

**KABI KIMBERLEY SOLAR PV ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE
BASIC ASSESSMENT
COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT: I&APs & STAKEHOLDERS**

Comments Received during the review period of the Basic Assessment Report

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
<i>General</i>			
1	Mac Steel Service Centre SA provides steel products to all major role players in SA. I'm to investigate all developments and possibilities.	Hennie Swarts, Mac Steel, comment received by email, 23 rd August 2011.	Comment noted
2	This serves as a notice of receipt and confirms that your application has been captured in our electronic AgriLand tracking and management system. It is strongly recommended that you use the on-line AgriLand application facility in future.	L Mongoato, Directorate: Land Use and Soil Management, National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, comment by e-mail, 29 July 2011.	Comment noted.
4	What types of relationship exists with De Beers?	Bobby Buchanan, Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Focus group meeting, 27 July 2011.	There is an excellent working relationship with De Beers and the same collaborative relationship is desired with the Sol Plaatje and Francis Baard Municipalities.
5	Who will be doing the land rezoning for the Kabi Kimberley site? Kabi Energy will need to liaise with the Town Planning Department of the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality.	Bobby Buchanan, Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Focus group meeting, 27 July 2011.	Kabi Energy has already contacted the Town Planning Department of the Sol Plaatje Municipality in this regard. A specialist (town planner) will be appointed in due course to assist with the relevant applications.
6	There is a large number of EIAs being done for solar energy facilities in the Kimberley area.	Bobby Buchanan, Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Focus group meeting, 27 July 2011.	We are aware of a number of other proposed solar projects in the area. The Kabi Kimberley Solar PV project is the only project being undertaken by Kabi Energy.
7	Until when is the commenting period on the Draft Basic Assessment report open?	Bobby Buchanan, Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Focus group meeting, 27 July	I&APs were invited to submit comments for a period of thirty days, up to 25 August 2011. Organs of state have forty days in which to provide comment.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
		2011.	
8	Will the tailings dump be cleared by the time this proposed project proceeds?	Harders Mans, Public Meeting, 27 July 2011.	Yes, the tailings dump will be removed by the time the proposed project starts.
9	Will the Department of Environmental Affairs look at both the negative and positive aspects of the Basic Assessment report?	Harders Mans, Public Meeting, 27 July 2011.	Yes, all aspects are looked at by DEA as well as the comments from the Provincial commenting authorities.
10	Who is the environmental authority that will provide the environmental authorisation on this project?	Michelle Peters, De Beers, Public Meeting, 27 July 2011.	The Environmental Authorisation will be issued by the National Department of Environmental Affairs because all energy generation related projects have been elevated to the National Department, and the Provincial Departments act as commenting authorities on these projects.
11	How have the requirements of the Department of Mineral Resources been integrated into this Basic Assessment process?	Michelle Peters, De Beers, Public Meeting, 27 July 2011.	The Basic Assessment Report was submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources for them to review and provide comment. De Beers will be required to amend their Environmental Management Programme to include the proposed development, and the revised EM Programme will be submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources for approval.
12	Once the project has been established, will the project only sell power onto Eskom?	Gert Mans, Public Meeting, 27 July 2011.	In terms of the power purchase agreement all power generated will be sold to Eskom for distribution in the Northern Cape Province and nationally.
13	Will the panels be static or tracking?	Harders Mans, Public Meeting, 27 July 2011.	Single-axis tracking technology is proposed.
14	Will there be room for expansion of the project on the site?	Harders Mans, Public Meeting, 27 July 2011.	No there will be no expansion of the project footprint in the future on this site.
15	Will there be a security system to protect the plant?	Harders Mans, Public Meeting, 27 July 2011.	Yes, the site will be equipped with state of the art security. Safety and security will be addressed in the design of the facility.
16	Will there be a computerised monitoring system for the plant?	Harders Mans, Public Meeting, 27 July 2011.	Yes, a plant monitoring system will be implemented to monitor the entire plant.
17	Will the Kabi project buy or lease the property	Harders Mans, Public	Kabi will enter into a long-term lease agreement with De

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	from De Beers?	Meeting, 27 July 2011	Beers for the construction and operation of the facility.
18	Are you talking to Eskom and the Sol Plaatje Municipality?	Harders Mans, Public Meeting, 27 July 2011	The developer is liaising with both Eskom and the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality on this project.
19	How long will construction take?	Harders Mans, Public Meeting, 27 July 2011	Approximately 10-12 months.
Social			
20	Will you be using foreigners to build the plant?	Bobby Buchanan, Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Focus group meeting, 27 July 2011.	The plant will be built using South African labour with inputs from international specialists.
21	Will you be focusing on skills transfer for local communities as part of your project?	Desmond Lang, Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Focus group meeting, 27 July 2011.	Skills transfer is part of Kabi Energy's social responsibility plan for the project and they are currently developing this mechanism.
22	We would support this initiative. Kabi Energy would have to engage with our officials working on the Integrated Development and Local Economic Development Plans. Let's make this a task for follow-up as the proposed project develops.	Bobby Buchanan, Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Focus group meeting, 27 July 2011.	Comment noted.
23	How many people will the project employ during construction and operation?	Desmond Lang, Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Focus group meeting, 27 July 2011.	It is estimated that approximately 320 jobs will be created during the construction phase, with a maximum of 200 workers at any time during the construction phase. For the operational phase it is expected that about 50 job opportunities would be created.
Technology			
24	Will Kabi Energy only use Solarpack technology on this project?	Bobby Buchanan, Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Focus group meeting, 27 July 2011.	Solarpack is a specialist solar PV project developer and not a technology supplier. Kabi Energy has not selected which suppliers of solar panels would be used. They would be approaching various international suppliers to provide them with quotes.
Visual			

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
25	I don't think there would be any visual impacts from this development as the site is isolated, and fenced off by De Beers.	Bobby Buchanan, Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Focus group meeting, 27 July 2011.	The context of the site within an active mining and industrial area is of relevance, and as such the proposed facility will not so much alter the land use character, but rather compliments it.
Ecology			
26	<p>The Directorate: Forestry and Natural Resource Management within the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) in the Northern Cape would hereby like to make the following comments on the above-mentioned project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Page 36 of the Draft BAR contains a block with responses to issues raised by this department. In relation to impacts on protected trees, the response is that "no individuals of protected tree species have been identified as having a geographical distribution that includes the study area". This is in contradiction with the findings of the specialist ecological study (refer to page 16). It is a well-known fact that protected <i>Acacia erioloba</i> and <i>Boscia albitrunca</i> occur in and around Kimberley. However the ecological study indicated that "no individuals of protected trees occur on site". If that is the case, the Department of Forestry has no objection against the proposed development. The proposed development is said to occur in the Kimberley Thornveld. This vegetation type may contain biogeographically important taxa, including 	<p>Jacoline Mans, Chief Forester, Directorate: Forestry and Natural Resource Management Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, comment by e-mail, 15 August 2011.</p>	<p>The response in the Draft BAR reads: "No individuals of the protected tree species which have been identified as having a geographical distribution that includes the study area occur on the study site", and is therefore in line with the findings of the specialist ecological study.</p> <p>Comments under points 2 and 3 are noted.</p>

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	<p>species that are endemic to the Kalahari and Griqualand West. The ecological study mentioned the possible presence of <i>Harpagophytum procumbens</i>. If found on site, this species should be relocated to an appropriate site after obtaining the necessary permit from the regulating Authority.</p> <p>3. Page 49 and 50 of the Bar refers to the increased risk of veld fires. According to the National Veld and Forest Fires Act (101 of 1998), every landowner on whos land a veldfire may start or burn or from whos land it may spread must prepare and maintain a firebreak on his or her side of the boundary between his or her land and any adjoining land. However, if a member of a registered Fire Protection Association (FPA), the FPA can make its own rules which bind its members. For a list of registered FPA's in the area, contact the local Fire Advisor at the Forestry Office in Kimberley (Tel: 053 807 2626 or 083 633 3640).</p>		
27	Will vegetation on site be controlled to prohibit fires?	Hadders Mans, Public Meeting, 27 July 2011.	Very little vegetation exists on site and the remaining vegetation will be managed to reduce the potential for runaway fires.

Comments Received up to the review period of Draft Basic Report

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
General			
28	Please submit a hard copy of the report to the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Directorate: land Use and Soil Management) for formal comments to DEA and yourself, if you have not done so as yet.	Anneliza Collett, Directorate: Land Use and Soil Management, National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, comment by e-mail, 12 July 2011.	A copy of the Draft Basic Assessment has been submitted to your Department for comment
29	Kindly register the South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL) as an I&AP.	Rene de Kock, South African National Roads Agency Limited, Western Region, comment by e-mail, 11 July 2011.	Comment noted.
Ecology			
30	There are a number of sensitive biodiversity areas near this site, especially i.t.o. of the avifauna, and I recommend therefore that an avifauna specialist be contracted to do a avifauna study separately to any ecological or fauna study that may be required/undertaken. BirdLife SA could advise on the appropriate avifauna specialist for this region.	Tania Anderson, Ecologist Wildlife and Environmental Society of South Africa, Northern Cape, comment by e-mail, 10 June 2011.	<p>The reasons for not undertaking an Avifauna study for the proposed development include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ecologist reported that: "There are thirteen bird species of conservation concern that have a geographical distribution that includes the site. However, the site is <u>not</u> considered to be important breeding or foraging habitat for any of these species, primarily because of the small area of remaining natural vegetation on site (approximately 8 ha). 2. The site is not located within the boundaries of any Important Bird Areas as indicated in the Ecology Specialist report;

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
			<p>3. The site is located approximately 3.5km south east of the Kamfer Dam (which is a proposed Ramsar site) and the IBA 032.</p> <p>Kabi Energy met with BirdLife South Africa and De Beers in early 2011 to both introduce the project and to understand BirdLife's position on solar PV. At the meeting with Mark Anderson and Dr. Hanneline Smit it was understood that BirdLife fundamentally supported all forms of renewable energy development and that it was in the process of formulating a position paper on solar PV. This meeting between BirdLife and Kabi Energy (as a founder member of the South African Photovoltaic Industry Association (SAPVIA) resulted in a workshop held on 6 April 2011 between SAPVIA, Departments of Energy and Environmental Affairs, BirdLife and the Endangered Wildlife Trust to help all stakeholders understand PV technology and to help them in their positioning exercises.</p>
31	<p>The Branch: Forestry within the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) would hereby like to make the following comments on the abovementioned proposed development:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Department of Forestry is mainly concerned about the possible impact of the proposed development on tree species declared as 'protected' in terms of the National Forests Act, Act 84 of 1998 as amended; 2. Protected tree species may not be cut, disturb, damaged, destroyed or 	<p>Jacoline Mans, Chief Forester, Directorate: Forestry and Natural Resource Management Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, comment by e-mail, 01 July 2011.</p>	<p>Tree species protected under the National Forest Act that have a geographical distribution that includes the study area are <i>Acacia erioloba</i> (Camel Thorn, Kameeldoring) and <i>Boscia albitrunca</i> (Shepherd's Tree / Witgatboom / !Xhi).</p> <p>The tree <i>Acacia erioloba</i> occurs in dry woodland along watercourses in arid areas where underground water is present as well as on deep Kalahari sands. The species has been previously recorded in the grid in which the study area is located and is listed as one of the characteristic species for Kimberley Thornveld, the vegetation type within which the site is located. The type of habitat still remaining on site is therefore</p>

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	<p>removed except under a license granted by the Minister. Protected trees should be avoided as far as possible. If the impact cannot be avoided, mitigation is required; and,</p> <p>3. The Department of Forestry would like to get a copy of the specialist study that will be undertaken as part of the basic assessment, to assess the potential impact on biodiversity and ecology, and be given the opportunity to comment on it should it be deemed necessary.</p>		<p>suitable for this species. However, no individuals of this species occur on site.</p> <p><i>Boscia albitrunca</i> occurs in semi-desert areas and bushveld, often on termitaria, but is common on sandy to loamy soils and calcrete soils. The species has been previously recorded in the grid in which the study area is located and is listed as one of the characteristic species for Kimberley Thornveld, the vegetation type within which the site is located. The type of habitat still remaining on site is therefore suitable for this species. However, no individuals of this species occur on site.</p>
Geotechnical conditions and Soils			
32	<p>I saw your ad in DFA for participants in the EIA process for the abovementioned project.</p> <p>May I enquire if the geotechnical investigation for this was already done?</p> <p>I can render such service since I am practicing a geotechnical consultancy in Kimberley for the past 14 years, and know the area very well. As a geologist, I have greater insight in geotechnical and geological conditions than the normal engineering laboratory or consulting engineer.</p>	<p>Coen Visser, Noordkaap Geokon, comment by e-mail, 10 June 2011.</p>	<p>Thank you for making your services available. However a Soils and Agricultural Potential study has already been conducted for the proposed development.</p> <p>A geotechnical assessment has not yet been undertaken for the proposed development. However Kabi Energy intends to conduct further geotechnical studies on site and will contact Noordkaap Geokon separately regarding their capabilities to perform these studies.</p>



**PROPOSED KABI KIMBERLEY
SOLAR PV ENERGY FACILITY
BASIC ASSESSMENT**

FOCUS GROUP MEETING

**NOTES OF SOL PLAATJE LOCAL
MUNICIPALITY MEETING**

**Held on
Thursday 9 June 2011 Kimberley**

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Address: PO Box 148
Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: 011 234 6621
Fax: 086 684 0547
E-mail: gerhard@savannahsa.com

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Savannah Environmental

**BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS:
PROPOSED KABI KIMBERLEY SOLAR PV ENERGY FACILITY**

Venue: Sol Plaatje Local Municipality
Date: 9 June 2011
Time: 11:00

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation & Position
Gerhard Cronje	Savannah Environmental
Bobby Bucannon	Environmental Health and Planning Department – Sol Plaatje Local Municipality

APOLOGIES

No apologies were received

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Bobby Bucannon: What generating capacity will the facility consist of?	Gerhard Cronje: The facility will have a total generating capacity of up to 19 MW.
Bobby Bucannon: What type of PV technology will be used?	Gerhard Cronje: It is proposed that tracking PV technology will be used for the proposed facility.
Bobby Bucannon: Where is the site proposed for the facility located?	Gerhard Cronje: The proposed site is located within the authorised mining area of De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd, situated on part of the Remainder of the Farm Kenilworth Estate 71.
Bobby Bucannon: The site is probably disturbed due to it being situated on De Beers land.	Gerhard Cronje: Yes, large portions of the study site have been disturbed by historical mining activities undertaken in the past.
Bobby Bucannon: How big is the portion of land to be developed?	Gerhard Cronje: The actual development footprint of the proposed facility would be constructed within an area of just under 60ha.
Bobby Bucannon: Will the proposed PV facility be connected to the Eskom grid?	Gerhard Cronje: Yes, the power generated will be evacuated into the national power grid.
Bobby Bucannon: An application for the rezoning of the land will have to be	Gerhard Cronje: The application for the rezoning of the land does not form part of the Basic

Question / Comment	Response
submitted to the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality.	Assessment process, and will be submitted to the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality once the environmental authorisation has been obtained.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Gerhard Cronje thanked Mr. Bobby Bucannon for the opportunity to introduce the proposed project and undertook to follow-up with the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality on the progress of the basic assessment process.

The meeting ended at 11h30.



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: F13/11/2/79

Sustainable Futures ZA
P.O. Box 749
Rondebosch
CAPE TOWN
7701

ATTENTION: Shawn Johnston (swjohnston@mweb.co.za)

FAX: 086 510 2537

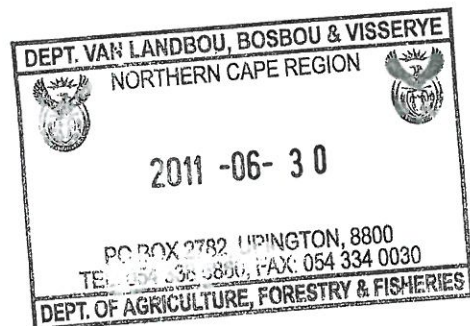
RE: COMMENTS ON BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID) FOR THE PROPOSED KABI KIMBERLEY SOLAR PV PROJECT (DEA Ref No. 12/12/20/2124)

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

1. The Department of Forestry is mainly concerned about the possible impact of the proposed development on tree species declared as 'protected' in terms of the National Forests Act, Act 84 of 1998 as amended.
2. Protected tree species may not be cut, disturb, damaged, destroyed or removed except under a license granted by the Minister. Protected trees should be avoided as far as possible. If the impact cannot be avoided, mitigation is required.
3. The Department of Forestry would like to get a copy of the specialist study that will be undertaken as part of the basic assessment, to assess the potential impact on biodiversity and ecology, and be given the opportunity to comment on it should it be deemed necessary.

Yours truly,

Jacoline Mans
Chief Forester: NFA Regulation



Ravisha Ajodhapersadh

From: ShawnJohnston <swjohnston@mweb.co.za>
Sent: 22 July 2011 09:18 AM
To: Gerhard Cronje
Subject: Fwd: Kabi Kimberley Solar Energy Facility Northern Cape

Hi Gerhard,

You do not have this e-mail from SANRAL, Rene de Kock. I've captured her in the C&R with the others.

Sincerely,

Shawn Johnston
Process Specialist

Sustainable Futures ZA

P.O. Box 749
Rondebosch
7701
Cape Town
South Africa

Tel:++27 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

Begin forwarded message:

From: René de Kock (WR) <Dekockr@nra.co.za>
Date: 11 July 2011 4:05:06 PM
To: 'ShawnJohnston' <swjohnston@mweb.co.za>
Subject: RE: Kabi Kimberley Solar Energy Facility Northern Cape

Shawn,

Thank you for your emails received today.

Kindly register the South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL) as a I and AP.

Kind regards

Rene de Kock

René de Kock
SANRAL

Private Bag X19
Bellville
7530

Tel no: 021 - 957 4600

From: ShawnJohnston [<mailto:swjohnston@mweb.co.za>]
Sent: 11 July 2011 09:47 AM
To: Shawn Johnston
Subject: Kabi Kimberley Solar Energy Facility Northern Cape

Dear Stakeholder,

Find attached the background information and stakeholder registration form for the proposed Kabi Kimbereley PV Solar Energy Facility. Please register as a interested and affected party by completing and returning the reply form. See attached documents.

Disclaimer:

This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual named.
If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail.

Please notify the sender immediately by e-mail if you have received this e-mail by mistake and delete this e-mail from your system. E-mail transmission cannot be guaranteed to be secure or without errors as information could be intercepted, corrupted, lost, destroyed, arrive late or incomplete, or contain viruses.

The sender therefore does not accept liability for any errors or omissions in the contents of this message, which arise as a result of e-mail transmission. If verification is required please request a hard-copy version. The South African National Roads Agency Ltd, PO Box 415, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa, Tel +27-(0)12 844 8000, www.nra.co.za.

This Disclaimer is deemed to form part of the content of this email in terms of Section 11 of the Electronic Communications and Transactions Act, 25 of 2002.

Ravisha Ajodhapersadh

From: ShawnJohnston <swjohnston@mweb.co.za>
Sent: 22 July 2011 09:24 AM
To: Gerhard Cronje
Subject: Fwd: Kabi Kimberley Solar PV project - Kenilworth, Kimberley

Tania's e-mail for Kabi.

Sincerely,

Shawn Johnston
Process Specialist

Sustainable Futures ZA

P.O. Box 749
Rondebosch
7701
Cape Town
South Africa

Tel:++27 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tania Anderson <spothil@gmail.com>
Date: 10 June 2011 2:20:45 PM
To: swjohnston@mweb.co.za
Subject: Kabi Kimberley Solar PV project - Kenilworth, Kimberley

Dear Shaun

Please register me as an interested party for this project (DEA Ref No 12/12/20/2124) and send me the BID, notices of meetings and follow up reports.

There are a number of sensitive biodiversity areas near this site, especially i.t.o. of the avifauna, and I recommend therefore that an avifauna specialist be contracted to do a avifauna study separately to any ecological or fauna study that may be required/undertaken. BirdLife SA could advise on the appropriate avifauna specialist for this region.

Thanks
Tania

--

Tania Anderson
For WESSA:NC
Ecologist
P.O. Box 10469
Beaconsfield, Kimberley, 8315.
Tel 053 8392713 (w)

Fax 053 8421433 (w)
Cell 0832567402.

Ravisha Ajodhapersadh

From: ShawnJohnston <swjohnston@mweb.co.za>
Sent: 12 July 2011 04:35 PM
To: AnnelizaC
Cc: Gerhard Cronje; John Von Mayer; Tammy Kruger; Bongani Darryl Khupe; Alicia Govender; Ravisha Ajodhapersadh
Subject: Re: Kabi Kimberley Solar Energy Facility Northern Cape

Dear Anneliza,

Thank you for your e-mail and advice.

I'm sending your e-mail directly to the team at Savannah Environmental who distribute all the project reports to the various commenting authorities at a provincial and national level.

Sincerely,
Shawn Johnston
Process Specialist

Sustainable Futures ZA

P.O. Box 749
Rondebosch
7701
Cape Town
South Africa

Tel:++27 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

On 12 Jul 2011, at 4:19 PM, AnnelizaC wrote:

Dear Shawn

With reference to you e-mails regarding proposed renewable energy projects

Please note that you need to submit a hard copy of each completed EIA report to the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Directorate: land Use and Soil Management) for formal comments to DEA and yourself, if you have not done so as yet.

Kind regards
Anneliza Collett

Mrs. Anneliza Collett
Tel: 012 - 319 7508
Fax: 012 - 329 5938
E-mail: AnnelizaC@nda.agric.za
Directorate: Land Use and Soil Management
Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries
www.agis.agric.za

From: ShawnJohnston [<mailto:swjohnston@mweb.co.za>]
Sent: Mon 2011/07/11 09:46 AM
To: Shawn Johnston
Subject: Kabi Kimberley Solar Energy Facility Northern Cape

Dear Stakeholder,

Find attached the background information and stakeholder registration form for the proposed Kabi Kimbereley PV Solar Energy Facility. Please register as a interested and affected party by completing and returning the reply form. See attached documents.

Ravisha Ajodhapersadh

From: Bongani Darryl Khupe <bongani@savannahsa.com>
Sent: 14 June 2011 05:49 PM
To: Karen Jodas; Gerhard Cronje
Subject: FW: Kabi Solar

FYI

From: ShawnJohnston [mailto:swjohnston@mweb.co.za]
Sent: 14 June 2011 04:58 PM
To: Coen Visser
Cc: Bongani Darryl Khupe
Subject: Re: Kabi Solar

Dear Mr. Coen Visser,

Thank you for your e-mail. I'll register you as an interested and affected party and send you request onto Savannah Environmental.

Sincerely,

Shawn Johnston
Process Specialist

Sustainable Futures ZA

P.O. Box 749
Rondebosch
7701
Cape Town
South Africa

Tel:++27 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

On 10 Jun 2011, at 10:15 AM, Coen Visser wrote:

Dear Sir,

I saw your ad in DFA for participants in the EIA process for the abovementioned project.

May I enquire if the geotechnical investigation for this was already done?

I can render such service since I am practicing a geotechnical consultancy in Kimberley for the past 14 years, and know the area very well. As a geologist, I have greater insight in geotechnical and geological conditions than the normal engineering laboratory or consulting engineer.

Kind regards,

Coen Visser

C.H.E. Visser
NOORDKAAP GEOKON
Mobile 27 (0) 82 821 0217
Ph/Fx 27 (0) 53 831 1418
<image001.jpg>



**SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES ZA**

PROPOSED KABI KIMBERLEY PV SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY BASIC ASSESSMENT

FOCUS GROUP MEETING

NOTES OF SOL PLAATJE MUNICIPALITY MEETING

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Address: PO Box 148
Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: 011 234 6621
Fax: 086 684 0547
E-mail: gerhard@savannahsa.com

Sustainable Futures ZA

Address: PO Box 749
Rondebosch,
Cape Town, 7701
Tel: 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

Held on
Wednesday, 27 July 2011

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Sustainable Futures ZA & Savannah Environmental

Please address any comments to Shawn Johnston at the above address.

**BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS:
PROPOSED KABI KIMBERLEY PV SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY**

Venue: Sol Plaatje Municipality – Kimberley
Date: Wednesday, 27 July 2011
Time: 09h00 – 10h00

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Shawn Johnston, the process facilitator thanked Bobby Buchanan and Desmond Lang, Sol Plaatje Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Unit for receiving the team and to introduce the environmental basic assessment process. He then asked Phil Edmunds from Kabi Energy to introduce the project and Gerhard Cronje to present the findings of the draft basic assessment report.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation & Position
Shawn Johnston	Sustainable Futures ZA- Public Participation Specialist
Gerhard Cronje	Savannah Environmental
Phil Edmunds	Kabi Energy
Frederick de la Forcard	Solarpac
Bobby Buchanan	Sol Plaatje Municipality
Desmond Lang	Sol Plaatje Municipality

APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Gerhard Cronje introduced the project and the findings from the Draft Basic Assessment Report and then opened the discussion for points of clarity.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Bobby Buchanan: We appreciate the inputs of renewable energy and our municipality is supportive of all green projects. We are looking at making Kimberley a green hub for renewable energy in the Northern Cape. As you know Kimberley faces numerous power supply issues.	Shawn Johnston: Comment noted.
Bobby Buchanan: Will you be using foreigners to build the plant?	Phil Edmunds: The project will be built using South African labour with inputs from international specialists.
Bobby Buchanan: What types of relationship exists with De Beers?	Phil Edmunds: We have established excellent working relationships with De Beers and we hope to do the same with the Sol Plaatje and Francis Baard Municipalities within Kimberley.
Bobby Buchanan: Who will be doing the land rezoning for the Kabi Kimberley site.	<p>Phil Edmunds: We need to appoint a specialist to do it.</p> <p>Bobby Buchanan: We know of a few excellent planning companies we can recommend.</p> <p>Phil Edmunds: I would like to follow-up with the Sol Plaatje Municipality about the rezoning of the property.</p>
Bobby Buchanan: We are happy with your presentation. You have covered employment, food security and the strengthening of the Northern Cape Eskom electricity grid.	Shawn Johnston: Comment noted.
Bobby Buchanan: There are a large number of environmental impact assessments being done for solar energy facilities in the Kimberley area.	Phil Edmunds: We have been informed of the other applications and environmental investigation. We are currently only undertaking the Kabi Kimberley project.
Desmond Lang: Will you be focusing on skills transfer for local communities as part of your project?	Phil Edmunds: Yes its part of our social responsibility plan for the project and we are developing the mechanism. This would be an aspect of the project that we would like to follow-up with the Sol Plaatje Municipality.
Bobby Buchanan: We would support	Phil Edmunds: I agree, lets flag this as a follow-

Question / Comment	Response
<p>this initiative. You would have to engage our officials working on the Integrated Development and Local Economic Development Plans. Lets make this a task for follow-up as your proposed project develops.</p>	<p>up task</p>
<p>Bobby Buchanan: Will you only use Solarpac technology on this project?</p>	<p>Phil Edmunds: We have Solarpac as our technology partner due to their experience in the built solar industry in Europe and Asia.</p> <p>Frederick de la Forcard: We have not selected which suppliers of solar panels would be used. We would be approaching various international suppliers to provide us with quotes.</p>
<p>Bobby Buchanan: Will you be using the entire De Beers site?</p>	<p>Gerhard Cronje: De Beers identified the larger 180ha site, however the footprint for the Kabi Kimberley solar energy facility will occupy approximately 60ha.</p>
<p>Bobby Buchanan: Until when is the commenting period on the draft basic assessment report open.</p>	<p>Gerhard Cronje: Comments can be submitted for a period of thirty days, until 25 August 2011. Organs of state have forty days.</p>
<p>Bobby Buchanan: I don't think there would be any visual impacts from this development as the site is isolated, and fenced off by De Beers.</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: Comment noted.</p>
<p>Bobby Buchanan: The Sol Plaatje Municipality has a strategy for encouraging renewable energy and we look forward to follow-ups with Kabi Energy in this regard. We will assist as far as we can. Let's keep the communications open.</p>	<p>Phil Edmunds: We will follow-up with your team directly as the project develops.</p>
<p>Bobby Buchanan: Kabi Energy will need to liaise with the Town Planning Department of the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality.</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: Comment noted.</p>
<p>Phil Edmunds: Who is the Town Planning team we need to talk to at the Sol Plaatje Municipality?</p>	<p>Bobby Buchanan: Please send me an e-mail request and I can e-mail you all the contact details for the Town Planning, Integrated Development and Local Economic Development teams at the Sol Plaatje Municipality.</p>
<p>Desmond Lang: How many people will</p>	<p>Phil Edmunds: Projects like this do not create</p>

Question / Comment	Response
the project employ during construction and operation?	large amounts of job opportunities. About 320 jobs will be created during the construction phase, with a maximum of 200 workers at any time during the construction phase. For the operational phase it is expected that about fifty job opportunities would be created.
Bobby Buchanan: Thank you for your input on the Kabi Kimberley project.	Shawn Johnston: Thank you for the opportunity to present the findings of the draft Basic Assessment report. The developer's team will follow-up directly with the Sol Plaatje Municipality.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Shawn Johnston thanked Bobby Buchanan and Desmond Lang for the opportunity to introduce the proposed Kabi Kimberley project.

The meeting ended at 10h00.



PROPOSED KABI KIMBERELY SOLAR PV ENERGY FACILITY

BASIC ASSESSMENT



**SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES ZA**

PUBLIC MEETING

NOTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Address: PO Box 148
Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: 011 234 6621
Fax: 086 684 0547
E-mail: gerhard@savannahsa.com

Sustainable Futures ZA

Address: PO Box 749
Rondebosch,
Cape Town, 7701
Tel: 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

Held on
Wednesday, 27 July 2011

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Sustainable Futures ZA & Savannah Environmental

Please address any comments to Shawn Johnston at the above address.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS: PROPOSED RAMPHELE PV SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY

Venue: Protea Hotel Big Hole Kimberley

Date: Wednesday, 27 July 2011

Time: 18h30 – 20h00

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Shawn Johnston, the process facilitator thanked all the stakeholders present for attending the public meeting. Shawn Johnston asked Phil Edmunds to provide an overview of Kabi Energy. He then asked Gerhard Cronje from Savannah Environmental to present the findings of the draft basic assessment report.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation & Position
Shawn Johnston	Sustainable Futures ZA- Public Participation Specialist
Gerhard Cronje	Savannah Environmental
Phil Edmunds	Kabi Energy
Frederick de la Forcard	Solarpac
Kevin Anderson	Solar Capital
Michelle Peters	De Beers Kimberley
Harders Mans	Local Resident
Gert Mans	Local Resident
Conraad Mans	Local Resident

APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Gerhard Cronje presented the findings of the Draft Basic Assessment Report and and Shawn Johnston opened the meeting for points of clarity.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Harders Mans: Are De Beers done with recycling the taillings dump on the site?	Gerhard Cronje: They are in the process of reworking the taillings dump on the site.
Harders Mans: Will the taillings dump be cleared by the time this proposed project proceeds?	Gerhard Cronje: Yes the taillings dump will be recycled and removed by the time the proposed project starts.
Harders Mans: So will the diamond security risk be gone by the time the project starts?	Phil Edmunds: Yes it would be.
Harders Mans: Who will pay for the project?	Phil Edmunds: Kabi Energy with its partners (SolarPack) will develop and fund the project.
Harders Mans: Is there room for independent power providers (IPPs)?	Phil Edmunds: Yes there is, the South African Government have created the platform for independent power producers to assist with supplying the energy needs for South Africa and to get the South African power mix correct. This is clearly stated in the South African Energy Resource Plan. The plan states what the countries' energy needs are and IPPs will assist in meeting the necessary energy targets.
Harders Mans: How many projects do you have in South Africa?	Phil Edmunds: This is our flagship project in South Africa.
Harders Mans: Can I get a copy of the basic assessment report.	Shawn Johnston: Yes we can provide it to you on CD at the end of the meeting.
Gert Mans: Will the Department of Environmental Affairs look at both the negative and positive aspects of the Basic Assessment report?	Gerhard Cronje: Yes they look at all aspects and the comments from the provincial commenting authorities as well.
Harders Mans: What is the review period for DEA?	Gerhard Cronje: It is 74 days for the Department of Environmental Affairs to review the basic assessment report.
Michelle Peters: Who is the environmental authority that will provide the environmental authorization on this project?	Shawn Johnston: The environmental authorisation will be issued by the National Department of Environmental Affairs because all energy projects have been elevated to the National Department and the Provincial Departments act as commenting authorities.
Michelle Peters: How have the requirements of the Department of	Gerhard Cronje: The De Beers environmental management plan would have to be amended for

Question / Comment	Response
Mineral Resources been integrated into this basic assessment process?	the site and submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources. The Basic Assessment report was submitted to the Department of Mineral Resources for them to review as well.
Gert Mans: Once the project has been established, will the project only sell power onto Eskom?	Phil Edmunds: In terms of the power purchase agreement all power generated will be sold onto Eskom for distribution in the Northern Cape Province and Nationally.
Gert Mans: Will batteries be used for power storage?	Phil Edmunds: The plant will only operate during the day, so no power will be stored in batteries.
Harders Mans: Were will the solar panels be produced?	Phil Edmunds: We have not yet decided on a supplier. There are a number of international suppliers we can choose from.
Harders Mans: Are the panel's static or tracking?	Phil Edmunds: They will be one-axes tracking panels.
Harders Mans: How many panels will be installed?	Phil Edmunds: About eighty thousand panels.
Harders Mans: Will there be room for expansion of the project on the site?	Phil Edmunds: No there will be no expansion of the project footprint in the future.
Gert Mans: How big will the PV panels be?	Phil Edmunds: It is the same as per the picture in the Background Information Document.
Gert Mans: What would the height of the panels be?	Phil Edmunds: It would be approximately 2.5 meters high.
Harders: Will there be a security system to protect the plant?	Phil Edmunds: Yes the site will be equipped with state of the art security as per the mining areas at De Beers. Safety and security will be addressed in the design of the facility.
Harders Mans: Will vegetation on site be controlled to prohibit fires?	Phil Edmunds: Very little vegetation exist on site and the remaining vegetation will be managed to prohibit fires.
Harders Mans: What is the lifespan of the panels?	Phil Edmunds: About thirty years.
Gert Mans: Can the panels be exposed to hail storms in the Northern Cape?	Phil Edmunds: Yes it can withstand hailstorms.
Harders Mans: Will the cables on site go underground?	Phil Edmunds: Yes it will be laid underground.
Harders Mans: What type of cables will be used?	Kevin Anderson: Stock standard cabling.
Gert Mans: Will there be a computerized monitoring system for the plant?	Phil Edmunds: Yes, a plant monitoring system will be implemented to monitor the entire plant.
Harders Mans: Is this one of the	Gerhard Cronje: Yes, however there are other

Question / Comment	Response
smaller projects being investigated by Savannah?	plants of similar capacity being investigated in the country.
Harders Mans: Will the Kabi project buy or lease the property?	Phil Edmunds: It will be a long term lease agreement with De Beers.
Harders Mans: Where does the word Kabi come from?	Phil Edmunds: It is a San word, meaning message from the Sun/gods.
Gert Mans: Are you talking to Eskom and the Sol Plaatje Municipality?	Shawn Johnston: The developer is liaising with both Eskom and the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality on this project.
Gert Mans: How long will construction take?	Phil Edmunds: About 10-12 months.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Shawn Johnston thanked all interested and affected parties present for the opportunity to introduce the proposed project. He reminded all stakeholders of the comments period and undertook to keep all local stakeholders informed about the outcome of the basic assessment process.

The meeting ended at 20h00.

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS: PROPOSED KABI KIMBERLEY SOLAR PHOTO
VOLTAIC PLANT NEAR KIMBERLEY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

DEA Ref Number: 12/12/20/2124

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS REPLY FORM

Return completed reply form to: **Shawn Johnston of Sustainable Futures ZA**

Fax: **086 510 2537**

Phone: **083 325 9965**

E-mail: **swjohnston@mweb.co.za**

Postal Address: **PO Box 749, Rondebosch, Cape Town, 7701**

Please provide your complete contact details:

Name & Surname:	HENNIE SWARTS		
Organisation & Designation:	MACSTEEL - SALES REPRESENTATIVE		
Postal Address:	PO BOX 14, KIMBERLEY, 8300		
Telephone:	053 841 0300	Cellphone:	082 373 2331
Fax:	053 841 0323	E-mail:	HENNIE.SWARTS @ MACTRADING.CO.ZA

Would you like to register as an interested and affected party (I&AP)? YES NO
 (please tick the relevant box)

Note: Please register as an I&AP to receive further correspondence regarding the Basic Assessment process for the project. Should you register as an I&AP, your contact details may be made public.

Please state your interest in the project (add additional pages if necessary):

MACSTEEL SERVICE CENTRES SIA PROVIDES STEEL PRODUCTS TO ALL MAJOR ROLL PLAYERS IN S.A.
 I'M TO INVESTIGATE ALL DEVELOPMENTS & POSSIBILITIES.

Please list your questions, views or concerns regarding the project (add additional pages if necessary):

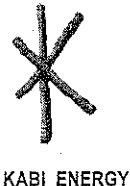
Please provide contact details of other persons who you regard as a potential interested or affected party:

Name & Surname:			
Organisation & Designation:			
Postal Address:			
Telephone:		Cellphone:	
Fax:		E-mail:	

What is your preferred language of correspondence? (please tick the relevant box)

English
 Afrikaans

(Sien keersy vir Afrikaans)





agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, forestry & fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Directorate Land Use and Soil Management, Private Bag x120, Pretoria, 0001
Delpen Building, c/o Annie Botha & Union Streets, Riviera

From: Director: Land Use and Soil Management

Tel: (012) 319 7678 · Fax: (012) 329 5938 · e-mail: agriland@nda.agric.za

SAVANNAH (PTY) LTD
P.O. Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

2011/07/29

Dear Sir/Madam

This serves as a notice of receipt and confirms that your application has been captured in our electronic AgriLand tracking and management system. It is strongly recommended that you use the on-line AgriLand application facility in future.

Detail of your application as captured:

Type: **EIA**

Your reference number: **12/12/20/2124**

Dated: **25 JULY 2011**

Please use the following reference number in all enquiries:

AgriLand reference number: 2011_07_0096

Enquiries can be made to the above postal, fax or e-mail address.

Yours sincerely,

L. Mongoato
pp DIRECTOR: LAND USE AND SOIL MANAGEMENT

Online application available at: <http://www.agis.agric.za/agriland>



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: 15 August 2011
Ref: F13/11/2/79/1

Shawn Johnston
Sustainable Futures ZA
P.O. Box 749
Rondebosch
CAPE TOWN
7701

ATTENTION: Mr. Shawn Johnston (swjohnston@mweb.co.za)

**RE: COMMENTS ON DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT (BAR) AND
SPECIALIST ECOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE PROPOSED KABI KIMBERLEY SOLAR
PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY (DEA REF: 12/12/20/2124)**

The Directorate: Forestry and Natural Resource Management within the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) in the Northern Cape would hereby like to make the following comments on the above-mentioned project:

1. Page 36 of the draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) contains a block with responses to issues raised by this Department. In relation to the impact on protected trees, the response is that 'no individuals of protected tree species have been identified as having a geographical distribution that includes the study area'. This is in contradiction with the findings of the specialist ecological study (see page 16 of the Ecological Study). It is a well known fact that protected *Acacia erioloba* and *Boscia albitrunca* occur in and around Kimberley. However, the ecological study indicated that 'no individuals (of protected trees) occur on site'. If that is the case, the Department of Forestry has no objection against the proposed development.
2. The proposed development is said to occur in the Kimberley Thornveld. This vegetation type may contain biogeographically important taxa, including species that are endemic to the Kalahari and Griqualand West. The ecological study mentioned the possible presence of *Harpagophytum procumbens*. If found on site, this species should be relocated to an appropriate site after obtaining the necessary permit from the regulating authority.

3. Page 49 and 50 of the BAR refers to the increased risk of veld fires. According to the National Veld and Forest Fires Act (Act 101 of 1998) (NVFFA), 'every landowner on whose land a veldfire may start or burn or from whose land it may spread must prepare and maintain a firebreak on his or her side of the boundary between his or her land and any adjoining land' (Section 12(1)). However, if a member of a registered Fire Protection Association (FPA), the FPA can make its own rules which bind its members. For a list of registered FPA's in the area, contact the local Fire Advisor at the Forestry Office in Kimberley (Tel. 053 807 2626 or 083 6333 640).

Yours truly,



Jacoline Mans
Chief Forester: NFA Regulation

