

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT

Draft Scoping Report for the proposed development of the Vhuvhili Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility near Secunda in the Mpumalanga Province.

APPENDIX B:

Declaration of Independence of the Environmental Assessment Practitioners



CONTENTS

<u>B.1.</u>	<u>DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE - PAUL LOCHNER</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>B.2.</u>	<u>DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE – MINNELISE LEVENDAL</u>	<u>3</u>

B.1. DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE - PAUL LOCHNER

10.3 The Review Environmental Assessment Practitioner (REAP)

I Paul Lochner, as the appointed review environmental assessment practitioner ("REAP") hereby declare/affirm the correctness of the information provided as part of the application, and that I:

- am independent, and other than fair remuneration for work performed in terms of this application, have no business, financial, personal or other interest in the activity or application and that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity;
- am fully aware of and meet all of the requirements of Regulation 13, and that failure to comply with any the requirements may result in disqualification;
- have reviewed/will review all the work undertaken by the EAP;
- have disclosed/will disclose, to the applicant, the EAP, the specialist (if any), the Department and interested and affected parties, all material information that have or may have the potential to influence the decision of the Department or the objectivity of any report, plan or document prepared or to be prepared as part of the application; and
- am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 48 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations.

Paul Lochner
Signature of the review environmental assessment practitioner

CSIR
Name of company

07 June 2022
Date



B.2. DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE – MINNELISE LEVENDAL

10.2 The Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)

MINNELISE LEVENDAL, as the appointed environmental assessment practitioner ("EAP") hereby declare/affirm the correctness of the information provided or to be provided as part of the application, and that I:

- in terms of the general requirement to be independent (tick which is applicable):

☒ other than fair remuneration for work performed/to be performed in terms of this application, have no business, financial, personal or other interest in the activity or application and that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity; or

☐ am not independent, but another EAP that is independent and meets the general requirements set out in Regulation 13 has been appointed to review my work (Note: a declaration by the review EAP must be submitted);

- have expertise in conducting environmental impact assessments, including knowledge of the Act, regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- will ensure compliance with the EIA Regulations 2014;
- will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the application;
- will take into account, to the extent possible, the matters listed in regulation 18 of the regulations when preparing the application and any report, plan or document relating to the application;
- will disclose to the proponent or applicant, registered interested and affected parties and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority or the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority (unless access to that information is protected by law, in which case I will indicate that such protected information exists and is only provided to the competent authority);
- will ensure that information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application is distributed or made available to interested and affected parties and the public and that participation by interested and affected parties is facilitated in such a manner that all interested and affected parties will be provided with a reasonable opportunity to participate and to provide comments on documents that are produced to support the application;
- declare that all the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct;
- am aware that it is an offence in terms of Regulation 48 to provide incorrect or misleading information and that a person convicted of such an offence is liable to the penalties as contemplated in section 49B(2) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).

M. Levendal
Signature of the environmental assessment practitioner

C-SIR
Name of company

1 JUNE 2022
Date

