

**DATE:** 27 July 2023

Dear Stakeholder / Interested and Affected Party (I&APs),

# NOTICE OF A SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY PROPOSED TO DEVELOP A 480MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITY ON PORTION 1 OF THE FARM ZWARTWITPENSBOKFONTEIN 434-KQ, KOEDOESKOP, WATERBERG DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

## **DFFE Reference number**: Pending

Notice is hereby given in terms of Regulation 41 (2)(b) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) EIA Regulations of 2014 (GNR. 326) of the commencement of an EIA process and public participation for the above-mentioned project.

#### We draw your attention to the following:

- An invitation to register as an I&AP on the project database; and
- The availability of a Background Information Document (BID) for review and comment.

Allied Green Energy (Pty) Ltd (AGE) proposes to develop a 480MW Solar PV Facility on approximately 275-hectares of land comprising Portion 1 of the farm Zwartwitpensbokfontein 434-KQ. The property falls within the jurisdiction of Thabazimbi Local Municipality, 10km south-west of Koedoeskop along the D1234 Northam-Koedoeskop Road.

The project requires environmental authorisation subject to a full EIA process from the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) before it can be commissioned because it triggers several scheduled activities published under the NEMA EIA Regulations of 2014 i.e., GN R. 327, GN R. 325 and GN R. 324.

AGE will also apply for a General Authorisation (GA) / Water Use License Application (WULA) from the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS): Crocodile Proto CMA in terms of the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) (NWA) for relevant Section 21 (a) and (g) water uses.

Conserva Environmental Management Services (CEMS) have been appointed as the independent environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to conduct the environmental authorisation process and WULA for the project.

As part of the application process, we are required to notify Stakeholders/ I&APs of the project. The aim is to solicit your views, comments, and or recommendations to help inform the EIA Study.

# What to do if you are interested and or affected?



Refer to the enclosed BID which provides (i) more project detail, (ii) gives an overview of the EIA process and explains (iii) how you can become involved in the process. A period from <u>28 July until</u> <u>28 August 2023</u> is provided to register, review the BID, and submit comments concerning the application.

You may review the BID and complete the Registration & Comment Form on the last page of the BID. Send your comments together with your name, contact details and interest in the project to <a href="mailto:conserva-ems@outlook.com">conserva-ems@outlook.com</a> or contact us at 084-226-5584 / 072-755-5103 for more information. Registration and comments must be submitted on or before 28 August 2023.

Only registered stakeholders/ I&APs will receive future project notifications/information post the registration phase.



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### What next?

### Submissions received during the public registration period will:

- Be responded to and captured in an Issues and Response Report (IRR); thereafter,
- Incorporated into a Draft Scoping Report which will be subject to a 30-days public comment period.
- With the lapse of the comment period, the report will be finalised and submitted to the DFFE for acceptance.

The Draft Scoping Report is the first report released as part of the EIA process and aims to solicit public comment on the proposal, its potential environmental consequences, and scope of the EIA Study by giving the public an opportunity to review the report. The report will be available after the public registration period.

The availability of the report and where it can be obtained will be communicated to registered Stakeholders / I&APs through email and or telephonically.

and

Sincerely,

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