



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1093/AM3

Enquiries: Ms Azrah Essop

Telephone: (012) 399 8529 **E-mail:** AEssop@dffe.gov.za

Mr Robert Wagener
ABO Wind Lichtenburg 3 PV (Pty) Ltd
Unit B1 Mayfair Square
Century Way
CENTURY CITY
7441

Telephone Number: (021) 276 3620
Email Address: Capetown@abo-wind.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Wagener

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 3 JULY 2019 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 100MW LICHTENBURG 3 PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR LICHTENBURG, WITHIN DITSOBOTLA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 02 July 2019, the amendments to the EA dated 05 August 2019 and 25 March 2021, your application for amendment of the EA received by the Department on 06 April 2022, the comments on the draft motivation report dated 28 April 2022 and the amended application form received on the 10 July 2022, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended, has decided to amend the EA dated 03 July 2019 as amended, as follows:

Amendment 1: change of powerline alternative:

On page 5 of the EA dated 03 July 2019, under activities authorised, it is requested that the authorised power line corridor be amended as follows:

From:

<i>Power line Corridor Alternative 1 (210m)</i>	<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Longitude</i>
<i>On-site Substation</i>	26°02'45.270"	26°07'31.833"
<i>Middle</i>	26°02'44.751"	26°07'32.702"

Mmabatho/ Watershed DS 1 88kV power line	26°02'50.116"	26°07'32.702"
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Is hereby amended to:

Power line Corridor Alternative 2	Latitude	Longitude
Collector Substation Complex (onsite substation L3/ switching stations/collector substation)	26°02'16.81" S	26°07'27.80" E
Middle	26°04'18.78" S	26°08'08.26" E
Eskom Watershed Substation	26°05'33.35" S	26°08'35.83" E

Amendment 2: Amendment of the authorised on-site substation alternative:

Page 5 of the EA, as amended typed as:

On-site substation Alternative 1	Latitude	Longitude
North West Corner	26°02'45.270" S	26°07'31.833" E
North East Corner	26°02'44.751" S	26°07'32.702" E
South West Corner	26°02'50.116" S	26°07'32.702" E
South East Corner	26°02'49.602" S	26°07'32\8.105" E
Central point	26°02'47.267" S	26°07'35.155" E

Is hereby amended to:

Collector Substation Complex (onsite substation L3/ switching stations/collector substation)	Latitude	Longitude
North West Corner	26°02'22.73" S	26°07'25.37" E
North East Corner	26°02'22.46" S	26°07'36.64" E
South West Corner	26°02'30.04" S	26°07'26.65" E
South East Corner	26°02'29.62" S	26°07'37.48" E
Central point	26°02'26.19" S	26°07'31.75" E

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2/1093/AM3

Project Title: AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 03 JULY 2019 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 100MW LICHTENBURG 3 PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR LICHTENBURG, WITHIN DITSOBOTLA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

Amendment 3: Amendment to the authorised farm description:

Page 4 of the EA, as amended, typed as:

Farm Description	21 Digit Surveyor General Code
Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Zamenkomst No. 4	T0IP0000000004000002

Is hereby amended to:

Farm Description	21 Digit Surveyor General Code
Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Zamenkomst No. 4	T0IP0000000004000002
Portion 10 of the Farm Lichtenburg Town and Townlands No. 27	T0IP0000000002700010
Remainder of Portion 1 of the Farm Lichtenburg Town and Townlands No. 27	T0IP0000000002700001
Remaining Extent of the Farm Priem No. 30	T0IP0000000003000000

Amendment 4: Amendment to the activities authorised of the EA:

Page 5 and 6 of the EA (and amended under AM2) under the table of activities authorised, typed as:

"on-site 88/132kV substation"

Is hereby amended to:

"Onsite 33/132kV Collector Substation."

And from:

"A new 88/132kV overhead powerline between the on-site substation to the Eskom grid connection point."

Is hereby amended to:

'A new 132kV overhead powerline from the Lichtenburg 3 PV facility collector substation to the Eskom Watershed Substation.'

Amendment 5: Amendment to the technical details of the EA:

The technical details on Page 6 of the EA, as amended typed as:

Component	Description/Dimensions
<i>Area occupied by onsite substation complex</i>	<i>~2.25ha</i>
<i>Capacity of onsite substation complex</i>	<i>On-site inverters to convert power from Direct Current (DC) to Alternating Current (AC), and an 88/132kV on-site substation to facilitate the connection between the solar facility and the Eskom grid connection point.</i>

Is hereby amended to:

Component	Description/Dimensions
<i>The area occupied by the collector substation complex</i>	<i>~6.92ha</i>
<i>The capacity of the on-site collector substation complex</i>	<i>On-site inverters to convert power from Direct Current (DC) to Alternating Current (AC), and a 33/132kV on-site collector substation to facilitate the connection between the solar facility and the Eskom grid connection point at Watershed Substation</i>

Reason for the amendments: The Lichtenburg 1 PV, 2 PV and 3 PV projects have been selected as Preferred Bidders in a private PPA. The original Eskom Cost Estimate Letters (CELs) were issued separately for each project within the larger cluster (Lichtenburg 1 PV, 2 PV and 3 PV). When considering the three projects together, Eskom has advised the following:

- The existing power line approved for LILO (Alternative 1 as authorised) does not have sufficient capacity to connect the facility.
- One power line to Watershed for all three projects from a central collector substation is the required and preferred connection solution.

Therefore, the proposed amendment will allow connection of Lichtenburg 2 PV Facility to the proposed Collector Substation Complex of ABO Wind Lichtenburg 3 PV on the authorised footprint of Lichtenburg 3 PV Facility. The amendments are proposed within the authorised footprint of Lichtenburg 2 and 3 PV assessed within the EIA process. In addition, the extension to the grid connection corridor for Lichtenburg 3 PV is proposed within an area that was assessed by specialists during the EIA process.

The proposed location of the Collector (step-up/on-site) Substation Complex and extension to the grid connection corridor Alternative 2 for Lichtenburg 3 PV falls within an area that was assessed by specialists for the placement of infrastructure during the EIA process. The reason for the extension of the corridor is on the basis that the location of the step-up/on-site substation for Lichtenburg 3 PV is being moved from its authorised location to a new location within the authorised footprint of the project as part of the Collector Substation Complex for all 3 projects. The change in the location of the substation is to collect the electricity from each of the three PV projects within the larger cluster at one location (with a combined footprint of 6.92 ha), the Collector Substation Complex from which electricity will be transmitted to the Eskom Watershed Substation via a 132kV overhead power line. In order to include all relevant farm portions associated with the project and the amended grid connection alternative, the listed properties have to be amended. These properties were included in the assessment of impacts within the EIA process undertaken for the project.

This proposed amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 03 July 2019, as amended.

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In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013) which stipulate that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dffe.gov.za;

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria,
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria,
0001;

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Mr Vusi Skosana
Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 21 June 2022

cc:	Mr L Tshikovhi	North West Department of Rural, Environmental Affairs and Agricultural Development	E-mail: ltshikovhi@nwpg.gov.za / qethebe@nwpg.gov.za
	Mr Mogapane Matswamere	Ditsobotla Local Municipality	Email: matswamere@ditsobotla.gov.za / info@ditsobotla.gov.za
	Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd	Email: joanne@savannahsa.com



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Enquiries: Devinagie Bendeman Telephone: 012 399 9337 E-mail: vbendeman@dffe.gov.za

Mr. Vusi Skosana
Director: National Infrastructure Projects

Dear Mr Skosana

APPOINTMENT AS ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATIONS FOR THE PERIOD OF 20 TO 24 JUNE 2022

I hereby inform you that I have decided to appoint you as the Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations for the period of 20 June to 24 June 2022 whilst Ms Milicent Solomons is on annual leave.

All the correspondence and other documents that are usually signed by the Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations must be signed under Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations during the above-mentioned period.

Your appointment in the above acting position remains subject to the provisions of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation No. 103 of 1994), as amended, the Government Employees Pension Fund Act, 1996 (Proclamation No. 21 of 1996), the regulations promulgated under these Acts and relevant circulars.

In the execution of your duties and the exercising of the powers delegated to you, you will furthermore be subjected to the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, compliance with the Promotion of Access to Information Act, Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, the Minimum Information Security Standard, Departmental Policies and other applicable legislations with the Republic of South Africa. You are therefore advised to make yourself familiar with the provisions of these legislations and policies and the amendments thereof. (Copies of Departmental policies can be obtained from the Human Resource Office).

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for all your assistance on behalf of the department.

Yours sincerely

Ms Devinagie Bendeman
Deputy Director-General: RCSM (Regulatory Compliance and Sector Monitoring)
Date 17 June 2022

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I ACCEPT / ~~DO NOT ACCEPT~~
appointment as Acting Chief
Director: Integrated Environmental
Authorizations

Signed:

Date:

20 June 2022