



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: 14/12/16/3/3/2/288/AM3

Enquiries: Ms Samkelisiwe Dlamini

Telephone: (012) 399 9379 **E-mail:** SDlamini@dfffe.gov.za

Mr. Pancho Ndebele
FG Emvelo (Pty) Ltd
Private Bag X9
BENMORE
2010

Telephone Number: (010) 593 0440
Email Address: pancho@emvelo.co.za

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Ndebele

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 20 MARCH 2013 FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE KAROSHOEK GRID INTEGRATION INFRASTRUCTURE I.E. ON-SITE SUBSTATION/SWITCHING YARD AND 400KV POWERLINE FROM SITE 1.4, 3, 4, AND 5 TO THE FEATURE ESKOM MTS 400KV POWER LINE PROPOSED TO THE WEST OF THE SITE, AS PART OF THE LARGER KAROSHOEK SOLAR VALLEY DEVELOPMENT, 30KM EAST OF UPINGTON, WITHIN THE KHARA HAIS LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 20 March 2013, the amendments to the EA dated 11 November 2015 and 11 April 2018, your application for amendment of the EA received by the Department on 17 March 2023 and the acknowledgement letter dated 28 March 2023, the additional information submitted to the Department on 03 July 2023, 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 20 March 2013, as amended, as follows:

Amendment 1: Extension of the validity of the Environmental Authorisation on the EA dated 20 March 2013, as amended:

"The activity must commence within a period of Twenty (20) years from the date of expiry of the EA issued on 20 March 2013 (i.e. the EA lapses on 20 March 2033). If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for the environmental authorisation must be made for the activity to be undertaken."

Reason for amendment: The Karoshoek Solar Valley projects will form part of the proposed Upilanga Solar and Green Hydrogen Park development, located at Karoshoek, Upington, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. Upilanga Solar and Green Hydrogen Park falls under the Green Hydrogen National Program Strategic Infrastructure Project (SIP) No. 20e, which was gazetted by the Honourable Minister Patricia De Lille in

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Government Gazette 437658 on 6 December 2022. Therefore, the applicant is requesting that the validity of the EA be extended. This will ensure that the EA remains valid for the undertaking of the authorised activities such that the project can be incorporated into this SIP registered project.

This proposed amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 20 March 2013 as amended.

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@dfpe.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



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 24/07/2023

cc:	Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd	E-mail: ioanne@savannahsa.com
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