Basic Assessment for the proposed development of a 115 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility (Vryburg Solar 1) and associated electrical infrastructure near Vryburg in the North West Province: DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

APPENDIX H: DETAILS OF EAP AND EXPERTISE

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Appendix H.1 Curriculum Vitae of EAP – Surina Laurie

Name of firm CSIR

Name of staff Surina Laurie

Profession Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Position in firmSenior Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Years' experience More than 7 years

Nationality South African

Biographical sketch

Surina has more than 7 years of experience as an Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP). She completed both her BSc in Conservation Ecology and MPhil in Environmental Management (part-time) at the University of Stellenbosch. With her honours project, she worked closely with the Endangered Wildlife Trust Riverine Rabbit Working Group and was responsible for determining the conservation opportunity for the Riverine Rabbit in the Karoo. With this project, she gained valuable experience in how to interact and manage stakeholders in such a way that a project's objectives and conservation goals are met without the stakeholders not being included in the decision-making process. The management of stakeholders and the ability to incorporate their needs into the objectives of a project is seen as an essential component of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

With her Masters' thesis she researched and addressed why there is a need to undertake a Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) as part of any EIA. The need for a CBA stems from the fact that losing environmental services will have an economic impact on a regional/national level in the long term but this is usually not considered during an EIA process. A CBA will look at both the economic benefits (profit) from a project and the economic losses because of loss of ecosystem services or rehabilitation costs. By including a CBA in an EIA, both the economic and environmental financial implications (not just the environmental significance of an impact) of a project will be considered by the decision making authority prior to the issuing of Environmental Authorisations or permits.

She has experience in undertaking Basic Assessments and Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessments for various sectors, including renewable energy, industry and tourism. She also has experience in undertaking environmental audits, due diligence assessments and the compilation of Environmental Management Programmes.

Registered Professional Natural Scientist (Pr. Sci. Nat.) in Environmental Science (Reg. No: 400033/15) with the South African Council of Natural Scientific Professions.

2015	Certificate in Environmental Economics, University of London (SOAS)
2013	Project Management Course, University of Cape Town Graduate School of Business
2011-2012	MPhil Environmental Management, University of
(Part-time)	Stellenbosch
2007-2010	BSc Conservation Ecology, University of Stellenbosch

Employment Record

Feb 2014 to present	CSIR, Project Manager, EAP
Sept 2011 to Jan 2014	WSP Environmental (Pty) Ltd, Environmental Consultant
Nov 2010 to Aug 2011	EnviroAfrica, Junior Environmental Consultant

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Experience record Abridged experience in Environmental Impact and Basic Assessment processes:

Date	Project Description	Role	Client
2018 - Ongoing	Three Basic Assessment Processes for the proposed development of three distribution lines and three 115 MW Solar PV Facilities (Vryburg PV 1, PV 2, and PV 3) near Vryburg, North-West.	Project Manager	Veroniva (Pty) Ltd - Energy Property
2017 - Ongoing	Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of a Transmission Line and associated electrical infrastructure to support the proposed Skeerhok Solar Energy Facilities, north-east of Kenhardt, Northern Cape Province	Project Leader	Juwi Renewable Energies (PTY) Ltd
2017 - 2018	Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment for the Proposed Development of a 100 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility (SKEERHOK PV 1) on the farm Smutshoek 395, Portion 0, north-east of Kenhardt, Northern Cape Province	Project Leader	Juwi Renewable Energies (PTY) Ltd
2017 - 2018	Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment for the Proposed Development of a 100 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility (SKEERHOK PV 2) on Portion 9 of farm Gemsbok Bult 120, north-east of Kenhardt, Northern Cape Province	Project Leader	Juwi Renewable Energies (PTY) Ltd
2017 - 2018	Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment for the Proposed Development of a 100 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility (SKEERHOK PV 3) on the farm Smutshoek 395, Portion 0, north-east of Kenhardt, Northern Cape Province	Project Leader	Juwi Renewable Energies (PTY) Ltd
2017 - Ongoing	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA for a Phased Gas Pipeline Network and expansion of Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) for South Africa - Socio- Economic and Planning Specialist	Specialist	National DEA, DOE, DPE, Transnet, iGas and Eskom
2016 - 2017	Basic Assessment Processes: Proposed development of three Distribution Lines and electrical grid infrastructure to connect to the proposed Sutherland WEF, Sutherland 2 WEF and Rietrug WEF to the National Grid, near Sutherland in the Northern and Western Cape	Project Leader	South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
2016 - current	National SEA for Solar and Wind (Phase 2)	Project Manager	Department of Environmental Affairs
2016 - 2017	Mainstream Sutherland WEFs Amendment 1 and 2	Project Leader	South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
2016 - 2017	Scoping and EIA Process: Proposed Development of the Teekloof WEF, near Victoria West, Northern Cape.	Project Leader	South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
2016 - 2017	Scoping and EIA Process: Proposed Development of the Platberg WEF, near Victoria West, Northern Cape.	Project Leader	South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
2016 - 2017	Environmental Screening Study for the Vryburg Solar PV Project	Project Leader	Veroniva (PTY) Ltd
2016	Basic Assessment Process: Proposed Development of Supporting Infrastructure to the Victoria West Wind Energy Facility, Victoria West, Northern Cape	Project Leader	South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
2015	Review of the validity of appeals received against the Environmental Authorisation issued for the construction of an 11 MW Hydropower Station, Groblershoop, Northern Cape Province	Project Leader	Department of Environmental Affairs
2015 - 2016	Scoping and EIA Process: Proposed development five 100 MW Photovoltaic Facilities near Dealesville, Free State.	Project Leader	29 Solar (PTY) Ltd
2015 - 2016	Scoping and EIA Process: Proposed construction of the Mulilo Solar Development consisting of seven 75 MW PV Solar Energy Facilities and associated infrastructure near Kenhardt, Northern Cape	Project Leader	Mulilo Renewable Project Development (Pty) Ltd
2015 - 2016	Basic Assessment Process: Proposed development of three Transmission Lines and electrical infrastructure to connect to the proposed 75 MW Solar PV Facilities (Kenhardt PV 1, PV 2, and PV 3) on the remaining extent of Onder Rugzeer Farm 168, and the remaining	Project Leader	Scatec Solar SA 163 (PTY) Ltd

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Date	Project Description	Role	Client
	extent of Portion 3 of Gemsbok Bult Farm 120, northeast of Kenhardt, Northern Cape.		
2015 - 2016	Scoping and EIA Process: Proposed development of three 75 MW Solar PV Facilities (Kenhardt PV 1, PV 2, and PV 3) on the remaining extent of Onder Rugzeer Farm 168, north-east of Kenhardt, Northern Cape.	Project Leader	Scatec Solar SA 163 (PTY) Ltd
2014 - 2016	Integrated Scoping and EIA process for the construction of three Photovoltaic (PV) or Concentrated Photovoltaic (CPV) Solar Facilities with a generating capacity of 75 MW each on the farms remaining extent of Portion 3 of the Farm Gemsbok Bult 120 and Boven Rugzeer remaining extent of 169, located 30 km north-east of Kenhardt. Two of the projects will be located on the farm remaining extent of Portion 3 of the Farm Gemsbok Bult 120 and one on Boven Rugzeer remaining extent 169.	Project Manager	Mulilo Renewable Project Development (Pty) Ltd
2014 - present	Integrated Scoping and EIA process for the development of twelve (12) Photovoltaic (PV) or Concentrated Photovoltaic (CPV) Solar Facilities with a generating capacity of 75 MW/100MW each, near Dealesville, Free State.	Project Manager	South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
2013-2014	Basic Assessment for the construction of three additional petroleum storage tanks at the Cape Town Harbour.	Environmental Consultant	FFS Refiners (Pty) Ltd
2013-2014	Scoping and EIA for the construction of a Sewage Package Plant on Robben Island.	Environmental Consultant	Department of Public Works
2013	Development of an EMPr for the undertaking of maintenance work on the Stilbaai Fishing Harbour's Slipway located in Stilbaai, Western Cape, South Africa. In order to be compliant to the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, a Maintenance Management Plan (MMP) needed to be developed to manage the environmental impacts associated with maintenance work that is scheduled to be undertaken on the Stilbaai Fishing Harbour's Slipway as well as any future on-going maintenance requirements.	Environmental Consultant	Department of Public Works
2012-2014	Waste Management License for the proposed storage of Ferrous HMS 1+2, Shredded Ferrous and Bales located at the K/L Berth at Duncan Road, Port of Cape Town	Environmental Consultant	The New Reclamation Group (Pty) Ltd
2012-2014	Scoping and EIA for the construction a biodiesel refinery in the Coega Industrial Development Zone (IDZ). The proposed project entails the import of used vegetable oil from the USA and converting it through various processes to biodiesel which will be exported to Europe. The proposed project requires an Air Emissions License, a Waste Management License and Environmental Authorisation.	Environmental Consultant	FIS Biofuels (Ltd)
2013-2013	Basic Assessment for the proposed redevelopment of Berths B, C and D in Duncan Dock at the Port of Cape Town.	Assistant Environmental Consultant	FPT (Pty) Ltd
2011- 2012	Development of an EMPr for the Eerstelingsfontein Opencast Project (EOP).	Assistant Environmental Consultant	Exxaro Resources Limited
2011-2014	Basic Assessment for the proposed reinstatement of the Blue Stone Quarry located on Robben Island.	Assistant Environmental Consultant	Department of Public Works
2011	Scoping and EIA for the proposed upgrade to the Struisbaai WWTW.	Assistant Environmental Consultant	Cape Agulhas Municipality
2011	Basic Assessment for the construction of a cellular mast.	Environmental Consultant	MTN (Pty) Ltd
2010-2011	Basic Assessment for the construction of a Heritage Centre.	Environmental Consultant	Waenhuiskrans Arniston Community Development Trust
2010-2011	Scoping and EIA for the rezoning of the area from open space to residential, the construction of six	Environmental Consultant	Private developer

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Date	Project Description	Role	Client
	residential units and the upgrading of the existing Waste Water Treatment Plant.		

Abridged experience in undertaking the role of an Environmental Control Officer and compliance auditing:

Date	Project Description	Role	Client
2013- 2014	The proposed extension project involved the installation of five new above ground storage tanks. The two largest tanks have a tank capacity of 2,500m³ each and a height of 18m. The three smaller tanks have a tank capacity of 2,300m³, 1,350m³ and 212m³ and heights of 18m, 10.8m and 10.8m respectively, giving an additional 8862m³ storage capacity to the current FFS operation	ECO	FFS Refiners (Pty) Ltd
2012- 2014	Compliance auditing of drum re-conditioners for the used oil industry in the Western Cape.	Assistant Environmental Consultant	The Rose Foundation
2012	Environmental legal compliance auditing of various Much Asphalt sites. The audit entailed review of national, provincial legislation and municipal by-laws and a site visit in order to determine whether the sites were compliant to the relevant environmental legislation.	Environmental Consultant	Much Asphalt
2011- 2013	Construction of a new De-Ashing Plant for FFS Vissershok Construction of a De-Ashing Plant. This project involved the monthly independent audits and reports of all the environmental and social aspects of the construction phase for the new De-Ashing Plant at Vissershok.	ECO	FFS Refiners (Pty) Ltd
2011- 2012	Construction of the new 1200m ³ Tank at FFS Cape Town Harbour Site. This project involved two site audits per month to ensure compliance to the Environmental Authorisation and Environmental Management Plan for the proposed project.	ECO	FFS Refiners (Pty) Ltd

Language capabilities		Speaking	Reading	Writing
Language Capabilities	Afrikaans	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	English	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

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Appendix H.2	EAP Declaration of Interest		
I,	Surina Laurie	, declare that:	

- I act as the independent environmental practitioner in this application;
- I 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 applicant;
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have expertise in conducting environmental impact assessments, including knowledge of the Act, regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I will take into account, to the extent possible, the matters listed in regulation 8 of the Regulations when preparing the application and any report relating to the application;
- I will take into account, to the extent possible, the matters listed in Regulation 18 of the Regulations when preparing the application and any report relating to the application;
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant 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; and 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 it will be indicated that such information exists and will be provided to the competent authority;
- I 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;
- I will ensure that the inputs and comments of all stakeholders and interested and affected parties are considered and recorded in reports that are submitted to the competent authority in respect of the application, provided that comments that are made by interested and affected parties in respect of a final report that will be submitted to the competent authority may be attached to the report without further amendment to the report;
- I will keep a register of all interested and affected parties that participated in a public participation process;
- I declare that all the particulars furnished by me are true and correct;
- I will provide the competent authority with access to all information at my disposal regarding the application, whether such information is favourable to the applicant or not;
- I will provide the competent authority any information that is provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties and; any responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested or affected parties;
- I affirm that the information provided in this report includes input and recommendations from specialist reports where relevant;
- the information provided in this report has been sourced from relevant literature, legislation, previous studies and specialist input and is therefore believed to be correct;
- I will perform all other obligations as expected from an environmental assessment practitioner in terms of the Regulations;
- I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 48 of the Regulations and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act; and
- I am aware of what constitutes an offence in terms of Regulation 48 and that a person convicted of an offence in terms of Regulation 48(1) is liable to the penalties as contemplated in section 49B of the Act.

	Environmental Assessment Practitioner	
Signed at Stellenbosch on the 13 August 2018	8Came	