDs to be posted, if requested. • Hard copy project documentation and reports to be available only where appropriate sanitary conditions can be maintained. • Report will be submitted to the DFFE using the DFFE online portal. • 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.).

Regulation	Approach & Methodology to meet requirements
	<p><u>Submission of comments to PP team:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written comments can also be submitted via email, WhatsApp/SMS, fax or post, whichever is most applicable. • Any comments provided telephonically or via instant message will be transcribed and recorded as formal comments. <p><u>Opportunity and means of consultation where applicable facilities are not available to I&APs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post (where email or other means are not possible) • Placement of site notice on all affected properties. • Consultation and communication through one of the following, where available: the ward councillor, ward committee members and confirmed community representatives and local community forum members. The local Public Affairs representative has recommended the use of these forums, and advised that these are suitable for distributing notifications to occupiers, where access to these parties is not available through other means (such as direct consultation). • SMS or WhatsApp notification. • CDs to be posted, if requested (and where a computer is available). • Hard copy report only where sanitary conditions can be maintained.
<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 must include consultation with Competent Authority, Organs of State & registered I&APs.</p> <p>Regulation 41 (6) – Relevant information available and accessible</p>	<p>Provision of project information and consultation via various means including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephonic consultation. • Email correspondence. • Correspondence sent via post (where email or other means are not possible) • SMS and/or WhatsApp. • The Savannah Environmental online stakeholder engagement platform will include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A means to register on the project database and provide details of their interest in the project ○ Project maps (as applicable) • Virtual focus group meeting only using an appropriate platform agreeable to all parties (such as Zoom, Skype or Teams). The meeting will be recorded, and the attendees' details captured in an attendance register. • Where limited connectivity is encountered, in-person meeting/s will be arranged with strict COVID protocols followed. • Communities will be consulted via one of the following, where available: the relevant Ward Councillor, ward committee members, community representative or local community forum members, as determined and confirmed during the consultation process. It has been confirmed

Regulation	Approach & Methodology to meet requirements
	<p>that these forums would be suitable for notifications to occupiers, where access to these parties is not available through other means (such as direct consultation).</p> <p><u>Opportunity and means of consultation where applicable facilities are not available to I&APs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephonic consultation. • Post (where email or other means are not possible) • SMS and/or WhatsApp. • Consultation and communication through one of the following, where available: the ward councillor, ward committee members and confirmed community representatives and local community forum members.
Regulation 41(2)(a) – Site notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site notices will be placed at affected properties. • Size and content will be in accordance with Regulation 41(3) & 41(4).
Regulation 41(2)(b) – Written notification 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"> • Notification letter to be sent via email. • Notification letter to be sent via fax or post where email is not available. <p><u>Opportunity and means of consultation where applicable facilities are not available to I&APs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Post (where email or other means are not possible) » SMS or WhatsApp notification.
Regulation 42 – Project database	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I&APs to be identified through a process of networking and referral, obtaining information from Savannah Environmental and Eskom's existing stakeholder databases, liaison with potentially affected parties in the greater surrounding area and a registration process involving response to adverts. • Organs of State, key stakeholders and affected and surrounding landowners will be identified and registered on the project database. • Other stakeholders will be required to formally register their interest in the project through either directly contacting the Savannah Environmental Public Participation team via email or fax or use of the Savannah Environmental website. • To access the Savannah Environmental online stakeholder engagement platform, I&APs will be required to provide their details such that they are automatically registered on the project database. • The register of I&APs will contain the names of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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; ○ all Organs of State which hold jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates; and ○ all persons who submitted written comments or attended virtual meeting/s and viewed virtual presentations on the Savannah Environmental website during the public participation process.

Regulation	Approach & Methodology to meet requirements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The information captured on the project database will contain the names, organisation and contact details, as required. It must be noted that personal details will not be shared in public documentation in accordance with the requirements of the POPI Act.
Regulation 44 – Comments to be recorded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written comments can also be submitted via email, WhatsApp/SMS, fax or post, which ever is most applicable. Any comments provided telephonically or via instant message will be transcribed and recorded as formal comments. All comments received throughout the EIA processes will be acknowledged and captured in the comments and responses report (C&RR) with a relevant response. The C&RR and all comments received will be included in the final report submitted to the CA. <p><u>Opportunity and means of consultation where applicable facilities are not available to I&APs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I&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. Written comments via post or fax (where email or other means are not possible). Comment submission telephonically and instant messaging (SMS and/or WhatsApp). Sending a Please-call-me notification to the Public Participation team so that contact can be made at any point of the project cycle.
Regulation 4(2) – Notification of decision on application	<p><u>Notification of Environmental Authorisation (EA) using the following means:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notification letter with details as outlined in EA issued will be sent via email, fax, or post, which ever is most applicable. Notifications that the EA has been issued and where to download and/or obtain a copy to communities via one of the following, where available: Ward Councillor and his/her ward committee members and identified and confirmed community representatives. These channels will be closely facilitated where no direct notification is possible. SMS or WhatsApp notification. <p><u>Opportunity and means of consultation where applicable facilities are not available to I&APs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post (where email or other means are not possible) Communication via one of the following, where available: the ward councillor, ward committee members and confirmed community representatives and local community forum members. SMS and/or WhatsApp.

Appendix A: COVID Protocol

	<p>Avoid large gatherings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » No gatherings of 50+ people will be held. All Focus Groups Meetings will comprise of 15 people or less » Participants will be confirmed by invitation only
	<p>Wearing of cloth face-masks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Mandatory wearing of face masks by all participants incl. consultants and applicant » The applicant will provide face masks for participants who do not have » Both Consultants and Community members have right to refuse to participate if someone is refusing to wear a mask
	<p>Maintenance of Social distancing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Consultants and Community members will be seated 2m apart in all Community and/or Focus Group Meetings » Meetings will mostly be held outside; when possible; if inside Savannah Environmental will ensure, in consultation with the venue owner, that there is adequate ventilation
	<p>Hand washing and sanitising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Hand sanitisers will be provided at all meetings » Hand sanitisers will be provided at the entrance of the venue
	<p>Regular cleaning of shared surfaces and equipment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Consultants will sanitise and clean chairs and tables in the venue prior to commencement of the meeting » Should there be a break during the meeting, the tables and chairs will be sanitised before the next session » There is a designated rubbish bin in the meeting venue to collect all waste generated. All waste will be handled and treated as hazardous waste

Lehlogonolo Mashego

From: Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 04 March 2022 08:31
To: Rendani Rasivhetshele
Cc: Lehlogonolo Mashego; Nondumiso Bulunga; Olivia Letlalo; Thando Booii; Makhosi Yeni; Thembisile Hlatshwayo
Subject: PP plan approval for 2022-03-0001
Attachments: SE3203 - San Solar PP Plan Updated 03032022 Final.pdf; SE3203 - San Solar PP Plan Updated 03032022 with amendment ref.pdf

Dear Rendani,

The amended Public Participation (PP) Plan received by this Department on 03 March 2022, refers.

Based on the information provided this Department decided to approve the PP Plan for the proposed project. You may proceed with the PP process in accordance with tasks contemplated in the PP plan. Should you wish to deviate from the submitted PP Plan, the amended PP Plan must be submitted to the Department for approval prior commencement.

A copy of the PP Plan and this approval must be submitted as part of the application form when the application is lodged.

Also note that submission of a PP Plan and approval thereof do not negate your responsibility to comply with the requirements for public participation in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Best regards,