

PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY ON A SITE WEST OF KAKAMAS, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT: I&APs & STAKEHOLDERS
Scoping Phase: Focus Group Meetings, Public Meeting & Written Comments

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
Ecology			
1.	Our main concern is the possible impact on protected tree species (National Forests Act, Act 84 of 1998 as amended) and other protected flora. Protected tree species such as <i>Acacia erioloba</i> and <i>Boscia albitrunca</i> are known to occur in the area. The developer must take note that protected trees may not be disturbed or removed without a Forest Act License.	Jacoline Mans, Chief Forester, Dept of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Upington), Comment via email	The ecology assessment has identified the presence of two trees which are protected tree species occurring on site. It is unlikely that INCA Energy would remove these trees. Instead a 50 m buffer around these trees is recommended as per the Basic Assessment Report and Environmental Management Plan.
2.	The developer must consider all applicable and relevant legislation when assessing the potential impact on protected plants and animals. Legislation to consider in this regard should include the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Ordinances, the new Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act and the TOPS Regulations (National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, Act 10 of 2004). If protected species such as <i>Aloe dichotoma</i> , <i>Hoodia gordonii</i> , <i>Sutherlandia frutescens</i> & <i>Harpagophytum</i>	Jacoline Mans, Chief Forester, Dept of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Upington), Comment via email	Comment noted. INCA Energy have stated that in all likelihood they would not be removing any protected trees from the site. A 50 m buffer around identified protected tree species is recommended in the Environmental Management Plan.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	<i>procumbens</i> occur on site, the necessary permits must be obtained from Nature Conservation to relocate it to a suitable site.		
3.	The Department of Forestry would like to get a copy of the specialist study that will be undertaken to identify and assess potential impact on the ecology, fauna and flora.	Jacoline Mans, Chief Forester, Dept of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Upington), Comment via email	The complete draft basic assessment report will be sent to the department for comment.



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

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Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
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RE: COMMENTS ON BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT FOR PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY ON A SITE WEST OF KAKAMAS. DEA REF: 12/12/20/2179

The Branch: Forestry within the 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. Our main concern is the possible impact on protected tree species (National Forests Act, Act 84 of 1998 as amended) and other protected flora. Protected tree species such as *Acacia erioloba* and *Boscia albitrunca* are known to occur in the area. The developer must take note that protected trees may not be disturbed or removed without a Forest Act License. License application forms are available at the offices of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF). Impacts on protected trees must be avoided and where it cannot be avoided, suitable mitigation are required.
2. The developer must consider all applicable and relevant legislation when assessing the potential impact on protected plants and animals. Legislation to consider in this regard should include the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Ordinances, the new Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act and the TOPS Regulations (National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, Act 10 of 2004). If protected species such as *Aloe dichotoma*, *Hoodia gordonii*, *Sutherlandia frutescens* & *Harpagophytum procumbens* occur on site, the necessary permits must be obtained from Nature Conservation to relocate it to a suitable site.

4. The Department of Forestry would like to get a copy of the specialist study that will be undertaken to identify and assess potential impact on the ecology, fauna and flora.

Yours truly,



Jacoline Mans
Chief Forester: NFA Regulation

