

# OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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## 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Open Space Management Plan is to provide a framework for the integrated management of the natural and semi-natural areas during the construction and operation of Lichtenburg 1. The broad objectives of the plan include the following:

- » Managing and maintaining the ecosystem in a near-natural state and restoring and/or rehabilitating the ecosystems to such a state.
- » Developing and implementing a monitoring and eradication programme for alien and invasive plant species.
- » Promoting the natural re-establishment and/or planting of indigenous species in order to retard erosion and alien plant establishment.

### 1.1. Access control

- » Access to the facility should be strictly controlled.
- » All visitors and contractors should be required to sign-in.
- » Signage at the entrance should indicate that disturbance to fauna and flora is strictly prohibited.
- » Induction and/or training material used for new staff and visitors must include a map and discussion regarding the footprint of the facility, and which areas are deemed off-limits.

### 1.2. Prohibited activities

The following activities should not be permitted by anyone except the landowner or his representatives:

- » No fires within the site.
- » No hunting, collecting, trading or disturbing of fauna and flora, except where required for the safe construction and operation of the PV facility and only by the Environmental Control Officer on duty with the appropriate permits and landowner permission.
- » No unnecessary driving off of demarcated roads.
- » No interfering with livestock.
- » No use of any natural water resource for swimming or washing of clothes or machinery located.
- » No marking / painting on any natural features (e.g. rock formations).
- » No disturbance, defacing, destruction or removal of plants or natural features outside of the construction area, whether fenced or not, for the duration of the Contractor's presence on site.
- » The Contractor will be held liable for the replacement of any plant or feature under the protection of these specifications that is removed or damaged by the Contractor's negligence or mismanagement.

### 1.3. Fire risk management<sup>1</sup>

Fires are not a regular occurrence at the site. However, fires may occasionally occur under the right circumstances. Ignition risk sources in the immediate area include:

- » Lightning strikes;
- » Activities associated with personnel within the facility; and
- » Infrastructure, such as the substation.

In accordance with EMPr, the following must be undertaken or available:

- » Basic fire-fighting equipment must be available on site at all times.
- » All necessary precautions are taken to minimise the risk of fire on the site.
- » No on-site burning of any waste materials, vegetation, litter or refuse is undertaken.
- » Any fires that occur must be immediately reported to the relevant person(s).
- » Employees are made aware of the procedure to follow in the event of a fire.
- » No open fires must be allowed on site.
- » Take immediate steps to extinguish any fire, which may break out on the construction site.
- » Include a fire resistant separation layer between storage, machinery and raw materials areas where possible.
- » Only handle flammable liquids at safe distances from sources of ignition.
- » Keep all electrical equipment used on site in working order, ensuring no fire hazard by their operation.
- » The Contractor will be held liable for any damage to property adjoining the site as a result of any fire caused by one of his employees or sub-contractors.
- » Display emergency fire incident contact numbers on site.
- » A designated fire escape route must be established and communicated to all construction site staff, as well as the neighbouring helicopter operators (if available), to ensure a safe and efficient escape route from site in the event of an emergency.
- » Smoking shall only be allowed in designated smoking areas where the relevant measures, e.g. easily accessible fire extinguisher, are in place.
- » Smoking must not be permitted in those areas where there is a fire hazard. These areas may include workshops and fuel storage areas and any areas where the vegetation or other material is such as to support the rapid spread of an initial flame.

Further mitigations are included in Appendix I of the EMPr.

### 1.4. Alien Plant Control

Alien invasive plants should be controlled as outlined and as per the mitigations included in the EMPr.

### 1.5. Erosion Management

All erosion problems should be rectified according to the Erosion Management Plan (refer to **Appendix G** of the EMPr).

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<sup>1</sup> This needs to be undertaken through consultation with the affected landowners.