



WSP ref.: 41102909

26 November 2021

PUBLIC

Dear Sir/Madam:

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

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).

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Sol Invictus (Pty) Ltd (Sol Invictus), the Applicant, proposes to construct a 132 kV overhead powerline (OHPL), approximately 23 km in length, to connect the proposed Sol Invictus 1 to 6 Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facility (PVSEF cluster) onsite connector substation to the national grid via the existing Eskom Aggeneis substation. To facilitate the connection Sol Invictus proposes to expand the Eskom Aggeneis substation, involving the extension of the 400kV busbar and adding a 400/132kV 500MVA transformer and 132kV busbars. The proposed OHPL and Aggeneis substation are situated near Aggeneys in the Khâi-Ma and Nama Khoi Local Municipalities, within the Namakwa District Municipality of the Northern Cape Province, South Africa (**Figure 1**). The OHPL is located within the Northern Strategic Transmission Corridor, promulgated in GN 113 of 2018, with the centre point of the OHPL located at 29°16'1.49"S and 18°41'45.09"E. The table below outlines the location of the proposed project:

PROJECT	LOCATION	PROCESS
Sol Invictus PVSEF 132kV Overhead Powerline	<ul style="list-style-type: none">— Portions 5, 6 and 14 of Farm 66— Portions 2, 5 and 6 of Farm 62— Portion 1 and 2 of Farm 56	Basic Assessment

The proposed OHPL route runs from the proposed Sol Invictus PVSEF to the existing Eskom Aggeneis substation, located approximately 5 km south west of Aggeneys. The OHPL will be a 132kV steel single or double structure with kingbird conductor. The power line towers will either be steel lattice or monopole structures with a maximum height up to 36m above ground level.

A 200m corridor around the OHPL (100m on either side of the centre line) has been assessed for the purposes of this BAR. The registered servitude will fall within this 200m corridor and will likely be 31m (15.5m on either side of the centre line). The length of the OHPL is approximately 23km, which will result in a servitude area of approximately 71 hectares.

Existing access roads and farm tracks will be used during the construction phase and to service the OHPL during the operational phase. Short, temporary access tracks (jeep tracks) may be developed to access certain sections of the OHPL where no existing tracks are present.

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATION

As the proposed OHPL route traverses Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs), and falls within the Kamiesberg Bushmanland Augrabies National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES) focus area, several listed activities in GNR 327 and GNR 324 are triggered. A BA process has therefore been 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.

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The listed activities associated with the proposed project are reflected in the table below. Should you wish to obtain a complete copy of these listed activities, please contact the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), per the details provided below.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Activities applied for in terms of the EIA Regulations		
Sol Invictus PVSEF 132kV Overhead Powerline	GNR 327	11 (i)	12 (ii) (a and c)	19
	GNR 324	12 (g) (i) and (ii)	14 (ii) (a) and (c) - (g) (ii) (bb) and (ff)	

REGISTRATION

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 IAPs will be sent all future project related correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

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**.

Area	Venue	Street Address	Contact No
Aggeneys	Aggeneys Post Office	Havelock Ave, Aggeneys, 8893	Tel: 054 983 2264
Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		

We look forward to your participation in this process and your meaningful contributions.

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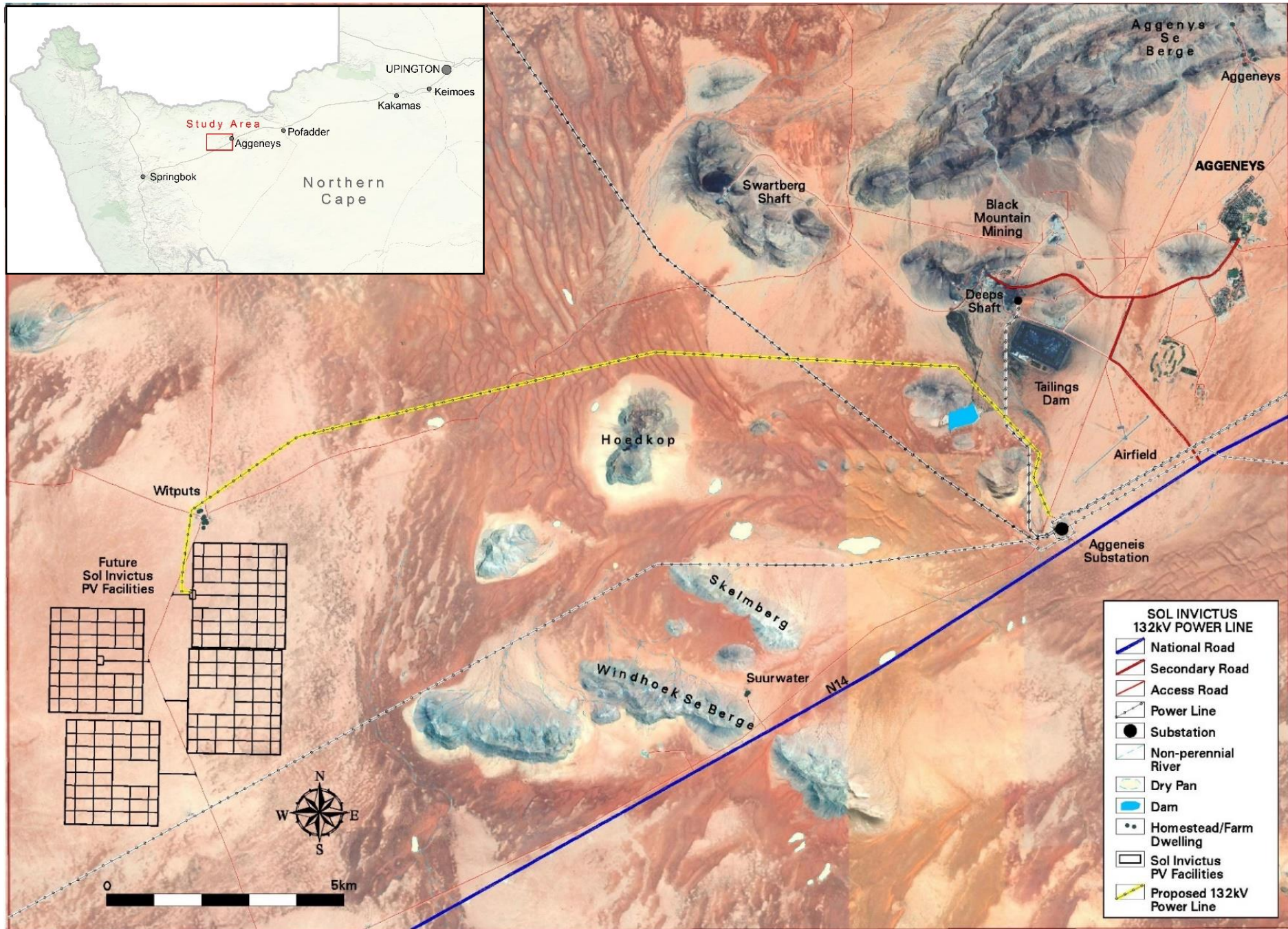


Figure 1: Location of the Proposed 22kV Klawer Overhead Powerline