



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: 14/16/12/3/3/1/2512

Enquiries: Ms Thulisile Nyalunga

Telephone: (012) 399 9405 **E-mail:** tnyalunga@dfpe.gov.za

Mr Dirk Muller
AGV Project (Pty) Ltd
512 Riverside Lofts
112 Tyger Falls Blvd
Bellville
CAPE TOWN
7530

Cellphone Number: 079 367 2593

E-mail: dirk@agv-za.co.za

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Muller

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RED SANDS PV1 FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON A SITE LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 26KM NORTH-EAST OF GROBLERSHOOP, WITHIN THE TSANTSABANE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND THE ZF MGCWU DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The Environmental Authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

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 fourteen (14) days of the date of the decision as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 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, Act No. 4 of 2013 which stipulates 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.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, 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 prescribe 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@dfre.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@dfre.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Ms Millicent Solomons
Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 11/03/2022.

cc:	Ms Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd	Email: joanne@savannahsa.com
	Mr Bryan Fisher	Northern Cape DAEA, RD& LR	Email: Bfisher@ncpg.gov.za
	Mr Gaonyadiwe Mathobela	Tsantsabane Local Municipality	Email: mm@tsansabane.gov.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 25 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended

Development of the Red Sands PV1 facility and associated infrastructure on a site located approximately 26km northeast of Groblershoop, within the Tsantsabane Local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province.

ZF Mqacawu District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	14/12/16/3/3/1/2512
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation:	AGV Projects (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	Northern Cape Province: Portion 2 of the Farm Tities Poort 386 within Ward 6 of the Tsantsabane Local Municipality

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this Environmental Authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Department hereby authorises –

AGV Project (Pty) Ltd

(Hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details –

Mr Dirk Muller
AGV Project (Pty) Ltd
512 Riverside Lofts
112 Tyger Falls Blvd
Bellville,
CAPE TOWN
7530

Cellphone Number: (079) 367 2593

E-mail: dirk@agv-za.co.za

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in Listing Notice 1 and Listing Notice 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended¹

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 11(i):</u></p> <p><i>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity—</i></p> <p><i>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts;</i></p>	<p>The project sites currently fall outside the urban area. 33kV MV cabling and 132kV facility substation are proposed for each PV facility to connect each of the PV facilities to the Eskom electricity grid.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 14</u></p> <p>The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or for the storage and handling, of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 80 cubic metres or more but not exceeding 500 cubic metres.</p>	<p>The development of each PV facility will require the construction and operation of facilities and infrastructure for the storage and handling of dangerous goods (combustible and flammable liquids, such as oils, lubricants, solvents) associated with the on-site substations where such storage will occur inside containers with a combined capacity exceeding 80 cubic meters but not exceeding 500 cubic meters.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 28 (ii)</u></p> <p>Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture or afforestation on or after 1998 and where such development</p> <p>(ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.</p>	<p>The total area to be developed for each of the proposed PV facility is greater than 1ha and occurs outside an urban area in an area currently zoned for agriculture.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 2, Item 1</u></p> <p>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more.</p>	<p>The proposed PV facilities will each have a capacity that exceeds 20MW. The three (3) solar PV facilities will each have a contracted capacity of 75MWac.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 2, Item 15</u></p> <p>The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation.</p>	<p>The development of the PV facilities will each require the clearance of an area in excess of 20ha for the development of infrastructure.</p>

MS.

as described in the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated June 2022 at:

Farm Name, Portions and 21 Digit SG Code:

Farm name/s, Portions and number/s	SG 21 Code
Portion 2 of the Farm Tities Poort 386	C02800000000038600002

Coordinates for the development

Project site		
A	28°40'12.55"S	22° 5'29.08"E
B	28°37'12.13"S	22°10'20.14"E
C	28°41'17.75"S	22°12'8.10"E
D	28°43'55.65"S	22° 9'16.98"E
Access road		
A	Start: 28°40'28.03"S	22° 6'40.54" E
B	Middle: 28°40'36.52" S	22° 6'47.34"E
	End: 28°40'46.33"S	22° 6'55.33"E
Substation		
A	28° 40' 39.9997" S	22° 07' 03.8577" E
B	28° 40' 43.4219" S	22° 07' 06.4879" E
C	28° 40' 45.5472" S	22° 07' 02.7594" E
D	28° 40' 42.3598" S	22° 07' 00.0800" E
Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)		
A	28° 40' 43.8097" S	22° 07' 04.2450" E
B	28° 40' 44.4393" S	22° 07' 04.7032" E
C	28° 40' 45.5472" S	22° 07' 02.7594" E
D	28° 40' 44.9431" S	22° 07' 02.2515" E

- for the development of the Red Sand PV1 facility and associated infrastructure on a site located approximately 26km northeast of Groblershoop, within the Tsantsabane Local Municipality and the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality in the Northern Cape Province., hereafter referred to as "the property"

Red Sands PV1 will have a contracted capacity of up to 75MWAC and will include specific infrastructure, namely:

- Solar PV array comprising PV modules and mounting structures.
- Inverters and transformers.
- Low voltage cabling between the PV modules to the inverters
- A fence around the project development area
- Camera surveillance
- Internet connection
- 33kV cabling between the project components and the facility substation
- 33/132kV onsite facility substation1.
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).
- Site offices and maintenance buildings, including workshop areas for maintenance and storage.
- Laydown areas.
- Access roads (up to 6m) and internal distribution roads (up to 4m).

Technical details of the proposed development

Components	Description/dimensions
Total extent of the development area (including associated infrastructure)	163ha
Development footprint	120ha
Area occupied by inverter / transformer stations / substations / BESS	Inverter/transformer: 0.1404ha Substation: 1.241-1.539ha
Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)	Maximum height: 2.7m Volume (m ³): 17,070.75 (45X 379.35m ² units) Capacity: 45 (45X 1MWh units) BESS Area: 0.1405ha
Contracted capacity of the facility	75MW AC
Capacity of on-site sub- and switching station	132kV onsite facility substation
Number of inverters required	Number per container: 2 Number of containers: 10
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	< 1 hectare close to site entrance
Height of the fence	3m
Length and width of access road and internal distribution roads	Length: 5144m Width: 4m
Technology	Static or Tracking Photovoltaic Systems Bifacial or monofacial

Areas occupied by the buildings (Maintenance building/Site office, control Building, Guard House)	< 1 hectare
PV panels	Height: ~2.2m from ground level (installed). 197 100 panels required. Fixed tilt, single axis or double axis tracking systems.
Grid connection	On-site inverter (step up facility) to convert power from Direct Current (DC) to an Alternative (AC) and step up the electricity current from 22kV to 132kV that will connect to the on-site substation via underground cables. As part of a separate BA process, the electricity will be evacuated via a switching station and 132kV power line to the newly built Eskom MTS on-site Garona B substation.
Other infrastructure	Fence around the project development area Camera surveillance Internet connection Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) located within substation footprint. Site offices and maintenance buildings, including workshop areas for maintenance and storage. Laydown areas.

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The preferred site for the development of the Red Sand PV1 and associated infrastructure located on Portion 2 of the Farm Tities Poort 386, which is located approximately 26km north-east of the town of Groblershoop within the Tsantsabane Local Municipality and the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality in the Northern Cape Province is approved per the geographic coordinates and property details cited in the table above.
2. The project site will be accessed via an existing gravel farm road from an existing main gravel road off the N8 which is located southeast of the project site
3. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation, which form part of the Environmental Authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
4. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
5. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
6. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this Environmental Authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further Environmental Authorisation in terms of the regulations.
7. The holder of an Environmental Authorisation must apply for an amendment of the Environmental Authorisation with the Competent Authority for any alienation, transfer or change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.
8. This activity must commence within a period of ten (10) years from the date of issue of this Environmental Authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for Environmental Authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
9. Construction must be completed within five (05) years of the commencement of the activity on site.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

10. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this Environmental Authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
11. The notification referred to must –
 - 11.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 11.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014;
 - 11.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 11.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

Commencement of the activity

12. The authorised activity shall not commence until the period for the submission of appeals has lapsed as per the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, and no appeal has been lodged against the decision. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended 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 has been finalised.

Management of the activity

13. A final site layout plan for the PV facility and associated infrastructure, as determined by the detailed engineering phase and micro-siting, and all mitigation measures as dictated by the final site layout plan, must be submitted to the Department for approval prior to construction. A copy of the final site layout map must be made available for comments to registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final development layout map must be submitted to the Department for written approval, prior to commencement of the activity. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible. The layout map must indicate the following:
 - 13.1. The position of the solar PV panels;
 - 13.2. All associated infrastructure
 - 13.3. The finalised access routes;

- 13.4. The on-site and/or switching substation, indicating the Independent Power Producer's section and Eskom's section.
- 13.5. All sensitive features; and
- 13.6. All "no-go" and buffer areas.
14. The generic Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the substation (the relevant section that will be maintained by the Independent Power Producer and Eskom), submitted as part of the BAR dated June 2022, is approved. The final site layout plan of the on-site and/or switching substation, depicting the Independent Power Producer's section and Eskom's section, must be appended to Part C of the generic EMPr for the substation.
15. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the PV facility, submitted as part of the BAR is not approved and must be amended to include measures, as dictated by the final site lay-out map and micro-siting, and the provisions of this environmental authorisation. The EMPr (inclusive of the final site layout plan as contained on condition 13 above) must be made available for comments to registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final EMPr must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity.
16. The EMPr amendment must include the following:
 - 16.1. The requirements and conditions of this environmental authorisation;
 - 16.2. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the BAR and the specialist reports as included in the final BAR dated June 2022;
 - 16.3. The final site layout map (as per Condition 13), inclusive of all associated infrastructure for the project.
17. Once approved, the EMPrs (for the PV facility and the generic EMPr for the substation) must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. They shall be seen as dynamic documents and shall be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development.
18. Changes to the approved EMPrs must be submitted in accordance with the EIA Regulations applicable at the time.
19. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved EMPrs, should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the BAR be discovered.

Frequency and process of updating the EMPr

20. The EMPr must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 27 below, indicate insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the

undertaking of the activity, or insufficient levels of compliance with the environmental authorisation or EMPr.

21. The updated EMPr must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
22. The updated EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report, as per Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. The updated EMPr must have been subjected to a public participation process, which process has been agreed to by the Department, prior to submission of the updated EMPr to the Department for approval.
23. In assessing whether to grant approval of an EMPr which has been updated as a result of an audit, the Department will consider the processes prescribed in Regulation 35 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. Prior to approving an amended EMPr, the Department may request such amendments to the EMPr as it deems appropriate to ensure that the EMPr sufficiently provides for avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity.
24. The holder of the authorisation must apply for an amendment of an EMPr, if such amendment is required before an audit is required. The amendment process is prescribed in Regulation 37 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The holder of the authorisation must request comments on the proposed amendments to the impact management outcomes of the EMPr or amendments to the closure objectives of the closure plan from potentially interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, by using any of the methods provided for in the Act for a period of at least 30 days.

Monitoring

25. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an experienced Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the construction phase of the development that will have the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation/rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPrs.
 - 25.1.1. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
 - 25.1.2. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
 - 25.1.3. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted, and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
 - 25.1.4. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.

Recording and reporting to the Department

26. All documentation e.g., audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
27. The holder of the environmental authorisation must, for the period during which the environmental authorisation and EMPs remain valid, ensure that project compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation and the EMPs are audited, and that the audit reports are submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
28. The frequency of auditing and of submission of the environmental audit reports must be as per the frequency indicated in the EMPs, taking into account the processes for such auditing as prescribed in Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
29. The holder of the authorisation must, in addition, submit an environmental audit report to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e., within 30 days of site handover) and a final environmental audit report within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
30. The environmental audit reports must be compiled in accordance with Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended and must indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit in terms of compliance with the environmental authorisation conditions as well as the requirements of the approved EMPs.
31. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

Notification to authorities

32. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence, as well as a reference number.

Operation of the activity

33. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

34. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of the authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and Competent Authority at that time.

Specific conditions

35. Following the final design of Red Sands PV1, a final layout must be submitted to the Department of Forestry Fisheries and Environment for review and approval prior to commencing with construction.
36. A pre-construction walk-through of the final development footprint for species of conservation concern that would be affected and that can be translocated must be undertaken prior to the commencement of the construction phase.
37. Permits from the relevant national and provincial authorities, i.e., the Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform must be obtained before the individuals are disturbed.
38. The project footprint must remain within the assessed and authorised development area.
39. A follow-up assessment on avian biodiversity and species abundance within the project site and surrounding areas must be conducted within one year after the facility has been in operation and should be repeated every 3-5 years. Findings of the monitoring must be submitted with the audit report as per condition 27 above. Should the monitoring result necessitate an amendment to the EMPr, more specifically the management actions of the EMPr, then the EMPr must be amended in accordance to the EIA Regulations applicable at the time.
40. Chance Fossil Finds Procedure must be implemented for the duration of construction activities.
41. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal where appropriate. Any solid waste must be disposed of at a landfill licensed in terms of Section 20 (b) of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act No.59 of 2008).

General

42. A copy of this Environmental Authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMPr, must be made available for inspection and copying-
- 42.1. at the site of the authorised activity;



- 42.2. to anyone on request; and
- 42.3. where the holder of the Environmental Authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.
43. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the authorisation with the conditions of authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of authorisation.

Date of Environmental Authorisation: 11/08/2022.



Ms Millicent Solomons

Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the application form received on 08 April 2022.
- b) The information contained in the BAR dated June 2022.
- c) The comments received from the Eskom, SAHRA, Spectrum & Telecommunication South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO) and other I&AP's and interested and affected parties as included in the BAR dated May 2022.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the BAR and the EMPr.
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the BAR dated June 2022 and as appears below:

Name of Specialist	Title of specialist report/ s as attached in FBAR	Date issued
Dr Mohamad Desai	Biodiversity Impact Assessment	December 2021
Dr Mohamad Desai	Avifauna Impact Assessment	December 2021
Andrew Husted	Soil and agricultural Impact Assessment	December 2021
CTS Heritage	Heritage Impact Assessment	March 2022
Environmental Planning and Design	Visual Impact Assessment	December 2021
Nondumiso Bulunga	Social Impact Assessment	December 2021

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- b) "The IRP for Electricity 2010 – 2030 is a subset of the IEP and constitutes South Africa's current gazetted energy plan. The purpose of the plan is to ensure sustainable electricity development which takes into consideration technical, economic, and social constraints, and identifies investments in the electricity sector which are required to meet the country's forecasted electricity demands at minimum costs. The

IRP 2010 included 9.6GW of nuclear, 6.25GW of coal, 17.8GW of renewables, and approximately 8.9GW of other generation sources such as hydro and gas in addition to all existing and committed power plants.

- c) The BAR dated June 2022 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the BAR.
- d) The location of the project.
- e) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the BAR dated June 2022 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- f) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken, and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended for public involvement.

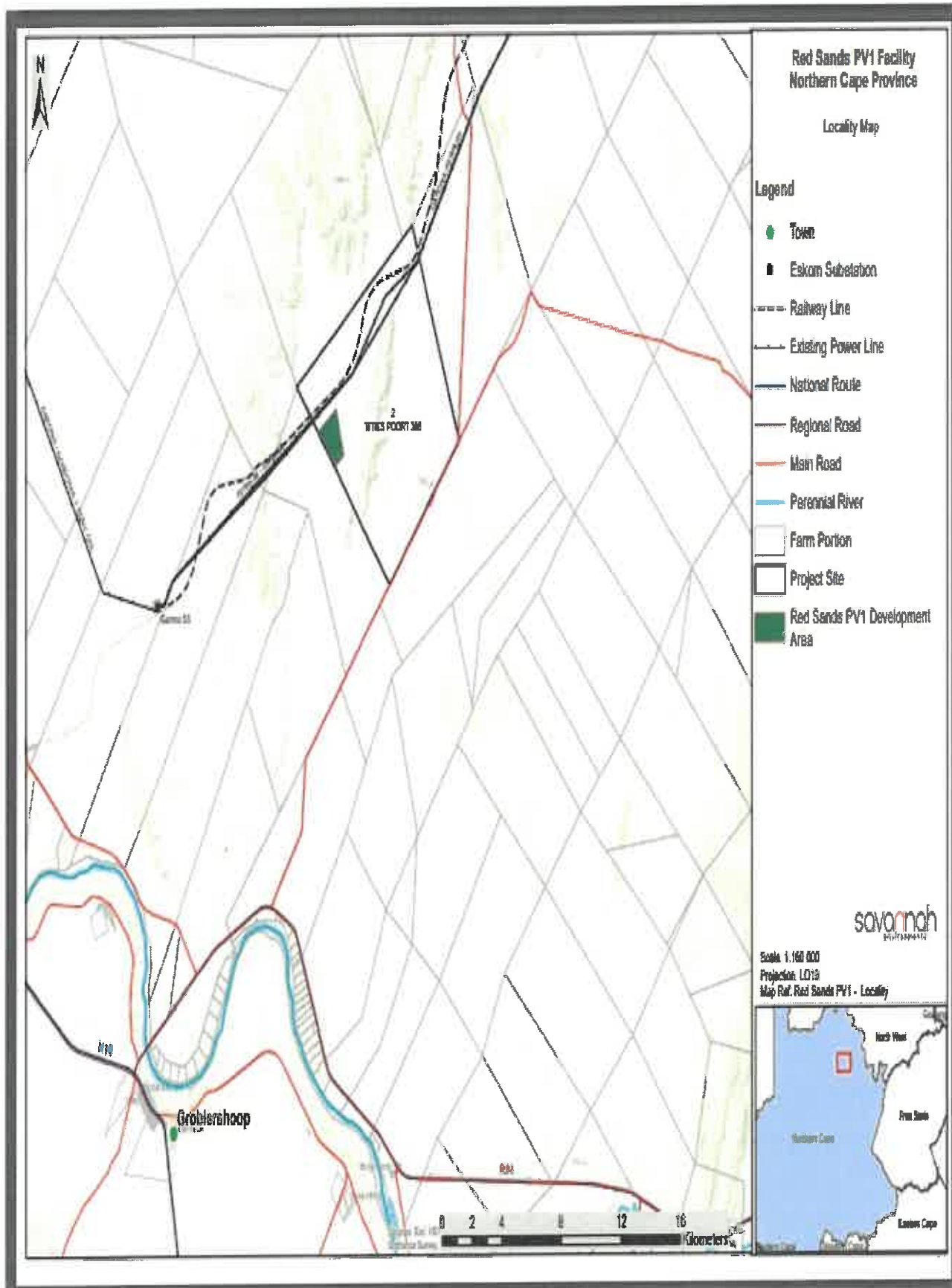
3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the BAR dated June 2022 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The information contained in the BAR dated June 2022 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- d) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- e) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the BAR and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction phase.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the authorised activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the authorised activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.

Annexure 2: Locality Plan





forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

Private Bag X447 PRETORIA 0001 Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA
Tel(+27 12) 399 9000

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

Ms. Milicent Solomons
Director: Prioritized Infrastructure Projects

Dear Mrs Solomons

APPOINTMENT AS ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATIONS FOR THE PERIOD OF 25 APRIL 2022 UNTIL 31 OCTOBER 2022

I hereby inform you that I have decided to appoint you as the Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations for the period of 25 April to 31 October 2022 whilst Mr Sabelo Malaza is fulfilling his temporary reassignment function at the Forestry Branch.

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 20 April 2022

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

Signed:

Date:

20/04/2022