



agriculture, land reform & rural development

Department:
agriculture, land reform & rural development
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PO Box 28, De Aar, 7000 ,Tel: (053) 631 0074, Fax: (053) 631 0564
E-mail: hroux@ncpg.gov.za web: www.agrinc.gov.za

Our Ref: Portion 3 of Farm Paarde Valley 145

Enquiries: J Roux

Date 10/10/2011

Savannah Environmental (PTY) LTD

PO Box 749
Rondebosch
Cape Town
7701

Attention: Shawn Johnston

Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (CARA); Act 43 of 1983

A meeting held in De Aar on 27 September 2011 regarding the proposed solar project refers.

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development has registered as an interested and affected party (I&AP – J Roux).

The farm described as Portion 3 of Paarde Valley 145, 2778 hectares in size, is situated in a live stock carrying capacity area of 22 hectares per live stock unit (LSU). The solar development will permanently affect an area of 787 ha. Calculated at the official carrying capacity rate, the remaining 1991hectares should be able to support 90,5 LSU's and will therefore still be considered an economical unit.

The solar development will have a permanent effect on the natural vegetation as a result of the expected life span of 20 years of the solar panels. The influence of reduced sunlight, rainfall etc. will most certainly have a negative effect on the composition and performance of the natural vegetation as a result of their reaction to these conditions. Exactly to what extent the vegetation will be effected is not clear. The applicable potential impacts, as described in the Scoping Report as follows:

Impact 1: Natural vegetation being destroyed

If all natural vegetation is destroyed the land will be prone to soil erosion. This department has to form part of the planning and construction phases in order to determine the appropriate conservation methods and works needed to prevent erosion. These soils are very likely to enhance soil erosion if natural vegetation is destroyed.

Impact 6: Infestation – alien invader plants

The micro climate and available sunlight will be changed by the solar panels. Vegetation will be destroyed (Impact 1) and or the establishment and spread of weeds and alien invader plants will occur. A monitoring programme has to be identified as part of an environmental management plan in order to detect weeds and alien plants that may cause a treat to the natural vegetation and surrounding areas.

Discussion

Most of the applications for solar development are situated in the Pixley ka Seme District and this District will most probably develop as the solar energy hub in the province. All the prospective developers will contribute in the form of incentives as reward to land owners.

Since land reform and rural development is a priority of the Government of South Africa, the opportunity to constructively contribute towards rural development and job creation is evident. It is suggested that all prospective bidders clearly indicate the nature and extent of these incentives, as well as how it can be linked to land reform, rural development and job creation as part of an implementation strategy.

An opportunity to acquire land prior to development as part of a land reform strategy where private land is identified for development should also be realized. Models must be developed where the exit strategy will ensure and enhance the land reform.

Submitted:

J Roux
Control Engineering Technician
SRM Unit

Noted:

G Sahling
Act. Dir: SRM

Date: 11 October 2011



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 ENVIRONMENTAL (PTY) LTD
P.O. Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
GAUTENG
2157

2011/09/21

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: **12/12/20/2048**

Dated: **19 SEPTEMBER 2011**

Please use the following reference number in all enquiries:

AgriLand reference number: 2011_09_0160

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>



PIXLEY ka SEME

**DISTRIKSMUNISIPALITEIT
DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
U-MASIPALA WENGINGQI**

*Culvertweg
Privatsak X1012
DE AAR
7000
Telefoon (053) 631-0891/2-6
Faks (053) 631-2529
e-mail: pixley@telkomsa.net*

*Culvert Road
Private Bag X1012
DE AAR
7000
Telephone (053) 631-0891/2-6
Fax (053) 631-2529
e-mail: pixley@telkomsa.net*

Refer: 17.4.5.R

Enquiries: WS Madyo

Date: 21 September 2011

Attention: Mr Bongani Khupe

Savannah Environmental (Pty) LTD
Sunninghill
Johannesburg
2157

Dear Bongani

COMMENT EIA PROCESS: ILANGA LETHEMBA PV SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY NEAR DE AAR REF. NO. 12/12/20/2048

With reference to the above-mentioned EIA process, our comment is based on Literature review of contents entailed in the Draft EIA Report for Proposed Ilanga Lethemba PV Solar Energy Facility, Near De Aar. The Pixley ka Seme District Municipality LED Unit as a strong proponent of renewable energy in general. Our support is not without limits as we seek to balance the need for energy security and economic sector alignments within the context of food security, economic growth and development and also sustainable environmental practices. These sentiments are synergised and informed by inter-sphere legislative imperatives and considerations given to agriculture as a sector and its significance to the District, Provincial and National economy. We further have a keen interest in 'Comprehensive Rural Development Programmes' and Rural Industrialization initiatives that enhances innovation and economic diversity through conventional approaches by initiated by valued role players and interest parties within the District borders.

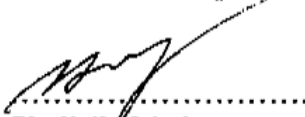
To accommodate and support varied stakeholder objectives special attention is given to whenever possible facilitate and support initiatives with spatial, economic and social development content to increase delivery of goods and services to communities. These benefits should lead to increased access in terms of services, skills development, employment and downstream opportunities (enabling infrastructure, energy to power the District economy, education, health, procurement etc). By creating an enabling environment for investment and social development the District hopes to realize its vision of positioning the District as a Renewable Energy Hub.

We are comfortable with assertions that there are 'no fatal flaws' sought are that can inhibit project processes and the proactive measures are adequate in our view. Further appreciation for

nature and water resources is a plus for the project, which we deem appropriate on the side of the investors. It is our contention that feeding the Eskom Grid should not be sole intent of the investor, but consideration of industries that can be supported by electricity generated within our borders. This need may not arise in the short term may be a reality going forward and would require flexibility in terms of Regional electricity provisioning.

The assertions made in describing the 'receiving environment', potential impacts and welcome the overall recommendations are key indicators of areas of mutual interest. We are of the view that consideration should be given to linkages with biomass powered generation platforms using the alien vegetation for other productive purposes. As stakeholders, we welcome deliberate efforts aimed at socioeconomic development as key ingredients of project that can bring about beneficial change.

Yours in development



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Sindisile Madyo
LED Manager



Reg. No. 1990035540

SANRAL is an Agency of the Ministry of Transport

Western Region

Parc du Cap, Building 5, cor. Mispel Str & Wille van Schoor Avenue, Bellville, 7530
Private Bag X19, Bellville, South Africa, 7530
Tel +27 (0) 21 957 4600 Fax +27 (0) 21 946 1630

Head Office Tel +27 (0) 12 844 6000 Fax +27 (0) 12 844 8200

Offices In Meritva - Pretoria, Pietermaritzburg, Port Elizabeth

Reference:	W111/2/1	Fax Number:	+27 (0) 21 946 1630
Date:	5 October 2011	Direct Line:	+27 (0) 21 957 4600
Email:	dekokk@nra.co.za	Website:	www.sanral.co.za

Mr B D Khupe
Environment Consultant
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Dear Mr Khupe

PROPOSED ILANGA LETHEMBA PV SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY NEAR DE AAR, NORTHERN CAPE

Thank you for your email dated 3 October 2011.

*Creating
wealth through
infrastructure*

The South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL) has no comment with regard to the proposed Ilanga Lethemba PV Solar Energy Facility near De Aar in the Northern Cape.

Yours faithfully

René de Kock

STATUTORY CONTROL

Docs 441906

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS:
PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY ON A SITE SOUTHEAST OF
DE AAR, NORTHERN CAPE
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:

SINISILE MADJO

Organisation & Designation:

PIXLEY KASEME DM : LEA MANAGER

Postal Address:

PRIVATE BASX 1012 DE AAR 7000

EMAIL: PIXLEY@TELKOMSA.NET

Telephone:

053 631 0891

Cellphone:

084 673 0997

Fax:

053 631 2529

E-mail:

excellent@solutions8
live.co.za

Would you like to register as an interested and affected party (I&AP)? YES

(please tick the relevant box)

NO

Note: You are required to register as an I&AP to receive further correspondence regarding the EIA process for the project.

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

THE DISTRICT EMBRACES ITS COMPARATIVE & COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES AROUND ALTERNATE ENERGY INVESTMENTS AS A MEANS OF ENSURING THAT WE BECOME A RENEWABLE ENERGY HUB. MAIN OBJECT BEING GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

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

IMPACT ON JOBS, LIFE SPAN, EMPOWERMENT OF LOCALS IN TERMS SKILLS AND SOCIAL BENEFITS. LEVEL OF COMMITMENT TO GOOD CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP.

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

Name & Surname:

MACCOLLEN JACK

Organisation & Designation:

PIXLEY KASEME DM : MUNICIPAL MANAGER

Postal Address:

PRIVATE BAS X 1012 DE AAR 7000

Telephone:

053 631 0891

Cellphone:

082 74 11135

Fax:

053 631 2529

E-mail:

macjack@vodamail.com

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

English

Afrikaans



This assessment is being conducted on behalf of INCA De Aar Solar (Sien keersy vir Afrikaans)