

# BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOL INVICTUS 132KV OVERHEAD POWERLINE PROJECT NEAR AGGENEYS, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 326 (07 April 2017) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended) for an application process for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 327 and GNR 324 of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended) (EIA Regulations)

## BACKGROUND AND LOCATION

The proponent, Sol Invictus (Pty) Ltd (Sol Invictus), proposes to construct a 132kV overhead powerline (OHPL), approximately 23km in length, near Aggeneys in the Nama Khoi Local Municipality and Namakwa District Municipality of the Northern Cape Province, South Africa. The proposed OHPL is required to connect the proposed Sol Invictus 1-6 Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facility (PVSEF) to the national grid via the existing Eskom substation near Aggeneys. The project includes expansion of the existing Eskom substation and construction of a new Eskom collector substation on the Sol Invictus PVSEF site. The proposed project is located within the Northern Strategic Transmission Corridor (promulgated in GN 113 of 2018) and traverses the following properties:

- Portion 5 of Farm 66
- Portion 6 of Farm 66
- Portion 14 of Farm 66
- Portion 5 of Farm 62
- Portion 6 of Farm 62
- Portion 2 of Farm 62
- Portion 1 of Farm 56
- Portion 2 of Farm 56

## ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATION

Due to the fact that the proposed OHPL is greater than 33kV, as well as the fact that it traverses areas classified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) according to the Northern Cape Critical Biodiversity Areas (2016), the following listed activities in GNR 327 and GNR 324 are triggered.

- **GNR 327 (Listing Notice 1): Activities 11, 12 and 19;**
- **GNR 324 (Listing Notice 3): Activities 12 and 14.**

A Basic Assessment (BA) process will therefore be followed as outlined in Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended). The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) is the Competent Authority in respect of this application for Environmental Authorisation.

## DRAFT BA REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft BA Report will be made available at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from **26 November 2021 – 17 January 2022**.

- Aggeneys Post Office, Havelock Ave, Aggeneys, 8893 (Tel: 054 983 2264);
- WSP Website: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>

## INVITATION TO REGISTER

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent and suitably qualified EAP to manage and undertake the BA process. Parties wishing to formally register as interested and affected parties (IAPs) in order to receive more information and/ or raise their comment(s) on the proposed project, are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP and disclose their direct business, financial, personal or other interest in the project. Any comments on the proposed project may be submitted to the EAP via the details provided below. Registered interested and affected parties will be sent all future project related correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

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# BASIESE ASSESSERINGSPROSES: KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE SOL INVICTUS 132 KV OORHOOFSE KRAGLEIDING NABY AGGENEYS, NOORD-KAAPPROVINSIE

Kennisgewing word gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 326 (07 April 2017) gepubliseer onder artikel 24 en 24D van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) (soos gewysig) vir 'n aansoekproses vir omgewingsmagtiging (EA) ten opsigte van aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer in terme van GNR 327 en GNR 324 van die 2014-omgewingsimpakstudie- (EIA-) regulasies (soos gewysig in 2017) (EIA-regulasies)

## AGTERGROND EN LIGGING

Die aansoeker, Sol Invictus (Edms) Bpk (Vendiwell), beplan om 'n 132kV-oorhoofse kragleiding (OHPL) te bou wat ongeveer 23 kilometer lank is naby Aggeneys in die Nama Khoi Plaaslike Munisipaliteit in Namakwa Distriksmunisipaliteit van die Noord-Kaapprovinsie, Suid-Afrika. Die voorgestelde OHPL is nodig om die voorgestelde Sol Invictus 1-6 Fotovoltaïese Sonkragaanleg (PVSEF) aan te sluit op die nasionale netwerk per die bestaande Eskom-substasie naby Aggeneys. Die projek sluit die uitbreiding van die bestaande Eskom-substasie en die oprigting van 'n nuwe Eskom-versamelaarstasie op die Sol Invictus PVSEF-terrein in. Die voorgestelde projek is in die Noordelike Strategiese Transmissiekorridor (gepromulgeer in GN 113 van 2018) gelê en loop deur die volgende eiendomme:

- Gedeelte 5 van Plaas 66
- Gedeelte 6 van Plaas 66
- Gedeelte 14 van Plaas 66
- Gedeelte 5 van Plaas 62
- Gedeelte 6 van Plaas 62
- Gedeelte 2 van Plaas 62
- Gedeelte 1 van Plaas 56
- Gedeelte 2 van Plaas 56

## OMGEWINGSAANSOEK

Vanweë die feit dat die voorgestelde OHPL groter as 33kV is en aangesien die OHPL binne 'n Kritieke Biodiversiteitsgebied (CBA), volgens die Noord-Kaapse Kritieke Biodiversiteitsgebiede (2016), val, gee dit aanleiding tot verskeie gelyste aktiwiteite in GNR 327 en GNR 324.

- **GNR 327 (Kennisgewing 1): Aktiwiteite 12(ii)(a & c) en 19;**
- **GNR 324 (Kennisgewing 3): Aktiwiteite 12(i)(i)(ii) en 14(ii)(a), (c)(i)(i)(bb & ff)**

'n Basiese assesseringsproses (BA) sal gevolg word soos uiteengesit in Regulasie 19 van die EIA-regulasies (2014, soos gewysig). Die Departement van Bosbou, Visserie en die Omgewing (DFFE) is die bevoegde owerheid ten opsigte van hierdie aansoek om omgewingsmagtiging.

## KONSEP BA VERSLAG KOMMENTAARTYDPERK

Die Konsep BA Verslag sal by die lokale hieronder gelys beskikbaar gestel word, vir 'n tydperk van 30 dae, vir oorsig en kommentaar gedurende die kommentaartydperk vanaf **26 November 2021 – 17 Januarie 2022**.

- Aggeneys Post Office, Havelock Ave, Aggeneys, 8893 (Tel: 054 983 2264);
- WSP Webwerf: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>

## REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Edms) Bpk (WSP) is aangestel as die onafhanklike en toepaslik gekwalifiseerde EAP om die BA-proses te bestuur en te onderneem. Partye wat formeel wil registreer as belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye ten einde meer inligting te ontvang en/of hulle kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek te lewer, word versoek om hulle volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die EAP te stuur en hulle direkte sake, finansiële, persoonlike inligting of ander belangstelling in die projek bekend te maak. Enige kommentaar op die voorgestelde projek kan aan die EAP voorgelê word deur met behulp van die besonderhede hier onder uiteengesit. Geregistreerde belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye sal van alle toekomstige projekverwante korrespondensie voorsien word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem.

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