COMMENTS RECEIVED ON DRAFT SCOPING REPORT (ORIGINAL COPIES)
ATTENTION:
MR S MBANJWA: DEPUTY DIRECTOR: IMPACT MANAGEMENT

RE: DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE OLIEN SOLAR ENERGY ON PORTION 4 OF FARM 300 BARKLY WEST LIME ACRES, NORTHERN CAPE

After a brief review of the above-mentioned document and associated appendices, the author would like to bring the following points and concerns under the applicant's attention:

Draft scoping report

1. The report should be updated to refer to new EIA regulations 2010.
2. The ecological specialist study was conducted for a PV solar development. If another solar technology should be decided upon, depending on the specific technology, the environmental impacts may differ.
3. The calculated amount of water used for cleaning of the panels in the technical report (Appendix) should be elaborated upon, specifying e.g. the estimated amount of water used per panel, expected number of times panels will be cleaned per year etc. According to the available literature up to 189.3 – 378.5 litres is used per MWp of panels per year (US-BLM, 2010 in Turney & Fthenakis, 2011).
4. Will the water used for cleaning the solar panels be cleaned, re-used or recycled? Clarity is needed on the management of waste water.
5. What will happen to defective panels during the lifespan of the project? Will they be recycled or disposed of? Up to 90 % of the PV panels' weight (namely aluminium, glass and silicon) can be recycled. Heavy metals and Cadmium (Cd) used in PV panels are however toxic substances. All toxic or hazardous waste generated during the lifespan (and at the end of its lifespan) of the project's lifespan must be disposed of on a licensed hazardous waste site. The Northern
Cape currently only has one hazardous waste disposal site constructed to deal with low grade nuclear waste, i.e. Vaalputs.

**Ecological Specialist report**

6. In the ecological specialist report the following on page 17 (under the heading Reptiles) should be corrected: “North-west” should be corrected to “Northern Cape”.

7. There is no mention in the report that the area falls within the Griqualand West Centre of endemism (Van Wyk & Smith, 2001) or to the “Baseline study on Woodlands in South Africa” done by Forestry in (Willis, 2002).

8. The Verreaux eagle, which is not included in the preliminary bird list, does occur on the Ghaap plateau (Anderson & Hohn, 2007). The avian wind farm bird sensitivity map (BirdlifeSA) may be able to complement bird diversity data.

9. The cumulative impacts of the other developments (e.g. mining as well as other solar developments) in the surrounding area were not considered in the study. Not to say that the applicant needs to take responsibility for other developers, but to assess the impact of the proposed development on ecosystem function and specific vegetation units and/or protected species on a local and regional scale (at least).

10. Above-ground electrical cables and lighting deterrent devices will have an impact on the local as well as migratory avifauna. It is recommended that below-ground electrical caballing is used if a comparative analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of aerial vs underground cabling reflect that underground cabling will have a lower environmental impact.

11. Tree and ground dwelling species such as rodents, scorpions and snakes will be affected by activities during the construction and decommissioning phases.

12. June is not an ideal period for a site visit as insect and reptile activity would have been low. As this is a summer rainfall area most flora species and certain bulbous species (geophytes from the plant families Hyacinthaceae, Amaryllidaceae & Liliaceae) would have been missed.

13. The impact of the development on insect diversity was not discussed or assessed in study. The reflective surfaces of solar panels attract insects (Tsoustos et al., 2005; Horváth, et al., 2010, Lovich & Ennen, 2011). Flying insect can be incinerated when flying to close solar cell surfaces (Tsoustos et al., 2005). This may have severe impacts on plant species dependent on insect pollination on a local and regional scale.

14. The microclimatic impacts of solar developments are not well researched. Microclimatic impacts will differ for the different solar technologies used. In the case of the PV grid, microclimatic impacts will include shading in certain areas that did not previously receive shade. Increased temperatures & intense light may have possible effects on certain wildlife’s biology and behaviour. Species
that may be affected include exothermic regulated animals such as some reptile species (Lovich & Ennen, 2011).

15. The six pans identified within the site should be further investigated as recommended by the specialist by conducting a site visit after sufficient summer rainfall. This is important to also identify possible habitat for the Giant Bullfrog *Pyxicephalus adspersus* that may be impacted on by the development. Juvenile Bullfrogs are the most threatened as they move great distances from their natal sites during their three year maturation phase (Yetman et al., 2012).

16. The Ghaap Plateau has been identified in the past by DENC and SANParks as an area of conservation importance (pers comm J. Koen & E. Swart). Currently, only less than one percent of the Ghaap Plateau woodland is protected (Willis, 2002).

17. The Wild Olive tree (*Olea europea* subsp. *africana*) is a protected tree species under Schedule 2 of the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act no. 9 of 2009.

18. Taking into consideration the close proximity of the site to a NFEPA (National Freshwater Ecosystems Priority Area), the presence of sensitive pan habitat system, the possible impact of the development on fauna species, the high density of the wild olive trees in the eastern portion of the site that may be affected by the development; the general conservation status of the Ghaap Plateau and the cumulative impacts of developments within the region; it is recommended that site alternatives must be investigated and assessed.

19. Biodiversity offsets will not be discussed before all alternative sites have been assessed and mitigations investigated. Should alternative sites still fall within this woodland type, it will trigger a biodiversity offset. Future biodiversity offset discussions with DENC (contact person: Elsabe Swart, tel. 053 807 7430, elsabe.dtec@gmail.com) & DAFF (contact person: Jacoline Mans, tel. 053 338 5509, JacolineM@daff.gov.za) will have to take place before a RoD may be issued.

It is recommended that the following should be addressed in the final report and environmental management programme:

20. The possible ground and water pollution and mitigation measures associated with the construction, operational and decommissioning phase of the projects e.g. accidental discharge of diesel, chemical or heat coolants into the environment, heavy metals disposal and other toxic substance disposal.

21. Mitigation measures for alien invasive species under the CARA Act.

22. Health and safety of workers e.g. heat resistant clothing and sunglasses (Tsoutsos et al., 2005).

23. Clarity regarding social responsibility is needed, clarifying the number of jobs that might be created per skills level, while specifying the type of skills needed. Conservative projections should be made and clearly communicated to the community to not raise expectations that cannot be met.
24. Fire risk and mitigation measures for both natural fire and electrical fires. For example, electrical fires can be caused in some solar technologies through the loss of heat coolants, causing panels to heat up to 200 °C (Tsoutous et al., 2005).

25. Waste disposal and treatment of water used in cooling and washing of the panels should be addressed in the final EIA report.

26. Possible air pollution impacts should be addressed, namely e.g. dust pollution. Dust-pollution measures should be implemented during the lifespan of the project. Environmentally friendly dust suppressants should be used, i.e. suppressant that do not pollute ground water and irreversibly change soil properties. Replanting vegetation (e.g. grass species indigenous to the area) can be used as a dust-suppressant mechanism.

27. It should clearly be indicated for who the electricity will be generated (would it be for the Eskom grid?).

We hope you find these recommendations in order and please do not hesitate to contact us if there are any uncertainties.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

N. UYS
CANDIDATE SCIENTIST: BOTANIST

RECOMMENDATIONS SUPPORTED / NOT-SUPPORTED

[Signature]

E. SWART
DEPUTY DIRECTOR: RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

Cc: MS F. VAN STADEN: CAPE EAPRAC ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PRACTITIONERS
References

Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 2070
GEORGE
6530

ATTENTION: Francini van Staden (Francini@cape-eaprac.co.za)

RE: COMMENTS ON DRAFT SCOPING REPORT (DSR) FOR OLIEVET SOLAR ENERGY ON PRT 4 OF FARM 300 BARKLY WEST, LIME ACRES, NORTHERN CAPE (DEA REF: 14/12/16/3/3/2/371)

The Branch: Forestry in the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), the Directorate: Forestry Management (Other Regions) would hereby like to make the following comments on the above-mentioned proposed development:

1. The Branch: Forestry in the DAFF is mainly concerned about the potential impact on protected tree species. See the National Forests Act, Act 84 of 1998 (NFA) as amended, section 12(1)(d) read with s15(1) and s62(2)(c). The list of protected tree species was published in GN 716 of 7 September 2012.

Draft Scoping Report (DSR):

2. The DAFF is concerned that a site with a high density of indigenous trees in an otherwise arid region is considered for a project of this nature where total vegetation clearance is required. The fact that the trees are protected makes the situation even more complicated. The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) indicated that trees reaches a density of 50 trees/ha in the north-eastern section of the site. With a development footprint of 225 ha, it means that up to 11 250 trees can be destroyed in the process. Even if fewer trees are destroyed, the impact will be significant. The impact cannot be avoided or mitigated unless if an alternative site is chosen or the area classified as 'high' is excluded from development.

3. It is imperative that the developer must consult with the relevant officials in Nature Conservation (Ms. Elsabe Swart / Ms. Christine Pienaar / Mr. Julius Koen) during the EIA phase to ensure that the study site is not falling in any 'sensitive' areas earmarked for future conservation. If so, they may reject the permit application at a later stage irrespective of whether the development was authorized or not by the Department of Environmental Affairs.
4. Page 7 of the DSR referred to the vegetation types found in the proposed development site. Please note that the DAFF cannot agree with the statements made in paragraph 7.3.1 as the Ghaap Plateau Vaalbosveld is deemed as 'sensitive' by the provincial conservation authority. As pointed out in the report, none of this vegetation type is formally conserved. In addition, the vegetation type in question contains plant species endemic to the Kalahari and the Griqualand West Centre of Endemism. The southern part of the Ghaap Plateau Vaalbosveld is quite remarkable. Usually arid savanna is dominated by *Acacia* species, but in this case the vegetation is dominated by *Olea europaea* subsp. *africana*, which is unique.

5. Page 8 of the DSR contains the site sensitivity map. Almost two-thirds of the proposed development falls in an area classified as medium-high to highly sensitive. The high sensitivity is attributed to the density of the woodlands cluster. The aerial image (fig. 14 on page 11) clearly shows a more barren, open landscape towards the west of the study site. It might be more appropriate to consider a neighbouring farm for this development where there are not so many protected trees. Different technology alternatives were assessed, but little consideration was given to alternative suitable sites. The DAFF strongly suggests that the assessment of a site alternative be mandatory, especially in light of the fact that almost two-thirds of the study site is deemed as sensitive. A site with fewer trees would be more appropriate.

6. The DAFF is aware of another solar project recently authorized in the same area, affecting the same vegetation type and already resulting in a permit application for the destruction of thousands of protected *Olea africana*. The developer must take note that both the DAFF and the Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC) will assess the cumulative impact of such developments on protected trees when receiving license and permit applications. *O. africana* is extremely slow-growing and valuable in arid regions and it is advisable to rather avoid the impact on this species.

7. Page 23 of the DSR indicated that the development site is the habitat of a number of vulnerable and near vulnerable bird species. It might be attributed to the presence of protected *O. africana* as it provides a source of food and shelter. In arid regions, biodiversity is often maintained by large trees. Removal of thousands of trees may have a devastating impact on the associated fauna and flora. And regions are sensitive and do not easily recover from disturbance and the whole ecosystem functioning depends on large trees. Trees are a scarce and treasured recourse in and regions the presence of the Wild Olive trees on site may poses a fatal flaw.

8. Page 29 of the DSR stated that the development will avoid the protected *O. africana* as far as possible. To what extent can the trees be avoided if two-thirds of the site contains high densities of Wild Olive? The DAFF is of the opinion that avoiding the trees is only possible if the areas classified as medium-high and highly sensitive be excluded from the development. The intention is to develop those areas; therefore, the statement on page 29 is meaningless.

9. Page 29 of the DSR stated that “where clearance of trees will be necessary, the necessary permits from the Department of Forestry will need to be obtained”. Please note the permit must be obtained from the DENC as *O. africana* is protected in terms of provincial legislation. Also, it is not a given that a permit or license will be issued.
Fauna and Flora Specialist Scoping Study:

10. Page 4 of the fauna and flora study stated that "the presence of the trees within the proposed development area is not seen as a fatal flaw but development within these areas would not be preferred". The DAFF agrees with the latter part of the statement and recommends that the areas classified as medium-high and high be excluded from development.

11. Page 4 of the fauna and flora study pointed out that "there is not enough space within the lower sensitivity areas to accommodate the full required extent of the development". If space in non-sensitive areas is a problem, the DAFF is of the opinion that an alternative site should be considered.

12. Page 4 stated that "it is likely that the higher sensitivity areas associated with a high density of trees will be impacted. Offset measures such as planting trees elsewhere may be requested by the authorities in order to offset the local impact of the development on protected tree species". Please note that offsite mitigation in the form of greening may not adequately address the impact. If the authorities agree to offsite mitigation, a ratio of between 3:1 and 5:1 is used in the Northern Cape. For every protected tree destroyed, 3 to 5 indigenous trees must be planted.

13. Page 9 of the fauna and flora report stated that development in the highly sensitive area is "highly undesirable and should only proceed with caution as it may not be possible to mitigate all impacts appropriately". The DAFF fully agrees that development in the sensitive area is undesirable and is of the opinion that it should not even be considered.

14. Page 19 stated that "development within these areas (referring to the areas with the high density of Wild Olive trees) would not be preferred". The DAFF agrees that it is preferable to not develop in the sensitive area.

15. The consultant repeatedly stated that "there do not appear to be any fatal flaws that would prevent the development of the site." As already pointed out, this Department is of the opinion that almost two-thirds of the site is not deemed suitable for development due to the nature of the receiving environment.

16. The DAFF is kindly requesting a copy of the Environmental Management Programme as soon as it is available.

Yours truly,

[Signature]
Jacoline Mane
Chief Forester: NFA Regulation
Good day Me van Staden

With regards to the above application The SA National Roads Agency SOC Limited has no comment as it does not affect a National Road.

Kind Regards

Ms Marilyn Kleinhas
Statutory Control
Tel: +27 21 957 4521
Fax: +27 21 946 1630
Email: Kleinhansm@nra.co.za

Western Region
Parc du Cap Building 5 cnr Mispel Street & Willie van Schoor Avenue
Private Bag X19
www.nra.co.za
SANRAL Fraud Hotline: 0800204558

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 SOC 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.
From: Francini <francini@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: 20 September 2012 02:10 PM
To: 'Marilyn Kleinhans (WR)'
Cc: 'René de Kock (WR)'
Subject: RE: RE PROPOSED OLIEN SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT ON PORTION 4 OF FARM 300 BARKLY WEST, LIME ACRES

Dear Marilyn

Thank you for your correspondence and confirming that SANRAL has no formal comment on the application.

This office will therefore be de-registered SANRAL as a key stakeholder and will not be requested to review / comment on this specific application again.

Regards,

Francini van Staden
Cape EAPrac

Environmental Management Practitioners
Tel: (044) 874 0365
Fax: (044) 874 0432
5 Progress Street, Eagles View Building, 1st Floor
P.O. Box 2670, George, 6530
Website: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

In the interest of resource conservation please reconsider before printing this email.

From: Marilyn Kleinhans (WR) [mailto:jonesm@nra.co.za]
Sent: 20 September 2012 11:27 AM
To: 'francini@cape-eaprac.co.za'
Cc: René de Kock (WR)
Subject: RE PROPOSED OLIEN SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT ON PORTION 4 OF FARM 300 BARKLY WEST, LIME ACRES

Good day Me van Staden

With regards to the above application The SA National Roads Agency SOC Limited has no comment as it does not affect a National Road.

Kind Regards
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 7634  Fax: (012) 329 5938  e-mail: thokob@daff.gov.za

Cape EAPrac
PO Box 2070
George
6530

19/09/2012

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: Olien Solar Project:
Your reference number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/371
Property Description: Farm 300, p tn 4
Date: 18 September 2012

Please use the following reference number in all enquiries:

AgriLand reference number: 2012_09_0156

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

Yours sincerely,

HJ Buys
pp DIRECTOR: LAND USE AND SOIL MANAGEMENT

http://www.agis.acric.za/aqriand
Good afternoon Mrs Buys

Thank you kindly for your e-mail and notification of the electronic AgriLand system.

This office will be sure to make use of this system in future.

Thank you & regards,

Francini van Staden

Cape EAPRAC

Environmental Management Practitioners
Tel: (044) 874 0385
Fax: (044) 874 0432
5 Progress Street, Eagles View Building, 1st Floor
P.O. Box 2070, George, 6530
Website: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

In the interest of resource conservation please reconsider before printing this email.

From: HettieB [mailto:HettieB@nda.agric.za]
Sent: 19 September 2012 11:17 AM
To: francini@cape-eaprac.co.za
Subject: Agriculture acknowledgement
Your enquiry regarding approval from the CAA with regard to PV farms refers. There is a CAA process whereby permission is applied for with obstacles which could pose an aviation hazard. More information can be obtained at http://www.caa.co.za. Click on 'Obstacles' on the LHS.

- Kindly provide a .kml (Google Earth) file reflecting the footprint of the proposed development site including the proposed overhead electric power line route that will evacuate the generated power to the national grid.

- Also indicate the highest structure of the project & the OHEPTL.

- Note that there may be other wind farms and PV farms in the area. Unique names are preferable.

- Please always use the proposed PV farm name in the Subject box when corresponding via email with this office and indicate the name & address which should appear on the CAA approval/decline letter.

- There is an assessment fee of R650 per application.

- Kindly ensure that all the above data is forwarded. Incomplete data causes unnecessary delays.

Note that the lead time for approval may take up to 90 days upon receipt of the correct data.

Thanks,

Lizzell Stroh

Aviation Obstacle and GIS
or SA Civil Aviation Authority
Tel: 011 545 1232 | Fax: 011 5451451 | Cell: 083 461 6660 | Email: strohl@caa.co.za | www.caa.co.za

Dear Stakeholder,

Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/371

Kindly take note of the attached correspondence serving to inform you of the availability of the Draft Scoping Report for the proposed Olien Solar Project, Prt 4 of Farm 300, Lime Acres. The complete report can be reviewed, in digital format, at link:
The Draft Scoping Report will be available from Monday, 17 September 2012 until Monday, 29 October 2012. Kindly submit any comment which you may have, by 29 October 2012.

Kind regards,

Francini van Staden
Cape EAPrac

Environmental Management Practitioners
Tel: (044) 874 0965
Fax: (044) 874 0432
5 Progress Street, Eagles View Building, 1st Floor
P.O. Box 2070, George, 6530
Website: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

In the interest of resource conservation please reconsider before printing this email.

This message and any attachments to it contains privileged and confidential information intended only for the use of the addressee. If you are not the addressee you are hereby notified that you may not disseminate, copy or take action in respect of its contents. If you have received this message in error please notify Cape EAPrac immediately and return it to the above address. The views expressed in this message are not necessarily the views of Cape EAPrac, its Directors or Staff and no liability is accepted as a result of the contents expressed herein.
Francini

From: Cape EAPrac Website <info@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: 18 September 2012 08:42 AM
To: francini@cape-eaprac.co.za
Subject: Cape EAPrac: I&AP Project Registration Francini - Anonymous

I&AP Project Registration Francini - Anonymous(Anonymous)

PROJECT NAME: Olien Solar

TITLE: MRS

NAME: Justine

SURNAME: Wyngaardt

POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 222, Brackenfell, Protea Hoogte

POST CODE: 7560

EMAIL ADDRESS: wyngaardt@eskom.co.za

TELEPHONE: 021 980 3112

CELLPHONE: 082 938 3479

FAX: 021 980 3053

PREFERRED COMMUNICATION: EMAIL

COMMENT: Good Day

Please register me as I&AP for this project, commenting on behalf of Eskom Western Operating Unit: Environmental Management.

Comments will follow after review of FBar and EMP.

Thanks
Justine Wyngaardt

ARTF_USER: Anonymous
ARTF_USERNAME: Anonymous
ARTF_USERIP: 196.5.128.211
Good morning Mrs Wyngaardt

RE: Proposed 75MW Solar Project on Prt 4 of Farm 300, Lime Acres, Northern Cape

This correspondence serves to confirm your request to be registered as an Interested & Affected Party for the above-mentioned application as per your online registration request. Your details have been added to the project database and all future correspondence regarding the project will be sent for your attention.

Kindly note that the Draft Scoping Report will be available for stakeholder review and comment until Monday, 29 October 2012. A copy of the complete report can be downloaded from this link:

http://www.cape-eaprac.co.za/active/217

Please do not hesitate to contact this office should you have any questions regarding the available information. We look forward to receiving your comment.

Regards,

Francini van Staden
Cape EAPrac

Environmental Management Practitioners
Tel: (044) 974 0365
Fax: (044) 874 0432
5 Progress Street, Eagles View Building, 1st Floor
P.O. Box 2070, George, 6530
Website: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

In the interest of resource conservation please reconsider before printing this email.
Attention: Commenting Authority

Via e-mail, fax or post

RE: PROPOSED OLIEEN SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT on PORTION 4 OF THE FARM 300 BARKLY WEST, LIME ACRES: AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT

Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/371

Cape EAPrac has been appointed by the Applicant, AE-AMD Renewable Energy (Pty) Ltd as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner responsible for ensuring compliance with the regulations contained in the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act No. 107 of 1998 (including the 2010 Environmental Regulations) for the proposed "Olien Solar Energy Project" on Portion 4 of Farm 300 Barkly West, Lime Acres.

A full Scoping & Environmental Impact Assessment process is required in terms of the said Act, as the proposed filling and service station triggers the following listed activities:

R544:
Activity (10): The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution or electricity (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33kV, but less than 275kV (for the purpose of a short 132kV overhead power line (less than 2km) linking the proposed solar plant with the existing Olien MTS Substation on the farm);

Activity (22): The construction of a road, outside urban areas, (i) with a reserve wider than 13.5m or, (ii) where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8m or, (iii) for which an environmental authorisation was obtained for the route determination in terms of activity 5 in Government Notice 387 of 2006 or activity 18 in Notice 545 of 2010 (for the purpose of construction of internal and access road/s or upgrading of the existing access road);

R545:
Activity (1): The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 20MW or more (the proposed Olien Solar facility will have a maximum capacity of 75MW); and

Activity (15): Physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land to (ii) residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the total area to be transformed is 20ha or more (The proposed Olien Solar facility will occupy approximately 225ha on agricultural land).
further stakeholder commenting period. The Final report will still be made available to
registered stakeholders for information purposes.

As a key stakeholder, you will be kept informed of further progress throughout the remainder
of the environmental process and will be informed of the Environmental Impact Report's
availability as for review and comment.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office directly.

Kind regards,

Francini van Staden
For Cape EAPrac

In the event that you or your organization have been wrongly identified as a stakeholder, or in the
event that the responsibility of providing comment on this application lies with another party within
your organization, either forward this notice to them or notify Cape EAPrac within one week of
receiving this notice of the correct party that should be informed. Should you be aware of any
relevant legislation that needs to be complied with, in addition to this process, please inform us of
such as soon as possible. Thank-you.
Dear Ms van Staden,

Attached please find the SAHRA review comment for the proposed Olien SEF. I have copied this communication to the Northern Cape PHRA.

Kind regards,
Katie Smuts

Heritage Officer: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites
South African Heritage Resources Agency
111 Harrington Street
PO Box 4637, Cape Town 8000,
south Africa
E-mail: ksmuts@sahra.org.za
Phone: +27 (0)21 462 4502
Fax: +27 (0)21 462 4509
Web: www.sahra.org.za

This message may contain information which is confidential, private or privileged in nature. If you are not the intended recipient, you may not peruse, use, disseminate, distribute or copy this message or file which is attached to this message.
If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by e-mail, facsimile or telephone and thereafter return and/or destroy the original message.
Any views expressed in this communication are those of the sender except where the sender specifically states them to be those of South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).
Please note that the recipient must scan this email and any attached files for viruses and the like. SAHRA accepts no liability of whatever nature for any loss, liability, damage or expense resulting directly or indirectly from the access and/or downloading of any files which are attached to this e-mail message.
Good afternoon Kathryn,

Thank you for kindly submitting SAHRA's comment on the respective specialists reports as undertaken for the Olien Solar Project environmental process.

Your comments will be captured in the Final Scoping Report and all requirements and recommendations will be included in the upcoming environmental and management reports.

Should you have any concerns and or questions in the future regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact Cape EAPrac directly.

Thank you & kind regards,

Francini van Staden
Cape EAPrac

Environmental Management Practitioners
Tel: (044) 874 0365
Fax: (044) 874 0432
5 Progress Street, Eagles View Building, 1st Floor
P.O. Box 2070, George, 6530
Website: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

In the interest of resource conservation please reconsider before printing this email.

Dear Ms van Staden,

Attached please find the SAHRA review comment for the proposed Olien SEF. I have copied this communication to the Northern Cape PHRA.

Kind regards,
Katie Smuts
Final Comment

In terms of section of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Ms Francini van Staden
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
P.O. Box 2070
George 6530

PROPOSED OLIEN SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT on PORTION 4 OF THE FARM 300 BARKLY WEST, LIME ACRES

Morris, D. August 2012. Archaeological & Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment Phase 1: Proposed Olien Solar Project development on Portion 4 of Farm 300, Barkly West, near Limeacres, Northern Cape

Jotha-Brink, J. June 2012. Palaeontological Impact Assessment of the Proposed Olien Solar Project on Farm 300, Barkly West, Northern Cape Province

AE-AMD Renewable Energy (Pty) Ltd has proposed the development of a 75 MW Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facility on 225ha of Portion 4 of the Farm 300, Lime Acres, Barkly West; the project is to be called the Olien Solar Energy Project. The site is currently used for livestock and game farming. Infrastructure will include a transformation centre; a distribution centre; a 40m² control and administration room; metering facilities; a 300-400m² workshop facility; a hardsurface lay-down and parking area; an assembly area; a short connection line to the MTS Olien Substation; a 3m high meteorological station; upgrading of the existing access road; staff facilities (kitchen, ablution facilities) of approximately 40m²; a 100m² guard house; security fencing and lighting.

The archaeological report considers that Northern Cape archaeology is both rich and varied and that Early, Middle and Later Stone Age material is found there, while rock art, in the form of engravings also occurs. The site survey, conducted on foot, identified low density occurrences of stone artefacts across the site, predominantly Middle and Later Stone Age materials. MSA artefacts were isolated, while LSA material was found in higher density within sinkholes. Historic material was found in association with the farmstead, in the form of a ruined kraal to the north as well as a row of unmarked graves to the west. The palaeontological assessment concluded that the area is located on Quaternary landslide deposits, which can contain Florissant Mammal fauna, particularly in river gulleys. The site, however, is flat and devoid of gulleys and is, therefore, unlikely to contain any fossils.

Decision:

SAHRA supports the recommendations of the authors and requires that:

- The graves should be restored where these are dilapidated, protected and conserved. For this purpose, a proper fence must be built around them, including entry gates to allow visits from relatives and family friends. The fence must be placed 5 meters away from the perimeter of the graves. No
development is allowed within 15 meters from the fence line surrounding the graves.
* The ECO should be informed that fossil discoveries are possible and should, therefore, monitor all substantial excavations into fresh, unweathered bedrock.

If the recommendations made in the specialist report and in this comment are adhered to, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objection to the development (in terms of the archaeological and palaeontological components of the heritage resources). If any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources are found during development, construction or mining, SAHRA and a professional archaeologist and/or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be alerted immediately.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

yours faithfully

Kathryn Smuts  
Heritage Officer: Archaeology  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Colette Scheermeyer  
AHRA Head Archaeologist  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:  
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/371)

Terms & Conditions:
1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.
Middag weereens Francini

Hier is my kontakbesonderhede. Ek sal dit waardeer as jy vir my die Olien Solar Energy Project se koördinate sal stuur.

Kind Regards,

Chris Els, sr. PMP
Project Manager - Energy

Basil Read
Matomo

Direct: +27 11 218 3692
Switchboard: +27 11 218 3900
Fax: +27 11 684 3120
Mobile: +27 83 602 0483
E-mail: cels@twp.co.za
Postal: P O Box 9021, Edenglen, 1613
Physical: 1st Floor, 34 Melrose Boulevard, Melrose Arch

To view our Email Legal Notice and Disclaimer, please follow the link below.
http://mail30.mimecast.co.za/mimecast/site?account=CSA15A9&code=13e6d99d37f48f73ce71ae99f821e
Goeiemiddag Chris

Dankie vir die kontakbesonderhede.

Die koördinate van die voorgestelde Olien sonennergie fasilitet is soos volg: 28°20'11.55" S en 23°37'48.81" E

Ek stuur sommer ook 'n kmz leer wat die ligging direk op Google Earth aandui.

Kontak my gerus sou daar verdere navrae wees.

Groete.

Francini van Staden
Cape EAPrac

Environmental Management Practitioners
Tel: (044) 874 0365
Fax: (044) 874 0432
5 Progress Street Eagles View Building, 1st Floor
P.O. Box 2070, George, 6530
Website: www.cape-eaprac.co.za

In the interest of resource conservation please reconsider before printing this email.

Middag weerens Francini

Hier is my kontakbesonderhede. Ek sal dit waardeer as jy vir my die Olien Solar Energy Project se koördinate sal stuur.

Kind Regards,

Chris Els, sr. PMP
Project Manager - Energy