

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2253 Enquiries: Mr Jay-Jay Mpelane

Telephone: (012) 399 9404. E-mail: JMpelane@dffe.gov.za

Du Toit Malherbe Kudu Solar Facility 10 (Pty) Ltd Unit B1, Mayfair Square Century Way **Century City CAPE TOWN** 7441

Tel number:

021 276 3620.

Email address:

Du-Toit, Malherbe@abo-wind.com Petrus.Scheepers@abo-wind.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Malherbe

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITY (KUDU SOLAR FACILITY 10) AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR DE AAR, 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 14 (fourteen) 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 abuses or compromises 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@dffe.gov.za

By hand:

Environment House

473 Steve Biko Road

Arcadia **PRETORIA**

0083

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.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully

Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment

09/2023

| Cc: | Natalie Uys | Northern Cape: DAEARD&LR | Email: nuys.denc@gmail.com |
|-----|-------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | Elsabè Swart | Northern Cape; DAEARD&LR | Email: elsabe.dtec@gmail.com |
| | Samantha De la Fontaine | Northern Cape: DAEARD&LR | Email: sdelafontaine@daerl.co.za |
| | Mr Kgabaganyo Matolong | Renosterberg Local Municipality | Email: renosterberg_mun@xsinet.co.za |
| | Paul Lochner | Council for Scientific and Industrial Research | Email: PLochner@csir.co.za |
| | Rohaida Abed | Council for Scientific and Industrial Research | Email: RAbed@csir.co.za |

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 9 December 2022.
- b) The information contained in the EIAr dated July 2023.
- c) The comments received from the DFFE Biodiversity and Conservation, Northern Cape DAEARD&LR, SACAA, DFFE Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness; SAHRA, Dept of Defence, DWS, Eskom, Northern Cape PHRA, Telkom, Africoast, Sola Group, SAWS, SARAO and interested and affected parties as included in the ElAr dated July 2023.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the EIAr and the EMPr (Appendix I).
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the EIAr dated July 2023 and as appears below:

| Name | Company | Report Title and Date |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Johann Lanz (Pr.Sci.Nat.) | Private | Agriculture and Soils Compliance |
| | | Statement – July 2023 |
| Corne Niemandt (Pr.Sci.Nat.) | Enviro-Insight cc | Terrestrial Biodiversity, Terrestrial Plant |
| Samuel Laurence (Pr.Sci.Nat.) | | Species, and Terrestrial Animal Species - |
| Luke Verburgt | | July 2023 |
| Toni Belcher (Pr.Sci.Nat.) | Private | Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment - |
| Dana Grobler (Pr.Sci.Nat) | | July 2023 |
| Chris van Rooyen | Chris van Rooyen | Avifauna Impact Assessment - 26 April |
| Albert Froneman (Pr.Sci.Nat.) | Consulting | 2023 |
| Quinton Lawson (SACAP, 3686) | QARC and BOLA | Visual Impact Assessment – July 2023 |
| Bernard Oberholzer (SACLAP, 87018) | | |
| Dr Jayson Orton (APHP: Member 43; | ASHA Consulting (Pty) | Heritage Impact Assessment (Archaeology |
| ASAPA CRM Section: Member 233) | Ltd | and Cultural Landscape) - May 2023 |
| Dr John Almond (PSSA and APHP | Natura Viva cc | Palaeontology Site Sensitivity Verification |
| Member) | | Report – April 2023 |
| Tony Barbour and Schalk van der Merwe | Private | Socio-Economic Impact Assessment – July |
| | | 2023 |
| Annebet Krige (Pr Eng) | Sturgeon Consulting | Traffic Impact Assessment – March 2023 |
| Debbie Mitchell (Pr Eng) | Ishecon cc | Battery Storage High Level Safety, Health |
| | | and Environment Risk Assessment |



Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Environmental Authorisation Reg. No. 14/12/16/3/3/2/2253

| Name | Company | Report Title and Date |
|--|--------------------|--|
| Dale Barrow (<i>Pr.Sci.Nat.</i>) | GEOSS South Africa | Geohydrology Assessment – July 2023 |
| Christel van Staden (Cand.Sci.Nat.) | (PTY) Ltd | |
| Shane Teek (Cand.Sci.Nat.) | | |
| Louis Jonk <i>(Pr.Sci.Nat.)</i> | | |
| Julian Conrad | | |
| Shane Teek (Cand.Sci.Nat.) | GEOSS South Africa | Geotechnical Assessment |
| Hardy Luttig | (PTY) Ltd | |
| Julian Conrad | | |
| Rohaida Abed (Pr.Sci.Nat. and Registered | CSIR | Civil Aviation Site Sensitivity Verification |
| EAP (2021/4067)) | | |
| Helen Antonopoulos | | |
| Lizande Kellerman <i>(Pr.Sci.Nat.)</i> | | |
| Rohaida Abed (Pr.Sci.Nat. and Registered | CSIR | Defence Site Sensitivity Verification |
| EAP (2021/4067)) | | |
| Helen Antonopoulos | | |
| Lizande Kellerman (<i>Pr.Sci.Nat.</i>) | | |

2. Key factors considered in making the decision.

All information presented to the Department was considered 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 need for the proposed project emanates from the provision of electricity to the national grid.
- c) The EIAr dated July 2023 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the EIAr.
- d) The location of the proposed Solar Pv facility deemed suitable.
- e) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the ElAr dated July 2023 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 EIAr dated July 2023 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 ElArr dated July 2023 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 EIAr 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.**

