

APPENDIX C6
COMMENTS RECEIVED



TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FINAL EIA

SCOPING PHASE

Molatela Ledwaba

From: Kamogelo Mathetja <KMathetja@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, January 9, 2023 2:02 PM
To: Molatela Ledwaba
Cc: MMatlala Rabothata; Kamogelo Mathetja
Subject: RE: SE3509: Limestone Solar PV1 and Limestone Solar PV2 - Notification of Environmental Impact Assessment and Availability of Scoping Reports for review and comment

Dear Sir/Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs M Rabothata and Mr K Mathetja (Both copied on this email).

Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries will be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota

Regards,
Kamogelo

From: Molatela Ledwaba <molatela@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Monday, 09 January 2023 13:19
To: BC Admin <bcadmin@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Savannah Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Subject: SE3509: Limestone Solar PV1 and Limestone Solar PV2 - Notification of Environmental Impact Assessment and Availability of Scoping Reports for review and comment
Importance: High

LIMESTONE SOLAR PV1 AND LIMESTONE SOLAR PV2 FACILITIES NEAR DANIELSKUIL, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE (DEFF Ref. Nos.: To be issued)

Dear Stakeholder and Interested & Affected Party,

AGV Projects (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities with a contracted capacity of up to 150MWp per facility. Both PV facilities are located on Portion 4 of the Farm England 300 and these projects will be known as Limestone PV1 and Limestone PV2.

The nature and extent of the solar PV facilities are explored in more detail in the Background Information Document (BID). Full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) processes are being undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation (EA) for these developments of the PV energy facilities and associated infrastructure. The public participation process provides the public with an opportunity to comment on these projects.

Additional technical information regarding these solar PV facilities is available in the Background Information Document attached to this e-mail.

The attached letter serves to:

- inform you of the initiation of the Environmental Impact Assessment and Public Participation processes; and
- that the Scoping Reports are available for your review and comment.

The Scoping Reports review and comment period is from Friday, 06 January 2023 until Monday, 06 February 2023.

The Scoping Reports can be downloaded from our website: [CLICK HERE](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

Kind regards,

[Unsubscribe this type of email](#)



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

Molatela Ledwaba

Public Participation and Social
Consultant

e: molatela@savannahsa.com

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

Molatela Ledwaba

From: Brenda Ton
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 12:02 PM
To: Matthew Ellero
Cc: Jo-Anne Thomas; Nkhensani Masondo; Savannah Public Process
Subject: FW: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2270

Importance: High

FYI

Thank you and kind regards,

Brenda Ton

Office & Administrator Manager | Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
Tel: +27 (0)11 656 3237 | Fax: +27 (0)86 684 0547

[SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant for Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015](#)

From: Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 11 January 2023 12:01
To: Brenda Ton <Brenda@savannahsa.com>
Cc: Azrah Essop <AEssop@dffe.gov.za>; Salome Mambane <SMAMBANE@dffe.gov.za>; EIAAdmin <EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2270

Dear Brenda

14/12/16/3/3/2/2270

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A SCOPING ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED LIMESTONE PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) 2 FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR DANIELSKUIL, WITHIN THE KGATELOPELE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 10 January 2023. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Kindly note that your application for Environmental Authorisation falls within the ambit of an application applied for in terms of Part 3 of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

Please take note of Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that potential Interested & Affected Parties, including the Competent Authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, prior to the submission of an application but must be provided an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the Competent Authority.

Note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted by the Department in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Please note that this email is for the receipt and processing of online applications only, and is not monitored for responses. All queries must be directed to EIAAdmin@dfre.gov.za.

You are advised that this mailbox has a 48 hour response time.

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.

Molatela Ledwaba

From: Kamogelo Mathetja <KMathetja@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, January 9, 2023 2:02 PM
To: Molatela Ledwaba
Cc: MMatlala Rabothata; Kamogelo Mathetja
Subject: RE: SE3509: Limestone Solar PV1 and Limestone Solar PV2 - Notification of Environmental Impact Assessment and Availability of Scoping Reports for review and comment

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Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries will be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota

Regards,
Kamogelo

From: Molatela Ledwaba <molatela@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Monday, 09 January 2023 13:19
To: BC Admin <bcadmin@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Savannah Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Subject: SE3509: Limestone Solar PV1 and Limestone Solar PV2 - Notification of Environmental Impact Assessment and Availability of Scoping Reports for review and comment
Importance: High

LIMESTONE SOLAR PV1 AND LIMESTONE SOLAR PV2 FACILITIES NEAR DANIELSKUIL, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE (DEFF Ref. Nos.: To be issued)

Dear Stakeholder and Interested & Affected Party,

AGV Projects (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities with a contracted capacity of up to 150MWp per facility. Both PV facilities are located on Portion 4 of the Farm England 300 and these projects will be known as Limestone PV1 and Limestone PV2.

The nature and extent of the solar PV facilities are explored in more detail in the Background Information Document (BID). Full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) processes are being undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation (EA) for these developments of the PV energy facilities and associated infrastructure. The public participation process provides the public with an opportunity to comment on these projects.

Additional technical information regarding these solar PV facilities is available in the Background Information Document attached to this e-mail.

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Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

Kind regards,

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Molatela Ledwaba

Public Participation and Social
Consultant

e: molatela@savannahsa.com

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

Processing of personal Information / POPIA compliance

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12 January 2023

Ref: TFR/RN/WR/13/16/1/195

Molatela Ledwaba
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
5 Woodlands Drive
Woodmead
2191

Dear Sir/ Madame

KAMFERSDAM-HOTAZEL- LIMESTONE SOLAR PV1 AND LIMESTONE PV2 – NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND AVAILABILITY OF SCOPING REPORTS FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT-

Referring to your e-mail dated 6th January 2023.

Our ref: LS.BFX.25/7/522

This project will not affect Transnet due to its locality. The closest point of the area of concern to our rail is about 3km North-East.

Yours truly

p.p P Galodikwe 41624

L. BOYE
ACTING DEPOT MANAGER

Transnet SOC Ltd	DEPOT ENGINEER	PO BOX 10201
Registration Number	1B Austen Street	South Africa,
1990/000900/30	Beaconsfield	T +27 53 8383039
	Kimberley	F +27 53 8383211
	8315	

Directors: Dr PS Molefe (Chairperson) P PJ Derby* (Group Chief Executive) UN Fikelepi ME Letlape DC Matshoga Prof FS Mufamadi AP Ramabulana LL von Zeuner
NS Dlamini* (Group Chief Financial Officer)
*Executive

www.transnet.net

Group Company Secretary: Ms S Bopape

*This letterhead contains personal information as defined in the Protection of Personal Information Act, No. 4 of 2013 (the "Act"). The signatory consents to the processing of his/ her personal information and is obliged to handle other data subject's information in accordance with the requirements of the Act".

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESSES

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE LIMESTONE PV 1 SOLAR PV, PV2 SOLAR PV ENERGY FACILITIES AND THE ORYX WIND ENERGY FACILITY NEAR DANIELSKUIL, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

(DFFE Ref. No.: To be Issued)

Registration & Comment Form

December 2022

Return completed registration and comment form to **Molatela Ledwaba** 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:	WILLIE BLUNDIN		
Organisation:	Kgatelopele Local Mun.		
Designation:	Municipal Manager		
Postal Address:	P.O. Box		
Telephone:	053 384 8600	Fax:	
Mobile:	07949 00596		
E-mail:	mm.klm@kgatelopele.gov.za		

I would you like to register as an interested and affected party (I&AP) on the following project's database (please tick the relevant box)

Limestone PV1 Facility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Oryx Wind Energy Facility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Limestone PV2 Facility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

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):

NONE

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

NONE

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:	

SIEN KEERSY VIR AFRIKAANS



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA 0001 · Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, · PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2270

Enquiries: Ms Azrah Essop

Telephone: (012) 399 8529 **E-mail:** AEssop@dffe.gov.za

Ms Nkhensani Masondo
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Telephone Number: (011) 656-3237
Email Address: nkhensani@savannahsa.com

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ms Masondo

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE UP TO 150MWp LIMESTONE PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV 2) FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR DANIELSKUIL, WITHIN THE KGATELOPELE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated January 2023 and received by the Department on 10 January 2023, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final SR:

1. Competent Authority

- a) Clarify the reason for this department being the competent authority in terms of S24C of NEMA. This must be expanded on and updated in the application form. State clearly whether the applicant intends to bid the project in terms of the REIPPPP and IRP. This is especially in reference to page 6 of the application form which states that: *'The developer intends to submit a bid in terms of a regulated power purchase procurement process (e.g., REIPPPP) to evacuate the generated power into the national grid or obtain a commercial PPA (Power Purchase Agreement.'* and further states: *The site is also in proximity to large electricity users which opens opportunities for commercial PPAs, either behind the meter connection or Wheeling to a 3rd party off-taker.*
- b) The applicant must clarify the intention of the application as this has direct implications in terms of the identification of the competent authority.

2. Listed Activities

- a) Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description. Only activities (and sub-activities) applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed. Furthermore, kindly ensure that the latest listed activities, as amended in 2021, are applied for.
- b) It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the environmental impact assessment process, as the development property falls within geographically designated

wh

areas in terms of Listing Notice 3 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities (or proof of consultation if no comments were received) and submitted to this Department. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided.

- c) If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link <https://www.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms>.

3. **Layout & Sensitivity Maps**

- a) Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:
- the PV development area;
 - Position of all infrastructure e.g. panels, BESS, substations, grid connection etc.;
 - Permanent laydown area footprint;
 - All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g. roads (existing and proposed);
 - Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint;
 - Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network; and
 - All existing infrastructure on the site.
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
 - Buffer areas; and
 - All "no-go" areas.
- b) The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the map and infrastructure must not encroach on extremely sensitive areas as far as possible.
- c) Ensure that similar colours are not used to differentiate between infrastructure. i.e. items must be easily distinguishable in the Legend.
- d) Google maps will not be accepted for decision-making purposes.

4. **Public Participation Process**

- a) Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received on the draft SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the Final SR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of the approved public participation plan and Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- b) A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments (pre and post submission of the draft SR) for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format which reflects the details of the I&APs and date of comments received, actual comments received, and response provided. Please ensure that comments made by I&APs are comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.

wk

5. Specialist Assessments to be conducted in the EIA Phase

- a) Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of PV arrays, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.
- b) The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation, will not be accepted.
- c) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.
- d) It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.
- e) Additionally, the protocols specify that an assessment must be prepared by a specialist who is an expert in the field and is SACNASP registered for e.g. an aquatic assessment must be prepared by a specialist registered with SACNASP, with expertise in the field of aquatic sciences.
- f) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.
- g) Please include a table in the report, summarising the specialist studies required by the Department's Screening Tool, a column indicating whether these studies were conducted or not, and a column with motivation for any studies not conducted. Please note that if any of the specialists' studies and requirements/protocols recommended in the Department's Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation for such must be provided in the report per the requirements of the Protocols.

6. Cumulative Assessment to be conducted in the EIA Phase

Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:

- Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
- Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.
- The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
- A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

7. Environmental Management Programme

The EMP must include the following:

- a) It is drawn to your attention that for substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the Environmental Impact Assessment

Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the Generic Environmental Management Programme, must be used and submitted with the final report over and above the EMPr for the facility i.e. separate EMPr for the substation, powerline and the facility.

- b) Further to the above, you are required to comply with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended.

General

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:

“If S&EIR must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 44 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority a SR which has been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority”

You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of SR in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely



Ms Milicent Solomons

Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Letter signed by: Mr Wayne Hector

Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects

Date: 03/02/23

cc:	Dirk Muller / Peter Nygren	AGV Projects (Pty) Ltd	Email: dirk@agv-za.co.za
		AGV Projects (Pty) Ltd	Email: peter.nygren@magnoraasa.com
	Bryan Fisher	Northern Cape DLRRD	Email: bfisher@ncpg.gov.za
	Willie Blundin	Kgatelopele Local Municipality	Email: mm.klm@kgatelopele.gov.za

Molatela Ledwaba

From: ckyork <ckYork@vodamail.co.za>
Sent: Sunday, February 5, 2023 11:20 AM
To: Savannah Public Process
Cc: ckyork@vodamail.co.za
Subject: Savannah public participation

Comments in regards to the following site.

LIMESTONE PV1 & PV2 SOLAR PV FACILITIES NEAR DANIELSKUIL, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE (DFFE Ref. No.:14/12/16/3/3/2/2270)

As a neighbour and member of the farming community we do NOT oppose the project, but would like to communicate a few of our concerns.

1. As you will see, if you visit the site, our roads are not in a good condition. With all the extra construction vehicles needed on such a project, our road will become impossible to use with our normal vehicles. Will you maintain the road, because government will not provide more than what they do at the moment, which is already not enough.

2. We live in a relative safe community. We really are very concerned about the inflow of people looking for jobs on the site. Not all will be successful, and those who are not, will become a security risk to the rest of the farming community.

To try to prevent that, it would perhaps help to keep the employment office in town and not on site.

3. We live on the Ghaap mountain Plateau and although we have a lot of underground water, it is not very deep and dependant on rainwater for recharge. Almost all of the farms in the vicinity's underground water is connected to 2 or 3 big underground "dams". A study by Golder Associates showed that.

We have two concerns regarding our water, contamination and excessive usage which may result in the water level dropping and neighbouring farms boreholes going dry.

4. Veldfires is another concern. Not only with more people in the area, but also if they plan a living facility of some kind on site. We had devastating fires in the last couple of years, because of ignorant people.

We realise that the project can also bring job opportunities to local people, therefore we do not oppose the project, but hope that you will be responsible in planning and executing all of the phases of your project, keeping the wellbeing of our community in mind.

Thank you

C. York

0723034235

ckYork@vodamail.co.za

Also representing Papkuil Boerevereniging and Danlime Fire Association.

Molatela Ledwaba

From: pjkilianco@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2023 9:29 AM
To: Savannah Public Process; Molatela Ledwaba
Subject: RE: SE3509: Limestone PV1 & PV2 SOLAR PVs - Notification of Scoping Report review and comment period ending soon

Hi Molatela

We would like to add the following comments for the development of the Limestone PV1 and PV2:

1. The development of alternative energy sources is critically important for the electricity supply in South Arica. The South African economy relies on the government to supply stable and adequate electricity to not just keep the current economy going but create capacity for growth. The current dismal electricity supply situation is deeply negatively impacting our economy and leading to more unemployment as business suffer or even fail. We support the development of Limestone PV1 and PV2
2. We would like to request of governmental, provincial, and local authority structures to expedite all processes required to establish new electricity generation capacity, in particular green energy projects like Limestone PV1 and PV2 in the interest of bringing stability and capacity to the national electricity grid.
3. We would like to request government to further relax stringent and time-consuming regulations and requirements to assist in the rapid development of alternative energy generation like Limestone PV1 and PV2. We all need more electricity as soon as possible.
4. We know that projects like Limestone PV1 and PV2 will create short-term and long-term job opportunities, aiding much needed regional development in support of the local economy. We would fully support projects like this to bring stability and help elevate poverty in the local community.
5. We would like to see upskilling of the local community to participate in development of projects like these not just for construction but also operation and maintenance of PV and Wind generation infrastructure.
6. We would also like to urge Eskom to expedite investment in more grid capacity for the Northern Cape to allow the export of electricity from the Postmasburg, Daniels Kuil and Lime Acres area to unlock even more potential for similar projects in this area. This area has already proven its ability to successfully establish and operate alternative energy generation and have other projects currently under construction. Grid capacity remains a major constraint for this economic growth point in the region.

Apart from the points raised and discussed during the virtual meeting I need to request the following change to Appendix C5:

Please amend the contact details to be Johan du Plessis (not Ouida Kilian) with email address pjkilianco@gmail.com

Regards

Johan du Plessis
Chairman of the Board

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 202 8660
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 20499

Date: Wednesday February 08, 2023
Page No: 1

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 148
Sunninghill
2157

AGV Projects (Pty) Ltd is proposing the development of a commercial Photovoltaic(PV) Facility and associated infrastructure on a site located ~16km south-east of the town of Danielskuil and in the Northern Cape Province. The site is located within the Kgatelopele Local Municipality and the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality. The project site comprises the following farm portion: Portion 4 of the Farm Engeland 300 The Limestone PV21 will have a contracted capacity of between 75MWp to 100MWp. A broader study area of 1842 ha and a preferred project site with an extent of 200-300ha have been identified by AGV Projects (Pty) Ltd as technically suitable for the development of the Limestone PV 2 facility. Environmental Site Establishment processes were undertaken before the initiation of the EIA. The aim of the Environmental Site Establishment processes was to determine the suitability from an environmental and social perspective and identify areas that should be avoided in development planning. The project is planned as part of a larger cluster of renewable energy projects, which includes another 75-100MWp PV Solar Energy Facility (Limestone PV 1) located adjacent to Limestone PV 2 and 360MW Wind Energy Facility (Oryx Wind Energy Facility) also located near Danielskuil. The Limestone PV 2 project site is proposed to accommodate the following infrastructure: PV modules mounted on either a single axis tracking & fixed structure, dependent on optimisation, technology available and cost. Inverters and transformers. Low voltage cabling between the PV modules to the inverters Fence around the project development area with security and access control Camera surveillance Internet connection 33kV cabling between the project components and the facility substation 33/132kV onsite facility substation Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a footprint of 3-5ha. Site offices and maintenance buildings, including workshop areas for maintenance and storage as well as parking for staff and visitors. Laydown/staging area on site in front of mounting structures during installation. Temporary store area close to site entrance (Less than 1ha). Access roads (up to 6m wide) and internal distribution roads (up to 4m wide). Temporary concrete batching facility Stormwater management infrastructure as required The Limestone PV 2 facility is proposed in response to the identified objectives of the national and provincial government and local and district

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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
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CaseID: 20499

Date: Wednesday February 08, 2023
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municipalities to develop renewable energy facilities for power generation purposes. It is the developer's intention to submit a bid in terms of a regulated power purchase procurement process (e.g., REIPPPP) with the aim of evacuating the generated power into the national grid or obtaining a commercial PPA (Power Purchase Agreement). This will aid in the diversification and stabilisation of the country's electricity supply, in line with the objectives of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) with the Limestone PV 2 Facility set to inject up to 75MW (peak AC power) into the national grid. From a regional perspective, the area within the Northern Cape identified for the project is considered favourable for the development of a commercial PV facility due to the low environmental sensitivity of the identified site, excellent solar resource, and availability of land on which the development can take place. There is also potential for evacuating the power to the national grid via a direct grid connection at the Olien MTS (Main Transmission Substation) which is adjacent to the proposed site. The site is also in proximity to large electricity users which opens opportunities for commercial PPAs (Behind the metre connection Or Wheeling to a 3rd party off-taker).

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by AGV Projects (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Limestone PV 2 Facility and associated infrastructure, near Danielskuil, Northern Cape Province.

A draft Scoping Report (DSR) was submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA EIA Regulations (As amended). The proposed development will include the construction of PV panels, transformers and inverters, cabling between PV modules, components and facility substation, fencing, on-site substation, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), site offices and maintenance buildings, laydown areas, access roads, temporary concrete batching facility, stormwater management within a developable area of 300-400 ha.

CTS Heritage has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA process in terms of section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Lavin, J. 2022. Desktop Heritage Screening Assessment: Limestone PV 2 Solar Energy Facility, Northern Cape Province

Several previously identified heritage resources are located within the proposed development area. These include Stone Age lithics surface scatters, stone walled features and burial grounds. Additionally, the report states that the proposed development footprint is located in areas of high and very high palaeontological sensitivity. The report recommends that an HIA is required that assesses the impacts on significant

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archaeological, palaeontological and cultural landscape heritage resources.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that the pending assessment of the impact to heritage resources comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA. The HIA must include an archaeological and palaeontological component.

The field-based archaeological component of the HIA must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and must comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports.

The proposed development is located within an area of very high Palaeontological Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, a field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist. The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the pending heritage reports and the Draft EIA inclusive of appendices.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit

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South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/611838>



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Our Ref no: CLAC0015-23

Your Ref: **Limestone Solar PV1**

05 February 2023

Savannah Environmentals
P.O. Box 148
Sunninghill
2157

FOR ATTENTION: Nicolene Venter

LIMESTONE SOLAR PV1 AND LIMESTONE SOLAR PV2 FACILITIES NEAR DANIELSKUIL, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

With reference to your above- mentioned application, I hereby confirm that the proposed work installation is approved in terms of Section 29 of the Electronic Communications Act No. 36 of 2005 as amended.

No infrastructure of our Client (Openserve) will be affected by this proposal. **We did our utmost to ensure that we indicate our route as accurate as possible and should you discover any of our cables that is not on the sketch please stop and contact us immediately to arrange a site meeting. In the event that our cables are exposed and damaged/stolen by a third party the damages will be repaired at the customer's account. Please make use of pilot holes in order not too damage our infrastructure.** Therefore any damages occurred during construction of work will be repaired at the customer's account.

Although we are not affected by this proposal, Mr Vivian Groenewald must be contacted at telephone number 081 362 6738 from our Network Field Services. Two (2) weeks prior to commencement of proposed work.

Approval of the proposed route is valid for six months. If construction has not yet commenced within this period, then the file must be resubmitted for approval.

Any changes/deviations from the original planning during or prior to construction must immediately be communicated to this office.

On completion of this project, please certify that all requirements as stipulated in this letter have been met. Please note that should any of our Client (Openserve) infrastructure has to be relocated or altered as a result of your activities the cost for such alteration or relocation will be for your account in terms of section 25 of the Electronic Communication Act.


Mr Vivian Groenewald must be contacted at telephone number 081 362 6738. Two (2) weeks prior to commencement of proposed work. It's important that all services are shown on site before construction starts.

Approval of the proposed route is valid for six months. If construction has not yet commenced within this period, then the file must be resubmitted for approval. Any changes / deviations from the original planning during or prior to construction must immediately be communicated to this office.

Please notify this office and forward an as built plan, within 30 days of completion of construction.

Mr Vivian Groenewald must be contacted at telephone number 081 362 6738. Two (2) weeks prior to commencement of proposed work. It's important that all services are shown on site before construction starts.

Yours sincerely



CHRIS SCHUTTE



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: + 27 86 625 1042

Reference: LIMESTONE SOLAR PV1 AND LIMESTONE SOLAR PV2

Enquiries: Ms M Rabothata / Mr K Mathetja

Telephone: (012) 399 9174 **E-mail:** MRabothata@environment.gov.za

Ms. Molatela Ledwaba
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Telephone Number: (+ 27) 11 656 3237
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PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms. Ledwaba

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED LIMESTONE PV1 AND LIMESTONE PV2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURES, NEAR DANIELSKUIL, WITHIN THE KGATELOPELE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation reviewed and evaluated the reports.

Based on the information provided in the report, the Directorate Biodiversity Conservation does not object the proposed Draft Scoping Report and Plan of Study. The final report must comply with the procedures for the assessment and minimum criteria for reporting on identified environmental themes in terms of sections 24(5)(A) and (H) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998.

All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of **Mr Seoka Lekota**.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment
Designation: Control Biodiversity Officer Grade A
Date: 06/02/2023

