

**Department of Environmental
Affairs**



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 12/12/20/2056

Enquiries: Thabiso Phoko / Ephron Maradwa

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E-mail: TPhoko@environment.gov.za / EMaradwa@environment.gov.za

Ms Tammy Kruger
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Fax: 086 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Kruger

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: PROPOSED ILANGA CSP FACILITY ON A SITE LOCATED 30KM EAST OF UPINGTON, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Department confirms having received the Application Form and Declaration of Interest submitted by you on 12 October 2010 for environmental authorisation for the abovementioned project. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010.

The Application Form is accepted on condition that the proof of consultation with the landowner be submitted to the Department.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely

Ms Lize McCourt
Chief Director: Environmental Impact Management
Department of Environmental Affairs
Letter signed by: Ms Hilda Bezuidenhout
Designation: Assistant Director: Environmental Impact Evaluation
Date: 02/11/2010



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Reference: 12/12/20/2056

Enquiries: Takalani Maswime

Tel: 012 310 3624 Fax: 012 320 7539 E-mail: tmaswime@environment.gov.za

Ms Alicia Govender
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Fax: 086 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Govender

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: PROPOSED ILANGA SOLAR THERMAL POWER PLANT AS PART OF THE FUTURE KAROSHOCK SOLAR THERMAL PARK, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Department confirms having received the draft Scoping Report for the abovementioned project on 18 November 2010.

Please note that the Department will start reviewing once the final Scoping Report is received.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely

Ms Lize McCourt
Chief Director: Environmental Impact Management
Department of Environmental Affairs
Letter signed by: Ms Hilda Bezuidenhout
Designation: Assistant Director: Environmental Impact Evaluation

Date: 02/12/2010



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Enquiries: Ndivhudza Sebei

Tel: 012 310 1810 Fax: 012 320 7539 E-mail: nsebei@environment.gov.za

Ms Alicia Govender
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
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2157

Fax: 086 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Govender

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF FINAL SCOPING REPORT: PROPOSED ILANGA
SOLAR THERMAL POWER PLANT AS PART OF THE FUTURE KAROSHOEK SOLAR
THERMAL PARK, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

The Department confirms having received the final Scoping Report dated January 2011 for the abovementioned project on 14 January 2011.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely

Mr Dumisani Mthembu
Chief Director: Environmental Impact Management (Acting)
Department of Environmental Affairs
Letter signed by: Ms Hilda Bezuidenhout
Designation: Assistant Director: Environmental Impact Evaluation
Date: 28/01/2011



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NEAS Reference: DEA/EIA/0000094/2011

DEA Reference: 12/12/20/2056

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Fax No: (086) 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Govender

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: PROPOSED ILANGA SOLAR THERMAL POWER PLANT AS PART OF THE FUTURE KAROSHOEK SOLAR THERMAL PARK, NOTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated January 2011 and received by the Department on 14 January 2011 refer.

The Department has evaluated the submitted FSR and the PoSEIA dated January 2011 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2010. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of regulation 30(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This includes but is not limited to the Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation, Nation Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), Department of Water Affairs (DWA), Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA), South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA), Khara Hais Local Municipality. A confirmation letter from Eskom stating that the applicant will be allowed to connect to either the existing 66kV or the existing 132kV or to the existing substation must also be included in the report.

Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final EIR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.

In addition, the following amendments and additional information are required for the EIR:

- a) Details of the future plans for the site and infrastructure after decommissioning in 40 years and the possibility of upgrading the proposed infrastructure to more advanced technologies.
- b) The total footprint of the proposed development should be indicated. Exact locations of the parabolic trough or solar plant, power lines, and associated infrastructure should be mapped at an appropriate scale. Sensitive areas such as rivers and wetland areas should be shown clearly.
- c) Should a Water Use License Authorization (WULA) be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.
- d) The impacts of the proposed facility on avifauna and bats must be assessed in the EIA phase.
- e) Possible impacts and effects of the development on the agricultural land in the area.
- f) Possible impacts and effects of the development on the eco-tourism in the area.
- g) Information on services required on the site, e.g. sewage, refuse removal, water and electricity. Who will supply these services and has an agreement and confirmation of capacity been obtained?
- h) A construction and operational phase EMP to include mitigation and monitoring measures.
- i) Should blasting be required, appropriate mitigation measures should be provided.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of regulation 67 with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations, and regulations 56 and 57 with regard to the allowance of a comment period for interested and affected parties on all reports submitted to the competent authority for decision-making. The reports referred to are listed in regulation 56(3a-3h).

Please ensure that the Final EIR includes at least one A3 regional map of the area and the locality maps included in the final EIR illustrate the different proposed alignments. The maps must be of acceptable quality and as a minimum, have the following attributes:

- Maps are relatable to one another;
- Cardinal points;
- Co-ordinates;
- Legible legends;
- Indicate alternatives;
- Latest land cover;
- Vegetation types of the study area; and
- A3 size locality map.

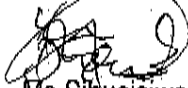
Further, it must be reiterated that, should an application for Environmental Authorisation be subject to the provisions of Chapter II, Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999, then this Department will not be able to make nor issue a decision in terms of your application for Environmental Authorisation pending a letter from the pertinent heritage authority categorically stating that the application fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority as described in Chapter II, Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999.

You are requested to submit at least one electronic copy (CD/DVD) and three (3) full hardcopies of the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) to the Department.

Please also find attached a guideline that should be used in the preparation of the EIAR below.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely



Ms Sibusisiwe Hlela

ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT

Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Mr Dumisani Mthembu

Designation: Director: Environmental Impact Evaluation

Date: 11/03/2011

CC: Pancho Ndebele

Ilanga CSP 1

Fax no: 086 519 5138



environmental affairs

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Ms Tammy Kruger
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
P.O Box 148
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Fax: 086 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Kruger

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT: PROPOSED ILANGA SOLAR THERMAL POWER PLANT AS PART OF THE FUTURE KAROSHEK SOLAR THERMAL PARK, NORTHERN CAPE

The Department confirms having received the draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the above-mentioned project on 17 June 2011.

Please note that the Department will start reviewing once the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report is received.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely

Mr Ishaam Abader
Deputy Director-General: Environmental Quality and Protection
Department of Environmental Affairs
Letter signed by: Ms Nyiko Ngoveni
Designation: PEO: Environmental Impact Evaluation
Date: 01/07/2011

**Department of Environment and
Nature Conservation**

Tammy Kruger

From: Anga Yaphi <ayaphi@upprov.ncape.gov.za>
Sent: 06 July 2011 08:43 AM
To: 'Tammy Kruger'
Subject: RE: Environmental Impact Assessment process: proposed Ilanga Solar Thermal Power Plant as part of the future Karoshoek Solar Thermal Park, Northern Cape Province

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Tammy

I thought I have commented on this project, but seemingly not I am sorry for that, the only thing that I can emphasize is delineation of the environmental sensitive areas that may be affected and degradation avoided at all times. Otherwise I do not have any objection.

Thank you
Anga Yaphi

From: Tammy Kruger [mailto:tammy@savannahsa.com]
Sent: 05 July 2011 03:21 PM
To: Anga Yaphi
Subject: Environmental Impact Assessment process: proposed Ilanga Solar Thermal Power Plant as part of the future Karoshoek Solar Thermal Park, Northern Cape Province

Dear Anga

The abovementioned project and our site visit undertaken two weeks ago in Upington refers. Are you in a position to provide comment on this project as yet?

Regards
Tammy

Tammy Kruger
MSc (Environmental Science)
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

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Department of Water Affairs

Tammy Kruger

From: Tammy Kruger <tammy@savannahsa.com>
Sent: 05 July 2011 03:25 PM
To: 'RanwedziM@dwa.gov.za'
Subject: FW: Environmental Impact Assessment process: proposed Ilanga Solar Thermal Power Plant as part of the future Karoshoek Solar Thermal Park, Northern Cape Province

Dear Mashudu,

The abovementioned project and our site visit in Uppington refers. Are you in a position to provide comment on this project as yet? I understand that you require further information with respect to the Water Use License, however that will be provided once the application has been submitted.

Regards
Tammy

Tammy Kruger
MSc (Environmental Science)
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

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Tammy Kruger

From: Alicia Govender <alicia@savannahsa.com>
Sent: 03 June 2011 02:55 PM
To: RanwedziM@dwa.gov.za
Cc: 'Tammy Kruger'; 'ShawnJohnston'
Subject: Focus Group meeting- for the proposed Ilanga Solar Thermal Facility near Upington

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS: PROPOSED ILANGA SOLAR THERMAL POWER PLANT
AS PART OF THE FUTURE KAROSHOEK SOLAR THERMAL PARK, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE
(DEA Ref No. 12/12/20/2056)**

Dear Mashudu

Ilangalethu Solar Power (Pty) Ltd is proposing the establishment of a commercial solar thermal power plant which will ultimately form part of the future proposed Karoshoek Solar Thermal Park on Portion 0 of Karos 959; Portion 3 of Annashoek 41; Portion 2 of Matjiesrivier 41/2; and Portion 0 of Zandemm 944. The broader site lies approximately 30 km east of Upington in the Northern Cape.

The draft EIA report will be out for review shortly, and a hardcopy will be sent to your offices for review. Our team would like to set up a meeting with DWA to discuss the above mentioned project- a site visit can also be arranged upon request.

Please advise on your availability to meet with us the afternoon of the **22nd June 2011**.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any queries.

Kind Regards,
Alicia Govender
Environmental Management BSc. (Hons.)

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Department of Forestry



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Branch: Forestry, P.O. Box 2782, Upington, 8800, Tel 054 338 5860, Fax 054 334 0030

Enquiries: J Mans
E-mail: JacolineMa@daff.gov.za
Date: 28 June 2011
Ref: F13/11/2/78

Savannah Environmental Pty Ltd
P.O. Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
Johannesburg
2157

ATTENTION: Alicia Govender (Alicia@savannahsa.com)

FAX: 086 684 0547

RE: COMMENTS ON DRAFT EIA REPORT FOR PROPOSED ILANGA SOLAR THERMAL POWER PLANT (DEA Ref No. 12/12/20/2056)

The Branch: Forestry within the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) in the Northern Cape Province would hereby like to make the following comments on the above-mentioned proposed development:

1. The Ecological Study that was attached as Appendix E refers. Page 34 of the report refers to the impact on protected tree species. The Department of Forestry noted with concern that according to this report 'no mitigation is necessary'. An estimated 200 protected *Boscia albitrunca* trees will be affected by the development. Obtaining a license for the removal of such trees cannot be deemed as a mitigation measure. It is a legal requirement to enable the applicant to disturb protected tree species in order to comply with the National Forests Act. Licenses can be and has been refused in the past. If the impact on long-lived slow-growing protected tree species cannot be avoided, mitigation is definitely required.
2. The Department of Forestry recommends that total vegetation clearance be avoided during the construction phase. Even if vegetation clearance is restricted to the actual development footprint, a large number of protected *B. albitrunca* can be saved if vegetation can be retained between PV panels, thus minimizing the impact on protected trees.
3. The specialist distinguished between the impacts on indigenous natural vegetation (terrestrial), threatened plants and protected trees. He mentioned that five plant species of conservation concern may occur in the study area and listed it in Appendix 1 on page 64 of his report. Although *Hoodia gordonii* is included in the list,

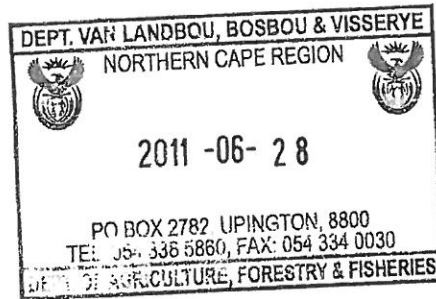
other protected species such as *Harpagophytum procumbens* and *Sutherlandia frutescens* may also be present on site. If affected by the proposed development, protected species should be relocated to suitable alternative sites after obtaining the necessary permits from the relevant authorities.

4. No development should be allowed in the critically endangered Lower Gariep Alluvial Vegetation type.

Yours truly,



Jacoline Mans
Chief Forester: NFA Regulation



Tammy Kruger

From: Tammy Kruger <tammy@savannahsa.com>
Sent: 29 June 2011 08:36 AM
To: 'JacolineMa'
Cc: 'Jo-Anne Thomas'
Subject: RE: Comments on proposed Ilanga Solar Power Plant. DEA Ref 12/12/20/2056

Dear Jacoline,

Thank you for the comments received on the proposed Ilanga Solar Thermal Power Plant.

In reference to point number two – you refer to maintaining individuals of *B.Albitrunca* between the PV panels. Please remember that this project is not using PV panels, it is using parabolic troughs. No vegetation can remain due to potential shading and fire risks.

Below is an extract from an email sent to myself on 23 May 2011 regarding permits for protected trees:

“If many trees will be affected, we might still issue a license but subjected to special conditions such as the relocation of small trees say < 1 m tall, the implementation of a biodiversity offset area and/or the implementation of a greening project to compensate for the permanent loss of protected trees”.

The issue of creating a biodiversity offset area was also discussed in our meeting on 24 June 2011. Can you please consider including this in your comments?

Regards
Tammy

Tammy Kruger
MSc (Environmental Science)
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

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Fax: 086 684 0547
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PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
<http://www.savannahsa.com/>

From: JacolineMa [mailto:JacolineM@daff.gov.za]
Sent: 28 June 2011 03:07 PM
To: Alicia Govender
Cc: tammy@savannahsa.com
Subject: Comments on proposed Ilanga Solar Power Plant. DEA Ref 12/12/20/2056

Dear Alicia

Attached please find comments from the Department of Forestry on the above-mentioned proposed development.

Kind Regards,
Jacoline Mans
Tel 054 338 5860
E-mail: JacolineMa@daff.gov.za

SANRAL



SANRAL is an Agency of the Ministry of Transport

Western Region

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Offices In Menlyn - Pretoria. Pietermaritzburg. Port Elizabeth

Reference: W11/2/3-10/11-7 **Fax Number:** +27 (0) 21 946 1630
Date: 19 July 2011 **Direct Line:** +27 (0) 21 957 4600
Email: dekokcr@nra.co.za **Website:** www.sanral.co.za

Me T Kruger
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Dear Me Kruger

**PROPOSED ILANGA SOLAR THERMAL POWER PLANT AS PART OF
THE FUTURE KAROSHOK SOLAR THERMAL PARK, NORTHERN
CAPE PROVINCE (12/12/20/2056)**

Thank you for your email dated 6 July 2011.

The South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL) has the following comments:

- (1) Should abnormal loads have to be transported by road to the site, a permit needs to be obtained from the Provincial Government Northern Cape (PGNC).
- (2) The solar thermal power plant must be at least 500m from the road reserve fence.
- (3) Access to such installation to be provided from secondary roads.

Yours faithfully

René de Kock

STATUTORY CONTROL

Docs 437344