

Dale Holder

From: HWC HWC <HWC.HWC@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 15 September 2023 12:32
To: Jayson Orton
Cc: Dale Holder
Subject: Re: Re[2]: case number please

Dear Applicant

I acknowledge receipt of your permit application for Doorfontein A118 and Kruispad 120 near Veldrif

Kindly note the case number for your request is: HWC23091509

The application fee payable is R330.00

Please use the reference number above for payment into the following account and include the reference on the application form:

Heritage Western Cape

Nedbank

Account Number: 1452 048 924

Branch Code: 198765

It is essential that you ensure that the case number is used as the bank reference for any payment made to us. Failure to do so will determine that HWC will regard your application as unpaid.

Please email your application and correct proof of payment to hwc.hwc@westerncape.gov.za for submission.

**Kind regards,
HWC Admin**

NEW APPLICATION FORMS - EFFECTIVE 1 APRIL 2023

3rd Floor, Protea Assurance Building
Green Market Square
Cape Town
8001
Tel) 021 483 9729/ 021 829 0586
website: www.hwc.org.za

From: Jayson Orton <jayson@asha-consulting.co.za>
Sent: 15 September 2023 07:05
To: HWC HWC <HWC.HWC@westerncape.gov.za>
Cc: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: Re[2]: case number please

Dear HWC

I applied for the case number below in June but the project got delayed. Shall I use this number now to submit or would HWC prefer to allocate a new one?

thanks
Jayson



Dr Jayson Orton
ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd
40 Brassie Street, Lakeside, 7945
jayson@asha-consulting.co.za
T: 021 788 1025 | C: 083 272 3225
www.asha-consulting.co.za

----- Original Message -----

From "HWC HWC" <HWC.HWC@westerncape.gov.za>
To "jayson" <jayson@asha-consulting.co.za>
Date 2023/06/26 16:51:57
Subject Re: case number please

Dear Applicant

I acknowledge receipt of your permit application for Doorfontein A118 and Kruispad 120 near Veldrif.

Kindly note the case number for your request is: HWC23062604

The application fee payable is R330.00

Please use the reference number above for payment into the following account and include the reference on the application form:

<p><u>Heritage Western Cape</u></p> <p><u>Nedbank</u></p> <p><u>Account Number: 1452 048 924</u></p> <p><u>Branch Code: 198765</u></p>
--

It is essential that you ensure that the case number is used as the bank reference for any payment made to us. Failure to do so will determine that HWC will regard your application as unpaid.

Please email your application and correct proof of payment to hwc.hwc@westerncape.gov.za for submission.

Kind regards,
HWC Admin

NEW APPLICATION FORMS - EFFECTIVE 1 APRIL 2023

3rd Floor, Protea Assurance Building
Green Market Square
Cape Town
8001
Tel) 021 483 9729
website: www.hwc.org.za

From: Jayson Orton <jayson@asha-consulting.co.za>
Sent: Saturday, June 24, 2023 11:56:27 AM
To: HWC HWC <HWC.HWC@westerncape.gov.za>
Subject: case number please

Dear HWC

Please may have a case number for a NID application for a proposed solar energy facility on Doornfontein A 118 and Kruispad 120 near Velddrif?

thanks
Jayson



Dr Jayson Orton
ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd
40 Brassie Street, Lakeside, 7945
jayson@asha-consulting.co.za
T: 021 788 1025 | C: 083 272 3225
www.asha-consulting.co.za

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Dale Holder

From: Waseefa Dhansay <Waseefa.Dhansay@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 15 September 2023 13:35
To: Dale Holder; Jayson Orton
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System
Attachments: 11 Appendix E5 Heritage NID and Background Information Document.pdf

Dear Mr Holder

The below email has reference.

I note the attached NID prepared by Dr Orton contained in the documentation however am not locating the submission as having been formally submitted to HWC.

Kindly note HWC required the NID to be submitted to hwc.hwc@westerncape.gov.za and thereafter a formal response would be provided.

Kind regards

Waseefa Dhansay
Assistant Director: Professional Services

Heritage Resource Management Services
Protea Assurance Building Greenmarket Square, Cape Town

Website: www.hwc.org.za / www.westerncape.gov.za



Western Cape
Government
FOR YOU



ILifa leMveli leNtshona Koloni
Erfenis Wes-Kaap
Heritage Western Cape

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 1:16 PM
To: Waseefa Dhansay <Waseefa.Dhansay@westerncape.gov.za>
Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Dear Waseefa

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SUNVELD SOLAR PV AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE (BESS) FACILITY ON FARM KRUISPAD 120 AND ON THE FARM DOORNFONTEIN A 118 SITUATED APPROXIMATELY 7.5 KM EAST VELDRIF IN THE BERG RIVER MUNICIPALITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

DFFE Reference No. : 2023-06-0016 (Pre Application Reference Number)
DFFE Case Officer : Mr Lunga Dlova

Kindly find the attached notification of the availability of the Draft Scoping Report for the Proposed Sunveld Solar PV and BESS facility.

The Draft Scoping Report is available for review and comment for a 30 day comment period from 15 September 2023 – 16 October 2023.

Digital copies of the Draft Scoping Report and all associated and supplementary information is available at the following locations:

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- Dedicated Download link on Dropbox at: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/ent7ucsy8vc2rlxza8ri/h?rlkey=546kxbwcrjgpwox3cxipfyqni&dl=0>
- Dedicated Download Link on We Transfer at: <https://we.tl/t-XDrbSuO0p2>

Should you not be able to access the digital platforms above, please contact Cape EAPrac on the contact details below and we will arrange an alternative method of accessing either hard or digital copies of the Report.

Please contact the undersigned should you have any further queries.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530



Cape EAPrac



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Dale Holder

From: Vanessa Stoffels <Vanessa.Stoffels@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 15 September 2023 14:01
To: Dale Holder
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Good day

Received your application, our reference Job 25208.

The matter is receiving attention and further communication will be addressed to you as soon as circumstances permit.

Kind Regards

Vanessa Stoffels

Road Use Management
Chief Directorate Road Planning, Roads Branch
Department of Infrastructure
Western Cape Government
Tel: 021 483 4669

The Box 24th Floor, 9 Lower Burg Street, Cape Town: PO Box 2603, Cape Town 8000

Email: vanessa.stoffels@westerncape.gov.za

Website: www.westerncape.gov.za

Be 110% Green. Read from the screen.

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 1:11 PM
To: Evan Burger <Evan.Burger@westerncape.gov.za>; Vanessa Stoffels <Vanessa.Stoffels@westerncape.gov.za>; malcolm.watters@westerncape.gov.za
Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Dear Department of Transport Colleagues

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SUNVELD SOLAR PV AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE (BESS) FACILITY ON FARM KRUISPAD 120 AND ON THE FARM DOORNFONTEIN A 118 SITUATED APPROXIMATELY 7.5 KM EAST VELDDRIF IN THE BERG RIVER MUNICIPALITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

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<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/ent7ucsy8vc2rlxza8ri/h?rlkey=546kxbwcrjgpwox3cxipfyqj&dl=0>
- Dedicated Download Link on We Transfer at: <https://we.tl/t-XDrbSuO0p2>

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Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

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Dale Holder

From: Morne Van Der Westhuizen [MTN South Africa]
<Morne.VanDerWesthuizen@mtn.com>
Sent: Friday, 15 September 2023 14:51
To: #Renewable Energy Applications [MTN SA]
Cc: Dale Holder
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System
Attachments: BER799.04 Notification of Draft Scoping Report - Sunveld Solar PV.pdf

@#Renewable Energy Applications [MTN SA]

Please note attached.

No impact on the MTN network.

Thanks



Warm regards,
Morne Van Der Westhuizen
Specialist - Transmission Planning
C: +27 83 200 2653
Morne.VanDerWesthuizen@mtn.com | www.mtn.co.za

This email is confidential. If you have received it in error, you are on notice of its status. Please notify us immediately by reply email and then delete this message from your system. Please do not copy it or use it for any purpose and do not disclose its contents to any other person as to do so could be a breach of confidentiality. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sensitivity: MTN Internal

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 2:04 PM
To: Morne Van Der Westhuizen [MTN South Africa] <Morne.VanDerWesthuizen@mtn.com>
Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the MTN organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Stakeholder

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SUNVELD SOLAR PV AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE (BESS) FACILITY ON FARM KRUISPAD 120 AND ON THE FARM DOORNFONTEIN A 118 SITUATED APPROXIMATELY 7.5 KM EAST VELDDRIF IN THE BERG RIVER MUNICIPALITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

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Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder

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Dale Holder

From: John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za>
Sent: Monday, 18 September 2023 09:40
To: Dale Holder
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System
Attachments: Eskom requirements for work in or near Eskom servitudes.doc; Renewable Energy Generation Plant Setbacks to Eskom Infrastructure Rev2 - signed.pdf

Please send me a BID document if there is one, as well as a KMZ file indicating affected properties, proposed development footprint and proposed grid connection. Please find attached Eskom requirements for work at or near Eskom infrastructure and servitudes, as well as a setbacks guideline for RE Developments.

Kind regards

John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat) Reg. EAP (EAPASA)
Senior Consultant Environmental Management
Grid Planning: Land and Rights
Eskom Transmission Division
Megawatt Park, D1Y42, Maxwell Drive, Sunninghill, Sandton.
P O Box 1091, Johannesburg, 2000.
Tel: 011 516 7233
Cell: 083 632 7663
Fax: 086 661 4064
E-mail: john.geeringh@eskom.co.za

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From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 15 September 2023 13:27
To: John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za>
Subject: [CAUTION:EXTERNAL EMAIL] Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Dear John

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SUNVELD SOLAR PV AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE (BESS) FACILITY ON FARM KRUISPAD 120 AND ON THE FARM DOORNFONTEIN A 118 SITUATED APPROXIMATELY 7.5 KM EAST VELDDRIF IN THE BERG RIVER MUNICIPALITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

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DFFE Case Officer : Mr Lunga Dlova

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Please contact the undersigned should you have any further queries.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

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T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530



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Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 18 September 2023 14:18
To: BC Admin
Cc: MMatlala Rabothata
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System
Attachments: Sunvled V3.kmz

Dear Tebego and Mmatlala

Thank you very much for the email.

Kindly find attached KMZ with the Study site and the proposed footprint for Layout Alternative 3 (This will be further refined in the EIA stage of the environmental process).

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

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From: BC Admin <bcadmin@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2023 1:48 PM
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: MMatlala Rabothata <MRABOTHATA@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Dear Sir/Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs M Rabothata (Copied on this email). In addition, kindly share the shapefiles of the development footprints/application site with the Case Officers.

Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota

Regards,
Tebego

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 15 September 2023 13:46
To: BC Admin <bcadmin@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Dear Stakeholder

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SUNVELD SOLAR PV AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE (BESS) FACILITY ON FARM KRUISPAD 120 AND ON THE FARM DOORNFONTEIN A 118 SITUATED APPROXIMATELY 7.5 KM EAST VELDDRIF IN THE BERG RIVER MUNICIPALITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

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- Dedicated Download Link on We Transfer at: <https://we.tl/t-XDrbSu00p2>

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Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 18 September 2023 14:24
To: Brandon Layman
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Dear Brandon

Thank you for the email and explanation.

I will send a USB with the documentation via courier this afternoon.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Brandon Layman <Brandon.Layman@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2023 12:32 PM
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: FW: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Hi Mr. Holder

Please note that this office is bound by the government filing system which is currently in physical file format as approved by the Auditor General.

The transition to electronic filing is slow and must be according to government protocols. The provincial department responsible for our electronic storage/filing etc. is in process to develop that.

As solution to the cost of printing hard copies and lack of electronic filing system on our side (as discussed above) we decided the best option is to give you as consultants the option for a CD or USB as alternative to hard copy.

The main difference between a CD or USB is storage. A hard copy, CD or USB is the "store". Email or we-transfer needs to be printed to be stored physically as we do not have an approved filing system available in the cloud or other network.

CD or USB we can still put on a physical file.

With many thanks and kind regards

Brandon Layman

Administrative Assistant to:

Cor Van der Walt : LandUse Manager

Department of Agriculture

Provincial Government of the Western Cape

Private Bag X1
ELSENBURG
7607

GPS koördinate Elsenburg kantoor: 33.845259 S 18.834722 E.

2nd Floor, Main Building, Muldersvlei Road

Telephone: +27 21 808 5093

Fax: +27 865448977

E-mail: Brandon.layman@westerncape.gov.za

Departmental Website: www.elsenburg.com

Provincial Website: www.capegateway.gov.za



**Western Cape
Government**

FOR YOU

From: Cor Van der Walt <Cor.VanderWalt@westerncape.gov.za>

Sent: 15 September 2023 01:50 PM

To: Brandon Layman <Brandon.Layman@westerncape.gov.za>

Subject: FW: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Groete/Kind regards

Cor van der Walt (*Pr.Sci.Nat; SACNASP reg no. 400120/13*)

Manager: Sub-Programme: Land Use Management

Programme: Sustainable Resource and Use Management

Western Cape Department of Agriculture

Private Bag X 1

ELSENBURG

7607

Ground Floor, Main Building, Muldersvlei Road Elsenburg

GPS Co-ordinates Elsenburg Head Office: 33.845259 S 18.834722 E

Telephone: (021) 808 5099

Email: Cor.VanderWalt@westerncape.gov.za

Departmental Website: <https://www.elsenburg.com>

Provincial Website: <https://www.westerncape.gov.za>



**Western Cape
Government**

FOR YOU

From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Friday, 15 September 2023 13:40

To: Brandon Layman <Brandon.Layman@westerncape.gov.za>; landuse.elsenburg@elsenburg.com; Cor Van der Walt <Cor.VanderWalt@westerncape.gov.za>

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Dear Cor and Brandon

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SUNVELD SOLAR PV AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE (BESS) FACILITY ON FARM KRUISPAD 120 AND ON THE FARM DOORNFONTEIN A 118 SITUATED APPROXIMATELY 7.5 KM EAST VELDDRIF IN THE BERG RIVER MUNICIPALITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

DFFE Reference No. : 2023-06-0016 (Pre Application Reference Number)

DFFE Case Officer : Mr Lunga Dlova

Kindly find the attached notification of the availability of the Draft Scoping Report for the Proposed Sunveld Solar PV and BESS facility.

The Draft Scoping Report is available for review and comment for a 30 day comment period from 15 September 2023 – 16 October 2023.

Digital copies of the Draft Scoping Report and all associated and supplementary information is available at the following locations:

- On the Cape EAPrac website at: www.cape-eaprac.co.za.
- Dedicated Download link on Dropbox at:
<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/ent7ucsy8vc2rlxza8ri/h?rlkey=546kxbwcrigpwox3cxipfyqnj&dl=0>
- Dedicated Download Link on We Transfer at: <https://we.tl/t-XDrbSuO0p2>

Should you not be able to access the digital platforms above, please contact Cape EAPrac on the contact details below and we will arrange an alternative method of accessing either hard or digital copies of the Report.

Please contact the undersigned should you have any further queries.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530



Cape EAPrac



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Kindly view our Privacy Statement for more information.

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Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 18 September 2023 14:44
To: John Geeringh
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System
Attachments: Sunvled V3.kmz

Dear John

Thank you for your email. There is no BID document, and the DSR is the first document that has been prepared in respect of this application.

Please find attached KMZ that shows the study site, Layout Alternative 3 and the affected properties (Farm Kruispad 128 and Doornfontein 118).

The project intends connecting via the Aurora MTS, but this will be initiated via a separate environmental process and I will send you these details once it commences.

Thank you for the Eskom requirements for work at or near Eskom infrastructure and servitudes, as well as a setbacks guideline for RE Developments. These will be incorporated into the EMPr.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2023 9:40 AM
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Please send me a BID document if there is one, as well as a KMZ file indicating affected properties, proposed development footprint and proposed grid connection. Please find attached Eskom requirements for work at or near Eskom infrastructure and servitudes, as well as a setbacks guideline for RE Developments.

Kind regards

John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat) Reg. EAP (EAPASA)
Senior Consultant Environmental Management
Grid Planning: Land and Rights
Eskom Transmission Division
Megawatt Park, D1Y42, Maxwell Drive, Sunninghill, Sandton.
P O Box 1091, Johannesburg, 2000.
Tel: 011 516 7233
Cell: 083 632 7663
Fax: 086 661 4064
E-mail: john.geeringh@eskom.co.za

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From: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Friday, 15 September 2023 13:27

To: John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za>

Subject: [CAUTION:EXTERNAL EMAIL] Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Dear John

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SUNVELD SOLAR PV AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE (BESS) FACILITY ON FARM KRUISPAD 120 AND ON THE FARM DOORNFONTEIN A 118 SITUATED APPROXIMATELY 7.5 KM EAST VELDDRIF IN THE BERG RIVER MUNICIPALITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

DFFE Reference No. : 2023-06-0016 (Pre Application Reference Number)

DFFE Case Officer : Mr Lunga Dlova

Kindly find the attached notification of the availability of the Draft Scoping Report for the Proposed Sunveld Solar PV and BESS facility.

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- Dedicated Download link on Dropbox at:
<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/ent7ucsye8vc2rlxza8ri/h?rlkey=546kxbwcrjgpwox3cxipfyqni&dl=0>
- Dedicated Download Link on We Transfer at: <https://we.tl/t-XDrbSuO0p2>

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Please contact the undersigned should you have any further queries.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

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Cape EA Prac



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Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information.

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Tuesday, 19 September 2023 13:44
To: Angila Joubert
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Thank you Angila.

I confirm that I have added you to my I&AP register with your email address as the primary contact.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

-----Original Message-----

From: Angila Joubert <JoubertA@Bergmun.org.za>
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 12:44 PM
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Thank you Dale for the feedback,

Will you also please include myself as contact person within your I&Ps list?

Thanks

Kind regards

Angila Joubert
Environmental Planning Management Officer

-----Original Message-----

From: Dale Holder [mailto:dale@cape-eaprac.co.za]
Sent: Tuesday, 19 September 2023 10:55
To: Angila Joubert <JoubertA@Bergmun.org.za>
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Dear Angila

Thank you for your email.

The Aquatic Features, Jackal Buzzard nest as well as the buffers on these features have been completely avoided by the proposed layout (Layout Alternative 3). The greater majority of the black harrier habitat has also been avoided by the currently preferred layout alternative.

The independent avifaunal specialist is considering the potential impact on these species and will detail the required mitigation measures that need to be implemented (the current preferred layout will also be adapted where necessary). The detailed mitigation plan and final preferred layouts will be presented in the next phase of the environmental process (The Environmental Impact Reporting Phase).

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

-----Original Message-----

From: Angila Joubert <JoubertA@Bergmun.org.za>
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 9:27 AM
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Good morning Dale,

Please see below my comments on the Draft Scoping report for the Sunveld Solar PV.

The below sentence from the Draft Scoping report refers;

The sensitive Avifaunal Areas include, Suitable Black Harrier Habitat, Aquatic Features as well as a Jackal Buzzard Nest and Buffer.

How will this be mitigated and impact upon these species be prevented?

Kind regards

Angila Joubert
Environmental Planning Management Officer

Corporate Services Directorate
Bergrivier Municipality

Contact No : 022 783 1112
E- Mail : joubertA@bergmun.org.za

-----Original Message-----

From: bergmun@telkomsa.net [mailto:bergmun@telkomsa.net]
Sent: Monday, 18 September 2023 12:37
To: Angila Joubert <JoubertA@Bergmun.org.za>
Cc: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za; Werner Wagener <WagenerW@Bergmun.org.za>
Subject: Fwd: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Good day,

Acknowledge receipt, forwarded to Ms Angila Joubert, Environmental Planning Management Officer.

Kind regards

Hanlie de Beer
Senior Clerk: Records
Directorate Corporate Services
Bergrivier Municipality

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Dale Holder" <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

To: bergmun@telkomsa.net

Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 1:40:34 PM

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Scoping Report for proposed Sunveld Solar PV and Battery Energy Storage System

Dear Stakeholder

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SUNVELD SOLAR PV AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE (BESS) FACILITY ON FARM KRUISPAD 120 AND ON THE FARM DOORNFONTEIN A 118 SITUATED APPROXIMATELY 7.5 KM EAST VELDDRIF IN THE BERG RIVER MUNICIPALITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

DFFE Reference No. : 2023-06-0016 (Pre Application Reference Number)
DFFE Case Officer : Mr Lunga Dlova

Kindly find the attached notification of the availability of the Draft Scoping Report for the Proposed Sunveld Solar PV and BESS facility.

The Draft Scoping Report is available for review and comment for a 30 day comment period from 15 September 2023 - 16 October 2023.

Digital copies of the Draft Scoping Report and all associated and supplementary information is available at the following locations:

* On the Cape EAPrac website at: <https://smex-ctp.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=www.cape%2deaprac.co.za&umid=50121ca9-cc03-48af-97ee-ecc579b58d4f&auth=8a7107a253c4f6f22f6f4e4e99b8ef83f5ea8943-0a5e3245637d392fd4f1efee961b0392c3fb2efb<https://smex-ctp.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=http%3a%2f%2fwww.cape%2deaprac.co.za&umid=50121ca9-cc03-48af-97ee-ecc579b58d4f&auth=8a7107a253c4f6f22f6f4e4e99b8ef83f5ea8943-35cefac9c37e1814cdbf9c820d7f4b1465dbea7f>>.

* Dedicated Download link on Dropbox at: <https://smex-ctp.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=https%3a%2f%2fwww.dropbox.com%2fscf%2ffo%2fent7ucsy8vc2rixza8ri%2fh%3frlkey%3d546kxbwcrjgpwox3cxipfyqnj%26dl%3d0&umid=50121ca9-cc03-48af-97ee-ecc579b58d4f&auth=8a7107a253c4f6f22f6f4e4e99b8ef83f5ea8943-8eb01702c93aac7ae08e9f9ed7c7514eb23cdf24>

* Dedicated Download Link on We Transfer at: <https://smex-ctp.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=https%3a%2f%2fwe.tl%2ft%2dXDrbSuO0p2&umid=50121ca9-cc03-48af-97ee-ecc579b58d4f&auth=8a7107a253c4f6f22f6f4e4e99b8ef83f5ea8943-e66ffc337438213065d03facda5b6e44bda32b98>

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Please contact the undersigned should you have any further queries.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

[cid:image004.png@01D9E7DA.31BB5E30]T: 044 874 0365
17 Progress Street, George
PO Box 2070, George 6530

[cid:image003.jpg@01D9E7D8.D7411860]Reduce Reuse Recycle In the interest of resource conservation please reconsider printing this email.

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Dale Holder

From: Masina Morudu <memorudu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 16 October 2023 19:36
To: Dale Holder
Cc: marshall@merchant.energy; Zaahir Z. Toefy; Angila Joubert; Lunga Dlova; Lydia Kutu; EIAAdmin
Subject: Draft Scoping Report comments - 14/12/16/3/3/2/2436
Attachments: 03 Comments on Draft SR Sunveld SEF 2436.pdf

Dear Dale,

Please find the attached for your attention.

Regards,

MASINA MORUDU

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
EAPASA Registration: 2019/1805
Tel: 012 399 9375
Cell: 066 283 0264
E-mail: MEMorudu@dffe.gov.za

"We all have few failures in life, it's what makes us ready for the success".



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

Department:
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia,· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2436

Enquiries: Mr Lunga Dlova

Telephone: (012) 399 8524 **E-mail:** LDlova@dffe.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Telephone Number: 044 874 0365
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND OPERATION OF UP TO 600 MW SUNVELD SOLAR PV & BESS FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON FARM KRUISPAD 120 AND FARM DOORNFONTEIN 118, SITUATED IN THE BERG RIVER LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF THE WEST COAST DISTRICT IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated 15 September 2023 and received by the Department on 15 September 2023, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the Final Scoping Report:

(a) Application form and draft SR

- Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.
- If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.

(b) Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:
- The proposed Sunveld Solar PV Facility and BESS, overlain by the sensitivity map;
- All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed);
- The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
- Buffer areas; and
- All "no-go" areas.

MEM

- The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure.

(c) Public Participation Process

- Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (**including this Department's Biodiversity Section**) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the Final SR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.
- The final SR must provide evidence that all identified and relevant competent authorities have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposed development.

(d) Specialist Assessments

- Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of turbine positions, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.
- The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation, will not be accepted.
- Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.
- It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. **Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.**

(e) Cumulative Assessment

- As there are other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:
 - Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e., hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
 - Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.

- The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
- A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

General

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:


"If S&EIR must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 44 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority a scoping report which has been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority"

You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisations being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Letter signed by: Ms Masina Morudu

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisation Projects

Date: 16/10/2023.

cc:	Marshall Mabin	Sunveld Energy (Pty) Ltd	Email: marshall@merchant.energy
	Mr Zaahir Toefy	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning.	Email: Zaahir.toefy@westerncape.gov.za
	Angila Joubert	Bergriver Municipality	Email: JoubertA@bergmun.org.za

References:

- 16/3/3/6/4/2/2/F1/11/2179/23 (Development Management)
- 18/2/3/2023-2024 (Development Facilitation)
- 19/3/2/4/B2/32/DDF052/23 (Pollution and Chemicals Management)
- 19/2/5/3/F1/14/WL0142/23 (Waste Management)

Attention: Mr Dale Holder

Cape EAPrac
P.O. BOX 2070
GEORGE
6530

dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Dear Sir

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND PLAN OF STUDY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 600 MW SUNVELD SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY FACILITY, BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM, AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF FARM KRUISPAD NO. 120 AND THE REMAINING EXTENT OF FARM DOORNFONTEIN A NO. 118, VELDDRIF (DFFE REF NO: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2436)

1. The email notification of 15 September 2023 regarding the release of the Draft Scoping Report ("DSR") and the Department's enquiry regarding the deadline for comments sent via email on the same day refer.
2. Please find consolidated comments from various directorates within the Department on the DSR and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") dated 15 September 2023 that was available for download from various online platforms provided by the environmental assessment practitioner ("EAP").
3. Directorate: Development Management (Region 1) – Mr Kraigen Govindasamy (Email: Kraigen.Govindasamy@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 2804):
 - 3.1. The DSR indicates that the proposed development will trigger Activity 14 of Listing Notice ("LN") 1 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") EIA Regulations,

2014 (as amended), Activity 4 of LN 2, and Activity 10 of LN 3 in relation to the development of facilities for the storage of dangerous goods in containers. However, the volume of dangerous goods to be stored in containers on the proposed site has not been provided. The relevant listed activity must be included in the Final Scoping Report ("FSR") and forthcoming Draft EIA Report once the estimated volume of dangerous goods to be stored in containers has been determined.

- 3.2. A detailed description of the proposed storage of dangerous goods (and associated volume) in containers must be provided.
- 3.3. It is further unclear how Activity 48 of LN 1 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) will be triggered by the proposed development since said listed activity refers to the expansion of existing infrastructure. Clarification is therefore required.
- 3.4. The DSR indicates that the proposed development footprint will be approximately 709 ha and 887 ha in extent. Please confirm the development footprint.
- 3.5. Please note that the proposed development falls within the Environmental Management Framework for the Greater Saldanha Area, which must be considered and reported on in the FSR and/or Draft EIA Report.
- 3.6. This Directorate notes that the preferred layout alternative and the no-go alternative will be assessed in the environmental impact reporting ("EIR") phase. It is advised that alternatives with respect to the associated powerlines (i.e., underground versus aboveground), route alternatives, battery energy storage system technology, etc. be investigated and considered in the FSR and reported on in the Draft EIA Report.
- 3.7. Figure 31 on page 45 of the DSR indicates that a portion of the proposed site is located within the Berg Estuary Ramsar site. The potential impacts on the Ramsar site have not been identified in the DSR and must be reported on in the Draft EIA Report.
- 3.8. This Directorate notes that the public participation commenting period on the DSR is from 15 September 2023 to 16 October 2023. Please be reminded of regulation 3(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), which states that:
"Subject to subregulations (2) and (3), when a period of days must in terms of these Regulations be reckoned from or after a particular day, that period must be reckoned as from the start of the day following that particular day to the end of the last day of the period, but if the last day of the period falls on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday, that period must be extended to the end of the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday."

Please further be reminded of regulation 3(5) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), which states that:

"Where a prescribed timeframe is affected by one or more public holidays, the timeframe must be extended by the number of public holiday days falling within that timeframe."

The commenting period on the DSR should therefore end on 17 October 2023 as two public holidays fall within the commenting period.

- 3.9. Heritage Western Cape's response to the Notification of Intent to Develop must be included in the FSR to be submitted to the competent authority. This is especially important to confirm the proposed heritage-related specialist studies proposed in the Plan of Study for EIA.
- 3.10. A comment from the Western Cape Department of Agriculture must be obtained and included in the FSR to be submitted to the competent authority.
- 3.11. Proof of the public participation process undertaken must be included in the FSR. The proof must include comments received from commenting authorities and other interested and affected parties, together with the EAP's responses to the comments.
- 3.12. Should additional studies be highlighted by interested and affected parties and agreed to by the applicant/EAP, the Plan of Study for EIA will have to be amended accordingly.
4. Directorate: Development Facilitation – Ms Adri La Meyer (Email: Adri.Lameyer@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 2887):
 - 4.1. The Department previously commented on EIA applications for the proposed development of two solar photovoltaic ("PV") energy facilities on the proposed site. The then Department of Environmental Affairs ("DEA") granted an environmental authorisation ("EA") on 13 March 2020 for the proposed development of the 230 MW Doornfontein solar PV facility on the Remainder of Farm Doornfontein No. 118, Velddrif (DEA reference 14/12/16/3/3/2/2024). The Department further provided comments on 25 November 2020 on the Draft EIA Report for the proposed development of the 150 MW Kruispad solar PV energy facility on the Remainder of Farm Kruispad No. 120, Velddrif (DEA reference 14/12/16/3/3/2/1144). The status of this application for EA is unknown. Based on the preliminary site layout map, it appears that the proposed development is located on properties previously approved or proposed for solar PV facilities; however, the DSR failed to indicate this.
 - 4.1.1. The FSR and/or Draft EIA Report should indicate whether the proposed Sunveld solar PV facility is proposed on areas approved for the Doornfontein solar PV facility and proposed for the Kruispad solar PV facility.
 - 4.1.2. If the proposed Sunveld solar PV facility is indeed proposed on the areas already approved or proposed for solar PV facilities, then the Draft EIA Report must provide an indication of whether those development will proceed, whether the EA for the authorised Doornfontein solar PV facility is still valid, and how the proposed Sunveld solar PV facility will impact on the approved and proposed solar PV facilities.
 - 4.1.3. Interestingly, the Screening Tool Report (Appendix H) generated on 12 May 2023 did not indicate the presence of the two solar PV facilities within 30km of the proposed site.
 - 4.2. The specialist assessments and the Draft EIA Report must provide a map and an assessment of cumulative impacts for all energy projects within a 30km radius of the proposed site.

- 4.3. It is noted that the proposed project will feed into the national grid via the existing Eskom Aurora main transmission station. The grid connection project will be assessed as part of a separate EIA process to be initiated at the EIR stage of the current environmental process. This Directorate supports this approach as the High Court Judgement delivered on 18 July 2023 in the matter between **Badenhorst, Jensen and van der Walt vs Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment and Others (2229/2020)** does not allow for the undertaking of the grid connection project at a later stage.
- 4.4. Per paragraph 3.1. above, please note that only one of the mentioned listed activities are applicable, depending on the volume of dangerous goods that will be stored in containers. The correct listed activity must be identified in the Draft EIA Report and an amended application form must be submitted to the competent authority.
5. Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management – Ms Shehaam Brinkhuis (Email: Shehaam.Brinkhuis@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 8309):
- 5.1. This Directorate awaits the Draft EIA Report and accompanying Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") to provide comment on potential pollution impacts and the proposed mitigation measures.
6. Directorate: Waste Management – Mr Muneeb Baderoon (Email: Muneeb.Baderoon@westerncape.gov.za; Tel.: (021) 483 2965):
- 6.1. This Directorate agrees with and supports that the Plan of Study for EIA. It is agreed that no specialist studies or assessments are required for aspects related to waste management.
- 6.2. The development and implementation of a waste management plan to avoid and mitigate potential negative impacts is recommended. Said waste management plan should form a component of the EMPr.
- 6.3. The DSR states that the proposed development of the Sunveld solar PV facility will require the clearance of more than 20ha of indigenous vegetation. In addition to addressing all waste management aspects in the forthcoming EMPr, the EMPr must require that all invasive alien and other removed vegetation be taken to a green/garden waste chipping facility for composting or be disposed of at an appropriately licenced facility but may not be disposed of on adjacent land. The Bergvliet Municipality should be consulted for available options to deal with green waste as part of their Organic Waste Diversion Plan.
- 6.4. This Directorate awaits the Draft EIA Report and EMPr which should address impacts associated with the management of dust, noise, fuel storage, spills, training, waste removal, placement of toilets and fire prevention in sufficient detail.
- 6.5. The EMPr should indicate regular inspections of water systems and all water-related infrastructure (e.g., toilets, taps, etc.). These inspections should be conducted to identify possible water leakages for immediate repair. Toilets and ablution facilities must be located to ensure that possible run-off will not pollute surface and groundwater due to potential sewage leaks.

6.6. Since general and hazardous waste materials will be generated and stored on the site, please take cognisance of the general requirements for the storage of waste as indicated in section 21 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008).

The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any or new information received.

Yours sincerely

Thea Jordan Digitally signed by Thea Jordan
Date: 2023.10.17 14:30:23
+02'00'

pp **HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

Letter signed by:

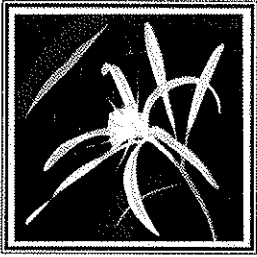
Thea Jordan

Director: Development Facilitation

Date: 17 October 2023

CC: Mr Lunga Dlova (DFFE)

Email: LDlova@dfe.gov.za



Cape EA Prac

Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd

Reg. No. 2008/004627/07
VAT No 4720248386



Telephone: (044) 874 0365
Web: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

17 Progress Street, George
PO Box 2070, George 6530

18 October 2023

Our Ref: BER799/06

Your Ref: 16/3/3/6/4/2/2/F1/11/2179/23

18/2/3/2023-2024

19/3/2/4/B2/32/DDF052/23

19/2/5/3/F1/14/WL0142/23

Attention: Ms Adri La Meyer

Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Utilitas Building,
1 Dorp Street
Cape Town,
8001

VIA email.

RE: COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND PLAN OF STUDY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 600 MW SUNVELD SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY FACILITY, BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM, AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF FARM KRUISPAD NO. 120 AND THE REMAINING EXTENT OF FARM DOORNFONTEIN A NO. 118, VELDDRIF (DFFE REF NO: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2436)

Thank you very much for the comments received via email on 17 October 2023. It is noted that these comments constitute consolidated comments from the following directorates:

- Development Management
- Development Facilitation
- Pollution and Chemicals Management
- Waste Management

Please find the responses to the Departments comments provided below (The Departments comments are reflected in *Highlighted Italic* Text with the responses included below each comment).

We also confirm that Departments comments along with these responses will be included in the Final Scoping Report that will be submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.

3. Directorate: Development Management (Region 1) – Mr Kraigen Govindasamy:

3.1. The DSR indicates that the proposed development will trigger Activity 14 of Listing Notice ("LN") 1 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), Activity 4 of LN 2, and Activity 10 of LN 3 in relation to the development of facilities for the storage of dangerous goods in containers. However, the volume of dangerous goods to be stored in containers on the proposed site has not been provided. The relevant listed activity must be included in the Final Scoping Report ("FSR") and forthcoming Draft EIA Report once the estimated volume of dangerous goods to be stored in containers has been determined.

All activities (in all three listing notices) associated with the storage and storage and handling of a dangerous good were considered at Draft Scoping Phase, as the total combined storage capacity for the alternative BESS technologies was still to be determined (based on the preferred footprints determined after completion of the SSVR's). This technical process will be concluded for all of the proposed BESS technology alternatives by time the Draft EIA report is available for comment. An amended application form will be submitted to the competent authority at this stage.

3.2. A detailed description of the proposed storage of dangerous goods (and associated volume) in containers must be provided.

Noted – The Draft EIR will contain the detailed technical descriptions of infrastructure and handling activities associated with the proposed storage of dangerous goods associated with the different technology alternatives.

3.3. It is further unclear how Activity 48 of LN 1 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) will be triggered by the proposed development since said listed activity refers to the expansion of existing infrastructure. Clarification is therefore required.

This Activity was included and considered at draft scoping phase, as the detailed access and internal road network for the facility has not yet been designed. As the road network will be designed to make use of existing roads as far as possible, there may be an instance where an existing road may be expanded within 32m of one of the surface water resources identified on the site. The applicability of this activity will be confirmed in the Draft EIR stage once the detailed layout plans are completed. An amended application form will be submitted to the competent authority if necessary.

3.4. The DSR indicates that the proposed development footprint will be approximately 709 ha and 887 ha in extent. Please confirm the development footprint.

The total physical footprint of the facility is 709ha and the total fenced area (total lease area) is 887ha. This is due to their being approximately 178ha of undeveloped areas (cumulatively within the area to be fenced off for the development). During the detailed design, the fenced area will be further refined to reduce the amount of open space within the lease area as far as possible.

3.5. Please note that the proposed development falls within the Environmental Management Framework for the Greater Saldanha Area, which must be considered and reported on in the FSR and/or Draft EIA Report.

This is noted, and the Terrestrial Biodiversity will consider the impact of the Facility on the EMF as part of the EIA Phase.

3.6. This Directorate notes that the preferred layout alternative and the no-go alternative will be assessed in the environmental impact reporting ("EIR") phase. It is advised that alternatives with respect to the associated powerlines (i.e., underground versus aboveground), route alternatives, battery energy storage system technology, etc. be investigated and considered in the FSR and reported on in the Draft EIA Report.

The three BESS storage technologies proposed will be comparatively assessed during the EIR phase of the Environmental Process, as will the routing and configuration of the MV cabling. The HV Powerlines will be subject to a separate environmental process that will be initiated in parallel to the Draft Impact Assessment Phase of this process. Alternatives relating to configuration and alignments of these will be considered in that process.

3.7. Figure 31 on page 45 of the DSR indicates that a portion of the proposed site is located within the Berg Estuary Ramsar site. The potential impacts on the Ramsar site have not been identified in the DSR and must be reported on in the Draft EIA Report.

Thank you for the comment. Figure 31 shows that a portion of the study site falls within the West Coast Biosphere Reserve as per the South African Conservation Area Dataset. The impact on the nearby Berg River Ramsar site will be assessed by both the Terrestrial and Aquatic Biodiversity Specialists during the Impact Assessment Phase of the Environmental Process.

3.8. This Directorate notes that the public participation commenting period on the DSR is from 15 September 2023 to 16 October 2023. Please be reminded of regulation 3(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), which states that: "Subject to subregulations (2) and (3), when a period of days must in terms of these Regulations be reckoned from or after a particular day, that period must be reckoned as from the start of the day following that particular day to the end of the last day of the period, but if the last day of the period falls on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday, that period must be extended to the end of the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday." Please further be reminded of regulation 3(5) of the NEMA EIA

Regulations, 2014 (as amended), which states that: "Where a prescribed timeframe is affected by one or more public holidays, the timeframe must be extended by the number of public holiday days falling within that timeframe." The commenting period on the DSR should therefore end on 17 October 2023 as two public holidays fall within the commenting period.

This is noted and the public participation period has been extended accordingly.

3.9. Heritage Western Cape's response to the Notification of Intent to Develop must be included in the FSR to be submitted to the competent authority. This is especially important to confirm the proposed heritage-related specialist studies proposed in the Plan of Study for EIA.

Noted – HWC's comment on the NID will be included in the Final Scoping Report and the Plan of Study for EIA updated where required.

3.10. A comment from the Western Cape Department of Agriculture must be obtained and included in the FSR to be submitted to the competent authority.

Noted – The Western Cape and National Department of Agriculture were registered as key stakeholders on this Environmental Process.

3.11. Proof of the public participation process undertaken must be included in the FSR. The proof must include comments received from commenting authorities and other interested and affected parties, together with the EAP's responses to the comments.

All Public participation documentation including I&AP Register, Comments and Response Report, Adverts & Site Notices, Draft Scoping Report Notifications Draft Scoping Report Comments and Responses will be submitted as part of the Final Scoping Report.

3.12. Should additional studies be highlighted by interested and affected parties and agreed to by the applicant/EAP, the Plan of Study for EIA will have to be amended accordingly.

Noted. The EAP agrees with this approach.

4. Directorate: Development Facilitation – Ms Adri La Meyer

4.1. The Department previously commented on EIA applications for the proposed development of two solar photovoltaic ("PV") energy facilities on the proposed site. The then Department of Environmental Affairs ("DEA") granted an environmental authorisation ("EA") on 13 March 2020 for the proposed development of the 230 MW Doornfontein solar PV facility on the Remainder of Farm Doornfontein No. 118, Velddrif (DEA reference 14/12/16/3/3/2/2024). The Department further provided comments on 25 November 2020 on the Draft EIA Report for the proposed development of the 150 MW Kruispad solar PV energy facility on the Remainder of Farm Kruispad No. 120,

Veldrif (DEA reference 14/12/16/3/3/2/1144). The status of this application for EA is unknown. Based on the preliminary site layout map, it appears that the proposed development is located on properties previously approved or proposed for solar PV facilities; however, the DSR failed to indicate this.

This statement is correct and it is confirmed that both the 230MW Doornfontein PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2024) and the 150 MW Kruispad PV Energy Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/1144) were authorised on the two target properties of this application (i.e. Sunveld Solar PV Energy Facility). This was noted in section 5.11 of the current Draft Scoping Report but we will further emphasize this in the Final Scoping Report. Although these two Environmental Authorisations are still valid, the affected landowners (Doornfontein Familie trust & Kruispad Familie Trust) have both confirmed that the land rights in respect of these authorisations have lapsed and that the land rights to both farms have since been awarded to Sunveld Energy (Pty) Ltd under an Option to Lease Agreement signed on the 6th of June 2023. Such written confirmation from the landowner was included in the application form.

4.1.1. The FSR and/or Draft EIA Report should indicate whether the proposed Sunveld solar PV facility is proposed on areas approved for the Doornfontein solar PV facility and proposed for the Kruispad solar PV facility.

The proposed Sunveld PV Energy Facility does intersect with both these authorisations, however as mentioned above the land rights associated with these EA's have lapsed and the land rights have since been awarded to Sunveld Energy (Pty) Ltd. This will be emphasized in the FSR to make it clearer.

4.1.2. If the proposed Sunveld solar PV facility is indeed proposed on the areas already approved or proposed for solar PV facilities, then the Draft EIA Report must provide an indication of whether those development will proceed, whether the EA for the authorised Doornfontein solar PV facility is still valid, and how the proposed Sunveld solar PV facility will impact on the approved and proposed solar PV facilities.

Please refer to the response under 4.1.1 above.

4.1.3. Interestingly, the Screening Tool Report (Appendix H) generated on 12 May 2023 did not indicate the presence of the two solar PV facilities within 30km of the proposed site.

This was noted by the EAP (even the Q1 -2023 datasets do not include these projects) and as such, alternative datasets and resources were utilised to determine projects within a 30km Radius as part of the consideration of cumulative impacts.

4.2. The specialist assessments and the Draft EIA Report must provide a map and an assessment of cumulative impacts for all energy projects within a 30km radius of the proposed site.

Noted – The specialist terms of reference includes this specific requirement. The terms of reference to the specialists also requires that they consider and where necessary,

align the recommendations associated with cumulative impact with recommendations made in other specialist studies.

4.3. It is noted that the proposed project will feed into the national grid via the existing Eskom Aurora main transmission station. The grid connection project will be assessed as part of a separate EIA process to be initiated at the EIR stage of the current environmental process. This Directorate supports this approach as the High Court Judgement delivered on 18 July 2023 in the matter between Badenhorst, Jensen and van der Walt vs Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment and Others (2229/2020) does not allow for the undertaking of the grid connection project at a later stage.

Noted – The intention of this approach, is to ensure that the impacts of the facilities along with their associated electrical infrastructure can be cumulatively assessed.

4.4. Per paragraph 3.1. above, please note that only one of the mentioned listed activities are applicable, depending on the volume of dangerous goods that will be stored in containers. The correct listed activity must be identified in the Draft EIA Report and an amended application form must be submitted to the competent authority.

Thank you for this note and advice. All activities (in all three listing notices) associated with the storage and storage and handling of a dangerous good were considered at Draft Scoping Phase, as the total combined storage capacity for the alternative BESS technologies was still to be determined (based on the preferred footprints determined after completion of the SSVR's). This technical process will be concluded for all BESS technology alternatives by time the Draft EIA report is available for comment. An amended application form will be submitted to the competent authority at this stage.

5. Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management – Ms Shehaam Brinkhuis

5.1. This Directorate awaits the Draft EIA Report and accompanying Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") to provide comment on potential pollution impacts and the proposed mitigation measures.

Noted – the Directorate, Pollution and Chemicals Management will be notified when the Draft EIR and associated EMPr is available for review and comment.

6. Directorate: Waste Management – Mr Muneeb Baderoon

6.1. This Directorate agrees with and supports that the Plan of Study for EIA. It is agreed that no specialist studies or assessments are required for aspects related to waste management.

Noted – The EMPr will include a Waste Management Plan to ensure that the handling of waste during the construction and operational phases is both lawful and sustainable.

6.2. The development and implementation of a waste management plan to avoid and mitigate potential negative impacts is recommended. Said waste management plan should form a component of the EMPr.

Noted – A Waste Management Plan for both the construction and operational phases of the development will be included in the Draft EMPr, which will be provided to the Department for review and comment.

6.3. The DSR states that the proposed development of the Sunveld solar PV facility will require the clearance of more than 20ha of indigenous vegetation. In addition to addressing all waste management aspects in the forthcoming EMPr, the EMPr must require that all invasive alien and other removed vegetation be taken to a green/garden waste chipping facility for composting or be disposed of at an appropriately licenced facility but may not be disposed of on adjacent land. The Bergvriër Municipality should be consulted for available options to deal with green waste as part of their Organic Waste Diversion Plan.

Other than the invasive alien species present on the property, there is no significant woody vegetation present on the study site. One of the key Environmental Impact Management Outcomes that will form part of the EMPr will be to reduce the impact on topsoil in order to retain as much non woody vegetation cover under the modules as possible. To this end, the EMP will not allow the total clearance of vegetation from the PV Footprint (Total clearance of vegetation will only take place at the Laydown Area, BESS Area, Building footprints and internal road network). Only woody vegetation will be completely removed from the PV Footprint. In order of priority, the biomass from this vegetation will be:

- Chipped on site and utilised as part of rehabilitation of areas disturbed by construction ;
- Licensed Green waste site.

In terms of the Municipalities Organic Waste Diversion Plan, the EMPr will not allow the disposal of plant based organic waste at a general waste landfill site.

6.4. This Directorate awaits the Draft EIA Report and EMPr which should address impacts associated with the management of dust, noise, fuel storage, spills, training, waste removal, placement of toilets and fire prevention in sufficient detail.

Noted – the Directorate, Waste Management will be notified when the Draft EIR and associated EMPr is available for review and comment.

6.5. The EMPr should indicate regular inspections of water systems and all water-related infrastructure (e.g., toilets, taps, etc.). These inspections should be conducted to identify possible water leakages for immediate repair. Toilets and ablution facilities

must be located to ensure that possible run-off will not pollute surface and groundwater due to potential sewage leaks.

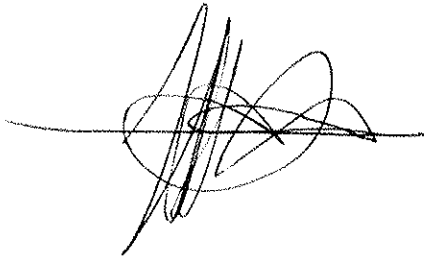
These requirements are noted and will be incorporated into the EMPr that will be provided to the Department for Review and Comment.

6.6. Since general and hazardous waste materials will be generated and stored on the site, please take cognisance of the general requirements for the storage of waste as indicated in section 21 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008).

The EMPr will make provision for compliance with the general requirements for the storage of waste as outlined in sections 21 (a-e) of NEM:WA.

Please contact the undersigned should you have any further queries regarding the responses to the Department's comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a horizontal line extending to the left.

Mr Dale Holder
Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EAPASA # 2019/301



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: + 27 86 625 1042

Reference: Sunveld Solar PV

Enquiries: Ms M Rabothata

Telephone: (012) 399 9174 **E-mail:** MRabothata@environment.gov.za

Mr Dale Holder
Cape EAPrac
PO Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

Telephone Number: (+ 27) 44 874 0365
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Dear Mr Holder

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR SUNVELD SOLAR PV FACILITY AND BESS ON REMAINING EXTENT OF THE FARM KRUISPAD 120 AND REMAINING EXTENT OF THE FARM DOORNFONTEIN A 118, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation reviewed and evaluated the draft report and doesn't have any objections to the Scoping Report and the Plan of Study. However, it has noted that portions of the project area occur within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) 1, CBA 2 and ESA 1 with Saldanha Flats Strandveld vegetation classified as Endangered (EN). The PV facilities must be placed in such a way that they avoid any highly sensitive biodiversity areas. The layout Plan overlaid with biodiversity sensitivities must be included and submitted during the next phase of the EIA.

The final Scoping Report must comply with the procedures for the assessment and minimum criteria for reporting on identified environmental themes in terms of sections 24(5)(A) and (H) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998.

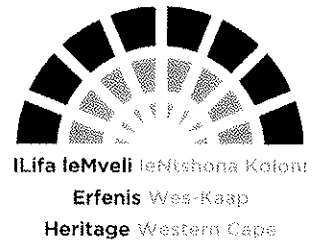
All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of **Mr Seoka Lekota**.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment
Date: 16/10/2023



Our Ref: HM / LANGFONTEIN / DARLING / DOORNFONTEIN / VELDDRIF/
FARM 118&120
Case No.: HWC23091509MS0918
Enquiries: Khanyisile Bonile
E-mail: khanyisile.bonile@westerncape.gov.za
Tel: 021 483 5959



Marshall Mabin
Marshall@merchant.energy

RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REQUIRED
In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape
Provincial Gazette 6061, Notice 298 of 2003

NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND OPERATING AN UP TO 600 MW SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATE INFRASTRUCTURE, DOORNFONTEIN A 118 AND KRUISPAD 120, FARM 118 AND 120 VELDDRIF., SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(1) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)

The matter above has reference.

Heritage Western Cape is in receipt of your application for the above matter. This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officers Meeting (HOMS) held on 9 October 2023.

You are hereby notified that, since there is reason to believe that the proposed Development, Construction, and Operating an up to 600 mw Solar PV facility and associate infrastructure, Doornfontein a 118 and Kruispad 120, Farm 118 and 120 Velddrif will impact on heritage resources, HWC requires that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) that satisfies the provisions of Section 38(3) of the NHRA be submitted. Section 38(3) of the NHRA provides

(3) The responsible heritage resources authority must specify the information to be provided in a report required in terms of subsection (2)(a): **Provided that the following must be included:**

- (a) The identification and mapping of all heritage resources in the area affected.
- (b) an assessment of the significance of such resources in terms of the heritage assessment criteria set out in section 6(2) or prescribed under section 7.
- (c) an assessment of the impact of the development on such heritage resources.
- (d) an evaluation of the impact of the development on heritage resources relative to the sustainable social and economic benefits to be derived from the development.
- (e) the results of consultation with communities affected by the proposed development and other interested parties regarding the impact of the development on heritage resources.
- (f) if heritage resources will be adversely affected by the proposed development, The consideration of alternatives; and
- (g) plans for mitigation of any adverse effects during and after the completion of the proposed development.

(Our emphasis)

This HIA must in addition have specific reference to the following:

- Archaeological Impact Assessment
- Palaeontological Impact Assessment
- Visual Impact Assessment

The HIA must have an overall assessment of the impacts to heritage resources which are not limited to the specific studies referenced above.

The required HIA must have an integrated set of recommendations.

The comments of relevant registered conservation bodies; all Interested and Affected parties; and the relevant Municipality must be requested and included in the HIA where provided. Proof of these requests must be supplied.

www.westerncape.gov.za/cas

Street Address: Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square, Cape Town, 8000 • **Postal Address:** P.O. Box 1665, Cape Town, 8000
• **Tel:** +27 (0)21 483 5950 • **E-mail:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

Straatadres: Protea Assuransie-gebou, Groentemarkplein, Kaapstad, 8000 • **Posadres:** Posbus 1665, Kaapstad, 8000
• **Tel:** +27 (0)21 483 5950 • **E-pos:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

Idilesi yendawo: kungangatho 3, kwesakhiwo protea Assurance, Greenmarket Square, eKapa, 8000 • **Idilesi yeposi:** inombolo yebhokisi yeposi 1665, eKapa, 8000 • **Inombolo zomnxeba:** +27 (0)21 483 5950 • **Idilesi ye-imeyile:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

PAGE 2 of 2

Our Ref: HM / LANGFONTEIN / DARLING / DOORNFONTEIN / VELDDRIF/
FARM 118&120
Case No.: HWC23091509MS0918
Enquiries: Khanyisile Bonile
E-mail: khanyisile.bonile@westerncape.gov.za
Tel: 021 483 5959



If applicable, applicants are strongly advised to review and adhere to the time limits contained the Standard Operational Procedure (SOP) between DEADP and HWC. The SOP can be found using the following link <http://www.hwc.org.za/node/293>

Kindly take note of the HWC meeting dates and associated agenda closure date in order to ensure that comments are provided within as Reasonable time and that these times are factored into the project timeframes.

HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.

Waseefa Dhansay
Assistant Director: Professional Services



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