

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: Motshewa Matimolane
Cc: Francois Byleveld; RICHARD MALEFO; Kilton Dipodumo; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Sylvia Mdaka; Makgetsi Matimolane; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: RE: Chatleka CPA - Summary of objections to date & request for clarity on process
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motshewa

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

This CRR as well as all comments received will be provided to the Competent Authority and SAHRA to inform their decision-making processes in terms of the EIA regulations as well as the National Heritage Resources Act.

Following the submission of the Final Environmental Impact Report to the competent authority, a copy of this report including all relevant appendices will be provided to all stakeholders.

Please note that the Cape EAPrac Offices will be closed from 12 December 2025 – 05 January 2026. Any further correspondence received during this period will be responded to after this period.

Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2025 19:51
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: Chatleka CPA - Summary of objections to date & request for clarity on process

Dear Mr. Holder,

Please find attached the formal and detailed legal brief submitted by the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA), dated 20 November 2025, which constitutes comprehensive summary of objections submitted to date to the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the wider Tabor Solar PV Cluster.

We explicitly request that the objections, arguments, and procedural deficiencies raised in the attached brief be formally applied and considered for all projects that constitute the Tabor Solar PV Cluster, including Bethel Solar PV, Klippot Solar PV, and Makoppa Solar PV.

The primary grounds for our objection center on the failure to recognize active land claim rights, the inadequate assessment of restitution impacts in the Social and Heritage reports, and fatal procedural defects related to the exclusion of the CPA from direct consultation.

We note that Cape EAPrac has acknowledged receipt of our input and confirmed that the concerns are under consideration by the applicant, social specialist, and heritage specialist. In light of the complexity and critical legal nature of the issues raised (including contradictory correspondence from the Land Claims Commission), we urgently request the following:

1. Detailed Explanation of Processing: We require a detailed, written explanation of the methodology that will be used to process and formally respond to these comprehensive objections, specifically outlining how the EAP will ensure full integration of input from the specialists and the applicant before submission of the Final EIR to the Competent Authority.

2. Extension of Commenting Period: The current commenting period extends until 08 December 2025. We suggest that more time be allowed to ensure both adequate opportunity for the further structured engagement requested by the CPA (e.g., a public meeting at Banderlierkop) and to allow the applicant sufficient time to properly consider the substantial implications of the land claim status and the requested revisions to the specialist studies. We previously requested an extension of the public comment period to allow for proper consultation and independent review.

We trust that this submission will receive the urgent and serious attention required to rectify the procedural and substantive shortcomings of the assessment process.

Yours sincerely,
Motshewa Matimolane
On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:34
To: 'Orefemetse Ramantsi'; Francois Byleveld
Subject: RE: Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klippot Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Orefemetse

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

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Kind Regards,

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

From: Orefemetse Ramantsi <ORamantsi@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 03 December 2025 12:18
To: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klippot Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Some people who received this message don't often get email from oramantsi@dffe.gov.za. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good day,

Kindly find comments from the D:Biodiversity and Conservation for the aforementioned project.

Best regards,

Orefemetse Ramantsi

Branch: Biodiversity and Conservation

Directorate : Biodiversity Conservation

Chief Directorate: Biodiversity Management and Permitting

Sub Directorate: Policy Development and EIA Mainstreaming

Cell: 076 425 4021

Email: oramantsi@dffe.gov.za

Environment House | 473 Steve Biko Road | Arcadia | Pretoria | 0083



From: Nompumelelo Lekalakala <NLekalakala@dffe.gov.za>

Sent: Friday, 12 September 2025 11:47

To: Portia Makitla <PMakitla@dffe.gov.za>; Nompumelelo Lekalakala <NLekalakala@dffe.gov.za>; Orefemetse Ramantsi <ORamantsi@dffe.gov.za>

Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Subject: FW: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klippot Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Sir/Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation on the 22nd of August 2025 to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs P Makitla and Ms Nompumelelo Lekalakala (Copied on this email).

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.


Nompumelelo Lekalakala

B&C: Biodiversity Mainstreaming & EIA

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Environment House

473 Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Streets



From: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farm 431 - Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425, - Remainder of Farm 430 - Farm 431 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljnuy&st=5gs9tnq

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



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

Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for any of our environmental projects, or submitting comment on the same, you automatically consent to the lawful processing, publishing and distribution of your personal information, as provided by yourself via submissions, for the purpose specific intent of participating in an environmental process, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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.

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:34
To: Motz Ntimo; Francois Byleveld
Cc: jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Sylvia Mdaka; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO; makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.co.za
Subject: RE: EIA Process - Chatleka CPA Concerns and Request for Proper Community Engagement
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

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Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 04:53
To: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.co.za
Subject: EIA Process - Chatleka CPA Concerns and Request for Proper Community Engagement

Dear Mr. Dale Holder & Francois Byleveld,

I trust this correspondence finds you well.

I write to you in my personal capacity and as a member of Chatleka CPA extended EXCO, though informed by extensive consultations with members of the Chatleka Communal Property Association, regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment process for the proposed developments adjacent to our communal lands. While I acknowledge the efforts undertaken by Cape EAPrac in the execution of this project, I am compelled to articulate, as I have done previously, serious concerns, that have emerged regarding the adequacy and appropriateness of the public participation process.

Identification of Fundamental Procedural Deficiencies

It is necessary to state plainly that the methodology employed for community engagement in this matter has created substantive procedural deficiencies. The predominant reliance upon electronic communication (in English) —including email correspondence, online document repositories, and digital platforms—has effectively precluded meaningful participation by the majority of Chatleka CPA beneficiaries.

You should be apprised that the Chatleka CPA serves a predominantly rural community where the vast majority of beneficiaries lack access to reliable internet connectivity and email facilities. This digital divide is not merely an inconvenience; it constitutes a material barrier to participation that undermines the foundational principles of fair, transparent, and inclusive public consultation as contemplated under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

The exclusion of our elders and other community members—individuals who possess invaluable knowledge concerning ancestral lands, heritage sites, and burial grounds—represents a failure to achieve the standard of meaningful public participation that the legislative framework demands.

Reasonable Expectations of Appropriate Engagement

It is submitted that there existed a legitimate and reasonable expectation that Cape EAPrac, in its capacity as Environmental Assessment Practitioner, would recognize the particular circumstances attendant to engagement with a Communal Property Association. Unlike disparate stakeholders distributed across wide geographic areas, the Chatleka CPA constitutes a cohesive, land-holding community situated in immediate proximity to the proposed development sites.

Given this context, it was both reasonable and prudent to expect that engagement would be conducted through in-person consultation, in an appropriate manner, form, and language, and at a venue accessible to affected community members. The convening of a public meeting within the community was not merely desirable; it was the appropriate and legally expected forum for this engagement.

It must be emphasized that the participation of a limited number of individuals as registered Interested and Affected Parties, responding via electronic correspondence, cannot and should not be construed as adequate consultation with the Chatleka CPA as an institutional entity or with its broader membership. Individual participants cannot reasonably be expected to represent the full spectrum of community perspectives, concerns, cultural sensitivities, and socio-economic considerations.

Heritage and Cultural Significance

The proposed development affects land that holds profound spiritual, cultural, and historical

significance to the Chatleka community. This is not abstract heritage identified through desktop assessments; these are living connections to ancestral lands, including burial sites of cultural and spiritual importance.

The principles of environmental justice and constitutional imperatives regarding public participation demand substantive engagement—particularly where projects impact communities with deep-rooted connections to the land in question. Meaningful consultation transcends procedural formality; it constitutes a cornerstone of environmental justice, community respect, and ethical project development.

Forthcoming Formal Communication

I wish to advise you that formal correspondence will shortly be issued by the CPA's Acting Chairperson, articulating the institution's official position on these matters. That communication will formally address the procedural shortcomings identified and will request specific corrective action from Cape EAPrac and the competent authority.

The formal correspondence will request:

1. A moratorium on the current process to permit proper, in-person community consultation;
2. The convening of public meetings within the Chatleka CPA and other affected Communal Property Associations in the surrounding area;
3. Engagement conducted in an appropriate manner, form, language, and venue ensuring genuine accessibility for all affected community members;
4. Proper documentation and substantive incorporation of community concerns, heritage sensitivities, and socio-economic considerations into the environmental record prior to any further decision-making.

Appeal for Amicable Resolution

Notwithstanding the serious nature of these concerns, I write to you first in the hope that Cape EAPrac will recognize the merit in addressing these deficiencies proactively and in good faith. There remains an opportunity for corrective measures to be implemented in a spirit of cooperation rather than confrontation.

I respectfully submit that meeting with our community—in person, within our communal setting—represents not an onerous additional burden but rather the fulfillment of a fundamental obligation. The investment of time and resources in proper consultation at this juncture will serve the interests of all parties by ensuring procedural integrity and by potentially avoiding protracted disputes in subsequent stages of the process.

Notice of Intended Actions

In the interests of transparency and in accordance with principles of good faith engagement, I must inform you of the following intended actions:

1. The CPA intends to lodge a formal complaint with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment concerning the inadequacy of public participation in the current EIA process;
2. The CPA reserves all rights available under NEMA and related legislation to appeal, review, or otherwise challenge any decision rendered on the basis of the current procedurally deficient process, on grounds of inadequate, procedurally unfair, and exclusionary public participation.

These actions should not be interpreted as indicative of an adversarial posture, but rather as the exercise of legitimate rights and the discharge of responsibilities owed to community members whose interests we are duty and morally-bound to protect.

Preference for Constructive Resolution

I wish to emphasize that the CPA's preference—and I believe this sentiment is widely shared within our community—is for an amicable resolution that respects both the legitimate objectives of the development proponents and the fundamental rights of our community to meaningful participation in decisions affecting our ancestral lands.

The procedural shortcomings identified are serious but not irreparable. What is required is acknowledgment of the deficiencies, a commitment to corrective action, and the implementation of proper, culturally appropriate community engagement before the process proceeds further.

Request for Response

I would be grateful to receive your written response at your earliest convenience, indicating:

1. Your acknowledgment of receipt of this correspondence;
2. Your preliminary views on the concerns raised herein;
3. Any proposed steps toward addressing the identified deficiencies; and
4. Your availability or that of Cape EAPrac representatives to discuss these matters further.

The Chatleka CPA community stands ready to engage constructively and in good faith, provided we are afforded a fair, appropriate, and accessible opportunity to participate meaningfully in this process.

I thank you for your attention to this matter and await your response.

Yours faithfully,

Motshewa Matimolane
Member of Chatleka CPA Extended EXCO
Cell: 0834676946

On Mon, 06 Oct 2025 at 14:29, Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farm 431• Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 425,• Remainder of Farm 430• Farm 431	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 425• Portion 1 of Farm 466• Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 465	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



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Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for any of our environmental projects, or submitting comment on the same, you automatically consent to the lawful processing, publishing and distribution of your personal information, as provided by yourself via submissions, for the purpose specific intent of participating in an environmental process, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

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Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljinuy&st=5gs9tr

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

[17 Progress Street, George](#)

PO Box 2070, George 6530

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To: Motz Ntimo; Francois Byleveld
Cc: jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Sylvia Mdaka; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; Motshewa Matimolane
Subject: RE: EIA Process - Chatleka CPA Concerns and Request for Proper Community Engagement
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From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 12:04
To: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; Motshewa Matimolane <MotshewaMatimolane@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: EIA Process - Chatleka CPA Concerns and Request for Proper Community Engagement

You don't often get email from motzntimo@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Mr. Holder / Byleveld,

Please find attached the *Chatleka Communal Property Association's* formal response to the **Final Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)** and **Environmental Management Programme (EMP)** submissions for the proposed **Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV Developments**.

The letter outlines our serious concerns regarding the adequacy of public participation and the lack of meaningful community engagement during the EIA process. We respectfully request that Cape EAPrac and the competent authority reconsider the submission of the Final EIA and EMP reports to allow for proper, inclusive consultation with the affected community.

We trust that this correspondence will receive your urgent attention, and we look forward to a formal written response outlining how these concerns will be addressed.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane (083 467 6947)

On behalf of:

Mr. N.A. Maphala

Acting Chairperson

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

 jalinetworking682@gmail.com

 071 121 3905

On Thu, Oct 9, 2025 at 4:52 AM Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr. Dale Holder & Francois Byleveld,

I trust this correspondence finds you well.

I write to you in my personal capacity and as a member of Chatleka CPA extended EXCO, though informed by extensive consultations with members of the Chatleka Communal Property Association, regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment process for the proposed developments adjacent to our communal lands. While I acknowledge the efforts undertaken by Cape EAPrac in the execution of this project, I am compelled to articulate, as I have done previously, serious concerns, that have emerged regarding the adequacy and appropriateness of the public participation process.

Identification of Fundamental Procedural Deficiencies

It is necessary to state plainly that the methodology employed for community engagement in this matter has created substantive procedural deficiencies. The predominant reliance upon electronic communication (in English) —including email correspondence, online document repositories, and digital platforms—has effectively precluded meaningful participation by the majority of Chatleka CPA beneficiaries.

You should be apprised that the Chatleka CPA serves a predominantly rural community where the vast majority of beneficiaries lack access to reliable internet connectivity and email facilities. This digital divide is not merely an inconvenience; it constitutes a material barrier to participation that undermines the foundational principles of fair, transparent, and inclusive public consultation as contemplated under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

The exclusion of our elders and other community members—individuals who possess invaluable knowledge concerning ancestral lands, heritage sites, and burial grounds—represents a failure to achieve the standard of meaningful public participation that the legislative framework demands.

Reasonable Expectations of Appropriate Engagement

It is submitted that there existed a legitimate and reasonable expectation that Cape EAPrac, in its capacity as Environmental Assessment Practitioner, would recognize the particular circumstances attendant to engagement with a Communal Property Association. Unlike disparate stakeholders distributed across wide geographic areas, the Chatleka CPA constitutes a cohesive, land-holding community situated in immediate proximity to the proposed development sites.

Given this context, it was both reasonable and prudent to expect that engagement would be conducted through in-person consultation, in an appropriate manner, form, and language, and at a venue accessible to affected community members. The convening of a public meeting within the community was not merely desirable; it was the appropriate and legally expected forum for this engagement.

It must be emphasized that the participation of a limited number of individuals as registered Interested and Affected Parties, responding via electronic correspondence, cannot and should not be construed as adequate consultation with the Chatleka CPA as an institutional entity or with its broader membership. Individual participants cannot reasonably be expected to represent the full spectrum of community perspectives, concerns, cultural sensitivities, and socio-economic considerations.

Heritage and Cultural Significance

The proposed development affects land that holds profound spiritual, cultural, and historical significance to the Chatleka community. This is not abstract heritage identified through desktop assessments; these are living connections to ancestral lands, including burial sites of cultural and spiritual importance.

The principles of environmental justice and constitutional imperatives regarding public participation demand substantive engagement—particularly where projects impact communities with deep-rooted connections to the land in question. Meaningful consultation transcends procedural formality; it constitutes a cornerstone of environmental justice, community respect, and ethical project development.

Forthcoming Formal Communication

I wish to advise you that formal correspondence will shortly be issued by the CPA's Acting Chairperson, articulating the institution's official position on these matters. That communication will formally address the procedural shortcomings identified and will request specific corrective action from Cape EAPrac and the competent authority.

The formal correspondence will request:

1. A moratorium on the current process to permit proper, in-person community consultation;
2. The convening of public meetings within the Chatleka CPA and other affected Communal Property Associations in the surrounding area;

3. Engagement conducted in an appropriate manner, form, language, and venue ensuring genuine accessibility for all affected community members;
4. Proper documentation and substantive incorporation of community concerns, heritage sensitivities, and socio-economic considerations into the environmental record prior to any further decision-making.

Appeal for Amicable Resolution

Notwithstanding the serious nature of these concerns, I write to you first in the hope that Cape EAPrac will recognize the merit in addressing these deficiencies proactively and in good faith. There remains an opportunity for corrective measures to be implemented in a spirit of cooperation rather than confrontation.

I respectfully submit that meeting with our community—in person, within our communal setting—represents not an onerous additional burden but rather the fulfillment of a fundamental obligation. The investment of time and resources in proper consultation at this juncture will serve the interests of all parties by ensuring procedural integrity and by potentially avoiding protracted disputes in subsequent stages of the process.

Notice of Intended Actions

In the interests of transparency and in accordance with principles of good faith engagement, I must inform you of the following intended actions:

1. The CPA intends to lodge a formal complaint with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment concerning the inadequacy of public participation in the current EIA process;
2. The CPA reserves all rights available under NEMA and related legislation to appeal, review, or otherwise challenge any decision rendered on the basis of the current procedurally deficient process, on grounds of inadequate, procedurally unfair, and exclusionary public participation.

These actions should not be interpreted as indicative of an adversarial posture, but rather as the exercise of legitimate rights and the discharge of responsibilities owed to community members whose interests we are duty and morally-bound to protect.

Preference for Constructive Resolution

I wish to emphasize that the CPA's preference—and I believe this sentiment is widely shared within our community—is for an amicable resolution that respects both the legitimate objectives of the development proponents and the fundamental rights of our community to meaningful participation in decisions affecting our ancestral lands.

The procedural shortcomings identified are serious but not irreparable. What is required is acknowledgment of the deficiencies, a commitment to corrective action, and the implementation of proper, culturally appropriate community engagement before the process proceeds further.

Request for Response

I would be grateful to receive your written response at your earliest convenience, indicating:

1. Your acknowledgment of receipt of this correspondence;
2. Your preliminary views on the concerns raised herein;

3. Any proposed steps toward addressing the identified deficiencies; and
4. Your availability or that of Cape EAPrac representatives to discuss these matters further.

The Chatleka CPA community stands ready to engage constructively and in good faith, provided we are afforded a fair, appropriate, and accessible opportunity to participate meaningfully in this process.

I thank you for your attention to this matter and await your response.

Yours faithfully,

Motshewa Matimolane
 Member of Chatleka CPA Extended EXCO
 Cell: 0834676946

On Mon, 06 Oct 2025 at 14:29, Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 431 • Remainder of Farm 466 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425, • Remainder of Farm 430 • Farm 431 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 465 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac

The logo for Cape EAPrac is a vertical rectangular bar on the right side of the page. It features a purple background with a green diagonal stripe and a white curved line at the bottom.

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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

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Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljnuy&st=5gs9

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

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Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:34
To: 'RICHARD MALEFO'; Motz Ntimo
Cc: Francois Byleveld; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Sylvia Mdaka; kiltonm12@gmail.com; makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.co.za
Subject: RE: EIA Process - Chatleka CPA Concerns and Request for Proper Community Engagement
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Richard

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

This CRR as well as all comments received will be provided to the Competent Authority and SAHRA to inform their decision-making processes in terms of the EIA regulations as well as the National Heritage Resources Act.

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Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: RICHARD MALEFO <malefotrans@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 07:14
To: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; kiltonm12@gmail.com; makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.co.za
Subject: Re: EIA Process - Chatleka CPA Concerns and Request for Proper Community Engagement

You don't often get email from malefotrans@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Received with thanks Ntimo

Francois will see that they should communicate with Chatleka CPA community every thing they intend to doon our farms.

Thanks so much

Malefo

Regards:

Malefo Transport

94 3rd street

mohodi -ga- madikana

0788.

082 410 1452

063 648 7862

FAX: 086 275 2830

On Thu, 09 Oct 2025, 04:52 Motz Ntimo, <motzntimo@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr. Dale Holder & Francois Byleveld,

I trust this correspondence finds you well.

I write to you in my personal capacity and as a member of Chatleka CPA extended EXCO, though informed by extensive consultations with members of the Chatleka Communal Property Association, regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment process for the proposed developments adjacent to our communal lands. While I acknowledge the efforts undertaken by Cape EAPrac in the execution of this project, I am compelled to articulate, as I have done previously, serious concerns, that have emerged regarding the adequacy and appropriateness of the public participation process.

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Yours faithfully,

Motshewa Matimolane
Member of Chatleka CPA Extended EXCO
Cell: 0834676946

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Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

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Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

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Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

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Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: 'Motshewa Matimolane'
Cc: Francois Byleveld
Subject: RE: Engagement with Other Affected Land Claimant Communities
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motshewa

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

This CRR as well as all comments received will be provided to the Competent Authority and SAHRA to inform their decision-making processes in terms of the EIA regulations as well as the National Heritage Resources Act.

Following the submission of the Final Environmental Impact Report to the competent authority, a copy of this report including all relevant appendices will be provided to all stakeholders.

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Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 21 November 2025 12:02
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: Engagement with Other Affected Land Claimant Communities

Dear Mr Holder

We wish to place on record a matter of **critical procedural importance**: it is essential that the EAP and applicant make a concerted and proactive effort to identify, reach out to, and meaningfully engage with **all other affected land claimant communities and CPAs in the area**.

This includes, but is not limited to (refer to pages 49-50 of EIR):

- Dithakone Community
- Matjuda Family
- Mokororwane Community
- Any other communities or CPAs with active or pending land claims over areas affected by the proposed developments

These communities, like the Chatleka CPA, hold **direct legal interests** in the land and are entitled to specific recognition and meaningful participation in this process. Their exclusion—whether through oversight, inadequate notification, or failure to accommodate their participation needs—would constitute a **material procedural defect** that could fundamentally undermine the legitimacy of the EIA process and any subsequent authorizations.

We therefore urge the EAP to:

1. **Confirm in writing** which other land claimant communities and CPAs have been identified and registered as I&APs;
2. **Proactively reach out** to any communities or CPAs who may not yet be aware of these applications or their rights to participate;
3. **Provide tailored engagement** that recognizes these communities' special status as rights-holders, similar to the accommodations we are requesting for the Chatleka CPA;
4. **Document all efforts** to identify and engage with these communities, including any challenges encountered and steps taken to overcome barriers to participation.

Failure to ensure comprehensive engagement with all affected land claimant communities could expose the EIA process to serious legal challenge and would be inconsistent with the constitutional and statutory obligations of meaningful public participation, particularly where the rights of historically disadvantaged, vulnerable and poor communities are at stake.

We wish to emphasize a fundamental principle of meaningful public participation: **the EAP and applicant must meet these communities where they are, not where it is convenient for you.** This means engagement must be designed around the realities, capacities, and circumstances of affected communities—their locations, languages, working schedules, economic constraints, and cultural practices—rather than administrative convenience. It requires holding engagements in genuinely accessible locations, scheduling them to accommodate work commitments (including weekends), recognizing and mitigating financial barriers to participation, and adapting formats to suit collective decision-making practices rather than imposing standardized approaches. This is not merely good practice—it is a **constitutional and legal imperative** when engaging with communities whose land rights, dignity, and livelihoods are directly affected. We call on the EAP and applicant to demonstrate, through concrete actions, a genuine commitment to meeting affected land claimant communities where they are.

We trust that the EAP will treat this matter with the seriousness it deserves and will provide clarity on the steps being taken to ensure that all affected land claimant communities are brought into this process in a meaningful and procedurally fair manner.

Kind Regards

Motshewa Matimolane

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: Motz Ntimo; info@sahra.org; nngobeni@sahra.org.za
Cc: jenna.lavin@ctsheritage.com; nic.wiltshire@ctsheritage.com; Francois Byleveld; Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; RICHARD MALEFO; Sylvia Mdaka; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za
Subject: RE: Engagement with SAHRA: Objection letters against the Tabor solar PV submitted by member of Chatleka CPA
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motz

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

This CRR as well as all comments received will be provided to the Competent Authority and SAHRA to inform their decision-making processes in terms of the EIA regulations as well as the National Heritage Resources Act.

Following the submission of the Final Environmental Impact Report to the competent authority, a copy of this report including all relevant appendices will be provided to all stakeholders.

Please note that the Cape EAPrac Offices will be closed from 12 December 2025 – 05 January 2026. Any further correspondence received during this period will be responded to after this period.

Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 25 November 2025 18:12
To: info@sahra.org; nngobeni@sahra.org.za
Cc: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; jenna.lavin@ctsheritage.com; nic.wiltshire@ctsheritage.com; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <Makgetsi.Matimolane@gmail.com>; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za
Subject: Engagement with SAHRA: Objection letters against the Tabor solar PV submitted by member of Chatleka CPA

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA) hereby registers a formal and unequivocal objection to the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) conducted by CTS Heritage for the proposed Tabor Solar PV Cluster of projects (Draailoop, Bethel, Klipput, and Makoppa).

The land in question is the subject of a decades-old, unresolved Land Restitution Claim (KRP 693), and this HIA—in its current form—is fundamentally flawed, procedurally defective, and substantively incomplete. We believe that reliance on this report will lead to the irreversible loss of critical heritage resources and further institutionalize the dispossession of our community.

Core Grounds for Objection:

1. **Failure to Assess Living Cultural Landscape:** The HIA focuses almost exclusively on archaeological artefacts (stone tools, ceramics) and fails entirely to assess the **Living Cultural Landscape, Oral History, and Intangible Heritage** of the Batlokwa ba Chatleka community. This omission is a direct contravention of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) requirements.
2. **Omission of Ancestral Graves and Sites:** The assessment failed to adequately consult with the CPA's elders and leadership, resulting in the exclusion of numerous **unmarked ancestral graves**, burial grounds, and sacred sites that are of profound significance to our community. The report does not reflect the spiritual and historical memory of the land.
3. **Procedural Flaws and Exclusion:** The process has been exclusionary. We demand a transparent and inclusive engagement process, with our elders actively involved in defining, identifying, and verifying all heritage resources on the ancestral land.
4. **HIA Recommendations are Insufficient:** We demand the **rejection** of the current HIA and all associated Environmental Authorisation processes until a comprehensive, participatory Living Heritage Assessment is undertaken. This new assessment must include a binding commitment to a **Conservation Management Plan (CMP)**, developed in collaboration with the Chatleka CPA, prior to any future consideration of construction.

We urge SAHRA to exercise its regulatory mandate by reviewing the attached formal objection letters from the CPA's leadership and demanding a complete suspension of the current heritage assessment process.

The attached documents provide detailed narratives and critiques of the HIA's methodology and findings from various CPA members, including:

- Chatleka CPA - Response to Wiltshire (Heritage Impact Assessment Specialist).docx
- Chatleka CPA - Objection by Mr Richard Malefo.pdf
- Chatleka CPA - Objection by Makgetsi to HIA.pdf
- Chatleka CPA - Objection by Ngwako Seima 25 November 2025.pdf
- Chatleka CPA - Objection to Heritage Impact Assessment Report 10 November 2025.pdf

We look forward to your urgent confirmation that this objection has been received and that the necessary steps will be taken to mandate a process that respects the letter and spirit of the NHRA and the constitutional rights of our community.

Yours Faithfully,

Motz Ntimo

(For the) Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA) Registration No: KRP 693 P.O. Box 536,
Dwarsriver, 0812 Tel: 071 121 3905

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: 'Motshewa Matimolane'
Cc: Francois Byleveld; RICHARD MALEFO; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane; Kilton Dipodumo; Sylvia Mdaka; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: RE: FORMAL OBJECTION - Agricultural Compliance Statement for Draailoop Solar PV Facility (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699)
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motshewa

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

This CRR as well as all comments received will be provided to the Competent Authority and SAHRA to inform their decision-making processes in terms of the EIA regulations as well as the National Heritage Resources Act.

Following the submission of the Final Environmental Impact Report to the competent authority, a copy of this report including all relevant appendices will be provided to all stakeholders.

Please note that the Cape EAPrac Offices will be closed from 12 December 2025 – 05 January 2026. Any further correspondence received during this period will be responded to after this period.

Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2025 07:12
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: FORMAL OBJECTION - Agricultural Compliance Statement for Draailoop Solar PV Facility (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699)

Dear Mr Holder,

Please find attached our formal objection to the Agricultural Compliance Statement for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility and associated projects within the Tabor Solar PV Cluster.

This objection is submitted on behalf of the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA), representing land claimants under the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 1994.

Key Grounds for Objection:

1. Non-compliance with GN 320 of 2020 - the proposed development exceeds allowable limits by 193.8 ha
2. Failure to recognise and consult with land claimants holding active restitution claims over the affected properties
3. Violation of constitutional rights and procedural requirements under NEMA
4. Inadequate assessment of cumulative impacts and permanent loss of agricultural land and livelihoods

The proposed facilities are located on ancestral land subject to unresolved land claims by the Chatleka CPA and neighbouring communities, including Portion 1 of Farm 425 LS (Klipput), Remainder of Farm 430 LS (Draailoop), and Farm 431 LS (Bethel/Makoppa area).

We respectfully request that:

- The EIA process be suspended until land claim status is clarified by the Regional Land Claims Commission
- The current Agricultural Compliance Statement be rejected for non-compliance
- No environmental authorization be granted without Free, Prior, and Informed Consent from claimant communities

We trust this objection will be given due consideration and look forward to your written acknowledgment of receipt.

Yours sincerely,

Mr MR Matimolane

Member: Extended Executive Committee
Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)
Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com
Cell: 083 467 6947

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: Motshewa Matimolane
Cc: Francois Byleveld; Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: RE: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motshewa

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

This CRR as well as all comments received will be provided to the Competent Authority and SAHRA to inform their decision-making processes in terms of the EIA regulations as well as the National Heritage Resources Act.

Following the submission of the Final Environmental Impact Report to the competent authority, a copy of this report including all relevant appendices will be provided to all stakeholders.

Please note that the Cape EAPrac Offices will be closed from 12 December 2025 – 05 January 2026. Any further correspondence received during this period will be responded to after this period.

Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 21 November 2025 11:52
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: Re: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Dear Mr Holder,

Thank you for your detailed response dated 21 November 2025, and for outlining the rationale behind the open-day format and the selection of Vleifontein Community Hall as the venue.

We acknowledge your position and note your persistence in maintaining the open-day format despite the reservations expressed by the Chatleka CPA. We have carefully considered the points you have raised regarding flexibility, personalized engagement, and inclusivity, and we recognize that the EAP has given thought to these aspects of public participation.

However, we must express our profound disappointment that the EAP continues to treat the Chatleka CPA in the same manner as general Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), rather than recognizing us as a special category of directly affected stakeholder with distinct legal standing and procedural rights.

Recognition of the CPA's Unique Status

The Chatleka CPA is not merely an interested party expressing general concerns. We are:

- Holders of active land claim rights over the affected land, which creates a direct legal interest in any development proposals;
- A communal property association representing collective land rights and interests that cannot be disaggregated into individual stakeholder concerns;
- A community whose constitutional rights to land, dignity, and meaningful participation are directly engaged by this process.

The failure to differentiate between our status and that of general I&APs constitutes a material deficiency in the public participation process. Our objections are rooted not only in preferences about engagement format, but in substantive legal and procedural rights that require specific recognition and accommodation under NEMA, the Constitution, and land reform legislation.

A generic, one-size-fits-all approach to public participation—however well-intentioned—cannot satisfy the heightened duty of meaningful engagement owed to communities with direct, legally recognized interests in the land in question.

Logistical and Financial Barriers to Participation

While we note your emphasis on accessibility, we must respectfully point out that your assessment does not adequately account for the practical realities faced by our members:

- **Distance and Travel:** Vleifontein is not easily accessible to the majority of Chatleka CPA members, who reside primarily in Matoks and Indermark. The distances involved are substantial, and travel to Vleifontein requires significant time and logistical coordination that many of our members—particularly elderly and working members—cannot easily manage.
- **Financial Burden:** We must emphasize the financial stress associated with attending the proposed open day at Vleifontein. Many of our members face economic hardship, and the cost of transport to and from the venue represents a genuine barrier to participation. While you mention "good public transport links," we would respectfully note that public transport in rural areas is often infrequent, unreliable, and costly, particularly for return journeys in the evening.
- **Time Constraints for Working Members:** While the seven-hour window (12:00–19:00) offers flexibility in theory, many of our working members cannot take time off during weekday working hours, and the open-day format—by its nature—does not provide a guaranteed opportunity for collective engagement at a time when the majority of members can attend together.

These barriers are not abstract concerns—they are material obstacles that will result in the exclusion or under-representation of significant portions of our membership, thereby undermining the legitimacy and fairness of the public participation process.

Proposed Way Forward: Dual Engagement Approach

In light of the above, and in the spirit of constructive engagement, we propose a dual approach that accommodates both the EAP's preference for an open-day format and the CPA's need for meaningful, collective engagement:

1. Proceed with the Open Day at Vleifontein (as currently planned), to accommodate general I&APs and any CPA members who are able to attend; and
2. Convene an Additional Public Meeting specifically to engage with the Chatleka CPA and other affected CPAs, to be held:
 - On a Saturday or Sunday, to allow working members to participate without loss of income;
 - At Banderlierkop, approximately 10 km from our farm, which is significantly more accessible to our members;
 - At a date to be mutually agreed following the open day, to allow adequate time for preparation and notice to members.

This dual approach would:

- Respect the EAP's chosen format for general stakeholder engagement;
- Provide the structured, collective forum necessary for the CPA to engage meaningfully on matters affecting our constitutional and statutory rights;
- Demonstrate good faith and procedural fairness by accommodating the specific needs of directly affected rights-holders;
- Mitigate the financial and logistical barriers that would otherwise exclude many of our members from the process.

We believe this proposal represents a reasonable and proportionate accommodation of both parties' concerns, and we respectfully urge the EAP and applicant to give it serious consideration.

Acknowledgment of Financial and Logistical Realities

Finally, we request that the EAP formally acknowledge the financial stress and logistical challenges faced by CPA members in accessing the proposed open-day venue. This acknowledgment is important not only for the record, but to ensure that the public participation process is assessed against the actual—rather than theoretical—accessibility of engagement opportunities.

If the EAP is unwilling to provide an additional, more accessible engagement opportunity, we ask that you place on record your reasons for declining to do so, particularly in light of the CPA's status as a directly affected rights-holder with active land claims over the affected area.

Conclusion

We remain committed to constructive engagement and trust that the EAP will give serious consideration to the dual approach we have proposed. We believe this represents a fair and workable solution that respects both the integrity of the public participation process and the legitimate interests of all parties.

We look forward to your response at your earliest convenience, given the time-sensitive nature of the EIA process.

Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane
On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive
Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com
Cell: 083 467 6947

On Fri, Nov 21, 2025 at 10:44 AM Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Mr Matimolane

Thank you for your email and continued engagement in this regard.

With careful consideration of the concerns raised regarding the format of the engagement session, we acknowledge that a public meeting is an appropriate way for effective engagement in some instances, we however maintain that in this instance, the open day format provides a fair opportunity for constructive engagement which we submit being better than a meeting format alternative, for the following reasons:

1. In the open day format, stakeholders can attend at a time that suits them best within the event window because of an open day stretching over a much longer period of time (in this instance from 12h00-19h00 i.e. seven hours). With a public meeting format, it requires everyone to be available for both a limited and fixed time i.e. 1.5 – 2hrs, at a set time during the day or evening or both, which may still exclude people who cannot attend at such a fixed time due to i.e. work or personal commitments. The time limitation in particular is also prohibitive because it restricts the time for information sharing and discussions more so than in an open house format that extends for a much longer period.
2. An open day allows for one-on-one, or small group discussions with the EAP, specialist or applicant which is more enabling to stakeholders who can discuss matters that are of interest/concern to them specifically. Whereas a meeting alternative effectively forces attendees to have to listen to issues/matters that are not of their specific interest. Attendees may also not find enough time during such a limited period to fully disclose and/or unpack their specific concerns.
3. We often do find that not all attendees in a meeting format are comfortable speaking up in front of a larger crowd that gather in a public meeting format, some simply being shy, others not feeling comfortable expressing their views/opinions in front of a group/s of people that otherwise may have conflicting views on the same topic for instance. Such a format then discourages detailed or personal inquiries and subsequent engagement. An open house format by nature, creates a safe space for such stakeholders to disclose their inputs/concerns in a manner that is not exposed to the views/opinions of other stakeholders
4. In the open day format, multiple stations or displays present different aspects of the environmental process (e.g., maps, data, timelines), allowing stakeholders to explore and engage on topics that concern them at their own pace. In a public meeting format, information is usually presented in a linear format which limits effective engagement and depending on the nature of people's interest, some disciplines may then become lost in the process.

5. An open day format allows for improved quality of feedback, where stakeholders can engage on concerns individually via written or verbal means, leading to more thorough engagement.

In summary, an open day format fosters flexibility, personalized engagement, and a more inclusive, less intimidating environment for some stakeholders, which ultimately leads to better engagement, stakeholder understanding and higher-quality feedback compared to a traditional public meeting format.

We therefore feel strongly that the open day format will not detract from constructive engagement and although we take note of your concerns in this regard, we are confident that participation through such a format remains fair and transparent. All specialists/EAP/Applicant will keep notes from discussions and will be sure to record all comments/engagements during this session which we shall be sure to reflect as part of the ongoing public participation process.

The key criteria in selecting this venue for the open house was to be able to accommodate all potential stakeholders irrespective of their interest in this application. In selecting this venue, the following was considered amongst others:

1. The Community Hall is accessible to all stakeholders of the community being used for similar events.
2. The Community Hall has good public transport links and parking facilities. This reduces barriers to attendance.
3. The Community Hall is a space people recognise and are familiar with. This encourages meaningful participation and engagement.
4. The neutrality of the Community Hall avoids perceptions of bias that might arise if the open day was to be held at a private venue.
5. The Community Hall is designed to accommodate larger groups, with seating arrangements that can be adapted for the discussions.
6. The Community Hall also include essential amenities such as restrooms and accessibility features.
7. The Community Hall also has electricity which is needed for the presentations.

In summary, the Vleifontein Community Hall offers accessibility, familiarity, flexibility, and inclusivity, making it the most practical and stakeholder-friendly venue for the public open day.

We acknowledge that although the dominant home language in the Makhado Municipality is TsiVenda (75.88% according to the Social Impact Assessment), some members of the CPA are predominantly Sepedi speaking (According to the Social Impact Assessment, Sepedi speaking individuals make up 2.31%). To ensure that the Sepedi members are not excluded in terms of communication/information sharing, we have also taken the step of translating the Background Information Document to Sepedi which will also be made available at the open day for further distribution. We have taken the liberty of attaching copies of these BIDs to this email (which we'll

also distribute to other registered I&APs) to help with further communication in preparation of the upcoming open day event. You are most welcome to distribute this to a wider audience as well as the beneficiaries that fall under your CPA. We trust that these measures are helpful in improving the communications to date.

We look forward to further continuous engagement with the CPA as this environmental process progresses.

Kind Regards,

Dale

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2025 17:48

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

Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za

Subject: Re: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Dear Mr Holder,

I am writing to follow up on our correspondence dated 14 November 2024 (see email below), to which we have not yet received a response. As the date of the proposed public open day approaches—an approach we have already indicated strong reservations about—it is important that the Chatleka CPA receives clarity on the key issues raised in that letter, particularly regarding:

1. Accessibility and Demographics, and
2. Format and Quality of Engagement.

As highlighted previously, the concerns raised by our members regarding the suitability of the

Vleifontein venue and the open-day engagement format remain unresolved. These factors materially affect the ability of our members—most of whom reside in Matoks and Indermark and are predominantly Sepedi-speaking—to participate meaningfully in the EIA process.

Similarly, the open-day format does not provide the structured, collective platform necessary for robust public engagement, which is central to the intent of the public participation process.

We therefore respectfully request your written response to the issues outlined in the letter, particularly whether the EAP and applicant are willing to:

Reconsider the venue to ensure accessibility and demographic appropriateness, and

Provide a structured, formal public meeting format in place of, or in addition to, the proposed open-day format.

We also reiterate our openness to constructive dialogue with the applicant, provided the purpose, basis, and expected outcomes of any separate meeting are clearly communicated in advance. As stated, all arrangements can be coordinated through:

Mr Motshewa Matimolane

Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com

Cell: 083 467 6947

with Mr Maphala (CPA Chairperson) copied to ensure continuity.

Given the time-sensitive nature of the EIA process, as well as the extended comment and response period, we respectfully request a response at your earliest convenience to enable all affected parties to plan and engage appropriately. In addition, we kindly request clarity on the process and anticipated timeframe for addressing and responding to the objections and concerns we have submitted. This information is essential to ensure that our participation remains informed, meaningful, and aligned with the statutory timelines of the EIA process.

Thank you for your continued engagement. We look forward to your clarification on these outstanding matters.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane

On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

On Fri, Nov 14, 2025 at 4:52 AM Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr Holder,

Thank you for your email and for confirming receipt of our formal submission. We appreciate the confirmation that our inputs will be included in further submissions to the Competent Authority (DFFE).

We request that the EAP take careful note of all submissions made to date, including those submitted by individual members of the Chatleka CPA in their personal capacities. Additional written inputs should also be expected before the due date, as our members continue to engage with the documents and the process.

With regard to your indication that the applicant is willing to meet directly with the CPA, we wish to clarify that the CPA did not request a separate meeting with the applicant outside the EIA public participation process. Our request was specifically for a physical public participation meeting as part of the formal EIA process.

Should the applicant wish to meet with us outside that formal process, we request clarity on the purpose, basis, and expected outcomes of such a meeting before we can consider it.

Notwithstanding this, the Chatleka CPA remains open to constructive dialogue with any stakeholder, including the applicant, where such engagement helps address our concerns. Any arrangements for such dialogue should be made through:

Mr. Motshewa Matimolane

Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com

Cell: 083 467 6947

with Mr. Maphala (CPA Chairperson) copied on all correspondence to ensure organisational continuity.

Our request for a physical public engagement meeting as part of the EIA process therefore remains in place. If our farm is not deemed a suitable or neutral venue, we propose Banderlierkop, approximately 10 km from our farm, as an alternative. The local police station may also provide an appropriate and secure venue, should neutrality or safety be a concern.

We would like to emphasise again why the Chatleka CPA members do not prefer the open-day format or the Vleifontein venue:

1. Accessibility and Demographics:

Vleifontein is not easily accessible to most of our members, and none of our members reside there. The majority are based in Matoks and Indermark and are predominantly Sepedi-speaking. We respectfully request that the EAP take these demographic realities into account in determining a suitable engagement venue.

2. Format and Quality of Engagement:

The open-day format does not allow for the collective, robust, and transparent engagement required for meaningful public participation. A structured public meeting is essential to ensure that CPA members and other affected community members can collectively raise their issues, receive responses, and engage meaningfully in a public setting.

We appreciate your ongoing engagement and look forward to your response on the above matters. We trust that the public participation process will be adapted to ensure fairness, accessibility, and meaningful involvement for all affected parties.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane

On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

On Thu, 13 Nov 2025 at 12:40, Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Mr Maphala (c/o Mr Motshewa Matimolane)

Thank you very much for your comment. Your email below as well as the appended formal comment (reattached in this email) are herewith acknowledged and we confirm that this will be included in any further submissions to the Competent Authority.

Cape EAPrac have discussed the CPA's comments and concerns with the applicant, social specialist and heritage specialist. The concerns raised by the Chatleka CPA are currently under consideration by all parties and will be considered, addressed and formally responded to in due course. We look forward to further productive engagement with the Chatleka CPA as this environmental process progresses.

The applicant in respect of these applications has indicated their willingness to meet directly with the members of the CPA as requested. In this regard, could you kindly provide the details (name and telephone number) of the relevant CPA representative where the arrangements for such a meeting can be made.

The other aspects currently underway as part of the public participation process, including the public open day engagement session at the Vleifontein Community Hall will continue as planned.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, 10 November 2025 17:50

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za

Subject: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Dear Mr. Holder,

Please find attached the formal letter of objection submitted by **Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)**, dated 10 November 2025.

This objection specifically targets the proposed **Draailoop Solar PV Facility** (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699).

Crucially, the Chatleka CPA requests that the objections, legal arguments, and procedural deficiencies raised in the attached letter be formally applied and considered for all other projects that constitute the Tabor Solar PV Cluster, including:

- Bethel Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2698)
- Klippot Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2700)
- Makoppa Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2701)

The grounds for objection relate primarily to the failure to recognize active land claim rights, inadequate community engagement, and procedural defects under NEMA.

We expect a formal acknowledgement of receipt for both this email and the attached objection. We look forward to your prompt response regarding the requested suspension of the EIA process and the initiation of meaningful engagement (in the form and manner we have requested).

Sincerely,

Motshewa Matimolane on behalf of:

Mr. N.A. Maphala

Acting Chairperson Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 071 121 3905

Email: jalinetworking682@gmail.com

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: 'Motshewa Matimolane'; Francois Byleveld; Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: RE: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motshewa

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

This CRR as well as all comments received will be provided to the Competent Authority and SAHRA to inform their decision-making processes in terms of the EIA regulations as well as the National Heritage Resources Act.

Following the submission of the Final Environmental Impact Report to the competent authority, a copy of this report including all relevant appendices will be provided to all stakeholders.

Please note that the Cape EAPrac Offices will be closed from 12 December 2025 – 05 January 2026. Any further correspondence received during this period will be responded to after this period.

Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 10 November 2025 17:50
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

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- Makoppa Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2701)

The grounds for objection relate primarily to the failure to recognize active land claim rights, inadequate community engagement, and procedural defects under NEMA.

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Sincerely,

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Mr. N.A. Maphala

Acting Chairperson Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 071 121 3905

Email: jalinetworking682@gmail.com

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From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: Motshewa Matimolane
Cc: Francois Byleveld; Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
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Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2025 17:48
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: Re: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Dear Mr Holder,

I am writing to follow up on our correspondence dated 14 November 2024 (see email below), to which we have not yet received a response. As the date of the proposed public open day approaches—an approach we have already indicated strong reservations about—it is important that the Chatleka CPA receives clarity on the key issues raised in that letter, particularly regarding:

1. Accessibility and Demographics, and
2. Format and Quality of Engagement.

As highlighted previously, the concerns raised by our members regarding the suitability of the Vleifontein venue and the open-day engagement format remain unresolved. These factors materially affect the ability of our members—most of whom reside in Matoks and Indermark and are predominantly Sepedi-speaking—to participate meaningfully in the EIA process.

Similarly, the open-day format does not provide the structured, collective platform necessary for robust public engagement, which is central to the intent of the public participation process.

We therefore respectfully request your written response to the issues outlined in the letter, particularly whether the EAP and applicant are willing to:

Reconsider the venue to ensure accessibility and demographic appropriateness, and

Provide a structured, formal public meeting format in place of, or in addition to, the proposed open-day format.

We also reiterate our openness to constructive dialogue with the applicant, provided the purpose, basis, and expected outcomes of any separate meeting are clearly communicated in advance. As stated, all arrangements can be coordinated through:

Mr Motshewa Matimolane

Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com

Cell: 083 467 6947

with Mr Maphala (CPA Chairperson) copied to ensure continuity.

Given the time-sensitive nature of the EIA process, as well as the extended comment and response period, we respectfully request a response at your earliest convenience to enable all affected parties to plan and engage appropriately. In addition, we kindly request clarity on the process and anticipated timeframe for addressing and responding to the objections and concerns we have submitted. This information is essential to ensure that our participation remains informed, meaningful, and aligned with the statutory timelines of the EIA process.

Thank you for your continued engagement. We look forward to your clarification on these outstanding matters.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane

On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

On Fri, Nov 14, 2025 at 4:52 AM Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr Holder,

Thank you for your email and for confirming receipt of our formal submission. We appreciate the confirmation that our inputs will be included in further submissions to the Competent Authority (DFFE).

We request that the EAP take careful note of all submissions made to date, including those submitted by individual members of the Chatleka CPA in their personal capacities. Additional written inputs should also be expected before the due date, as our members continue to engage with the documents and the process.

With regard to your indication that the applicant is willing to meet directly with the CPA, we wish to clarify that the CPA did not request a separate meeting with the applicant outside the EIA public participation process. Our request was specifically for a physical public participation meeting as part of the formal EIA process.

Should the applicant wish to meet with us outside that formal process, we request clarity on the purpose, basis, and expected outcomes of such a meeting before we can consider it.

Notwithstanding this, the Chatleka CPA remains open to constructive dialogue with any stakeholder, including the applicant, where such engagement helps address our concerns. Any arrangements for such dialogue should be made through:

Mr. Motshewa Matimolane
Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com
Cell: 083 467 6947

with Mr. Maphala (CPA Chairperson) copied on all correspondence to ensure organisational continuity.

Our request for a physical public engagement meeting as part of the EIA process therefore remains in place. If our farm is not deemed a suitable or neutral venue, we propose Banderlierkop, approximately 10 km from our farm, as an alternative. The local police station may also provide an appropriate and secure venue, should neutrality or safety be a concern.

We would like to emphasise again why the Chatleka CPA members do not prefer the open-day format or the Vleifontein venue:

1. Accessibility and Demographics:

Vleifontein is not easily accessible to most of our members, and none of our members reside there. The majority are based in Matoks and Indermark and are predominantly Sepedi-speaking. We respectfully request that the EAP take these demographic realities into account in determining a suitable engagement venue.

2. Format and Quality of Engagement:

The open-day format does not allow for the collective, robust, and transparent engagement required for meaningful public participation. A structured public meeting is essential to ensure that CPA members and other affected community members can collectively raise their issues, receive responses, and engage meaningfully in a public setting.

We appreciate your ongoing engagement and look forward to your response on the above matters. We trust that the public participation process will be adapted to ensure fairness, accessibility, and meaningful involvement for all affected parties.

Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane
On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

On Thu, 13 Nov 2025 at 12:40, Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Mr Maphala (c/o Mr Motshewa Matimolane)

Thank you very much for your comment. Your email below as well as the appended formal comment (reattached in this email) are herewith acknowledged and we confirm that this will be included in any further submissions to the Competent Authority.

Cape EAPrac have discussed the CPA's comments and concerns with the applicant, social specialist and heritage specialist. The concerns raised by the Chatleka CPA are currently under consideration by all parties and will be considered, addressed and formally responded to in due course. We look forward to further productive engagement with the Chatleka CPA as this environmental process progresses.

The applicant in respect of these applications has indicated their willingness to meet directly with the members of the CPA as requested. In this regard, could you kindly provide the details (name and telephone number) of the relevant CPA representative where the arrangements for such a meeting can be made.

The other aspects currently underway as part of the public participation process, including the public open day engagement session at the Vleifontein Community Hall will continue as planned.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, 10 November 2025 17:50

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za

Subject: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Dear Mr. Holder,

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The grounds for objection relate primarily to the failure to recognize active land claim rights, inadequate community engagement, and procedural defects under NEMA.

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Sincerely,

Motshewa Matimolane on behalf of:

Mr. N.A. Maphala

Acting Chairperson Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 071 121 3905

Email: jalinetworking682@gmail.com

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: RICHARD MALEFO; info@ctsheritage.com
Subject: RE: FORMAL RESPONSE TO PROPOSED SITE VISIT
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Richard

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

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Please note that the Cape EAPrac Offices will be closed from 12 December 2025 – 05 January 2026. Any further correspondence received during this period will be responded to after this period.

Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: RICHARD MALEFO <malefotrans@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 10:07
To: info@ctsheritage.com
Cc: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: FORMAL RESPONSE TO PROPOSED SITE VISIT

Please receive the attached response letter

Regards:
Malefo Transport
94 3rd street
mohodi -ga- madikana

0788.

082 410 1452

063 648 7862

FAX: 086 275 2830

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: 'Motz Ntimo'; Francois Byleveld
Cc: Kilton Dipodumo; Sylvia Mdaka; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane; RICHARD MALEFO
Subject: RE: Formal Submission of Questions: Chatleka CPA - Public Participation Process - Tabor Solar PV Cluster EIA
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motz

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

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Kind Regards,

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

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, 23 November 2025 09:52
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsimatimolane@gmail.com>; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>
Subject: Formal Submission of Questions: Chatleka CPA - Public Participation Process - Tabor Solar PV Cluster EIA

Dear Mr Holder,

Please find attached a formal submission of sixty (60) critical questions raised by the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA) regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed Tabor Solar PV Cluster.

The Chatleka CPA submits these questions as a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and as the representative body of the land claimants for the properties in question. These inquiries address fundamental concerns regarding:

- **Land Restitution Status:** Contradictory correspondence from the RLCC and the material legal risks posed to the project's feasibility.
- **Procedural Fairness:** The exclusion of claimants from direct consultation and the reliance on electronic communication methods inaccessible to the majority of beneficiaries.
- **Heritage Impacts:** deficiencies in the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), specifically the failure to document living heritage, oral histories, and sacred sites associated with the dispossession.
- **Social & Economic Impacts:** The lack of a comprehensive assessment regarding the intergenerational impacts on the claimants and the conflict between the proposed development and the CPA's agricultural restoration vision.

Please note that these questions are not exhaustive. The Chatleka CPA reserves the right to submit further inquiries, comments, or objections as the EIA process unfolds or as new information comes to light.

Request for Response

Given the gravity of the issues raised, the Chatleka CPA requests that these questions be treated as a priority. We require a comprehensive, written response to each point from:

1. **The EAP (Cape EAPrac)** regarding procedural and regulatory compliance.
2. **The Applicant (Mulilo Renewable Energy)** regarding project feasibility, consent, and benefit-sharing mechanisms.
3. **The Specialist Consultants** (specifically the Heritage, Social, Agricultural Impact specialists) regarding the methodological deficiencies identified.

We request that this submission and the attached questions be formally recorded in the Comments and Responses Report (CRR) for the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR).

We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

Motshewa Matimolane

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: Motz Ntimo; Francois Byleveld
Cc: Sylvia Mdaka; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane; Motshewa Matimolane; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motz

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Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 15:11
To: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane <Makgetsi.Matimolane@gmail.com>; Motshewa Matimolane <MotshewaMatimolane@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: Re: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Francois,

Thank you for your email and for sharing the notice regarding the availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports and Environmental Management Programmes for the proposed Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV projects.

Kindly forward copies of the revised reports and associated specialist studies to us for review.

In addition, we would like to strongly recommend that Cape EAPrac consider arranging a dedicated public engagement meeting at our farms, rather than relying solely on the Public Open Day planned for Vleifontein. An invite should be extended to all other CPA's in the area including those neighbouring the affected farms.

Our concern is that Vleifontein is quite far for most members of the Chatleka community, and as a result, many affected or interested landholders may not be able to attend. A local engagement session held at our farms would make it possible for members to participate more meaningfully — in a setting, language, and manner that allows for robust and accessible discussion about the proposed developments and their implications.

We believe such a session would greatly enhance inclusivity, transparency, and the overall quality of stakeholder engagement.

We look forward to your response and the sharing of the revised documentation.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane

0834676947

On Thu, 06 Nov 2025 at 14:34, Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 431 • Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425, • Remainder of Farm 430 • Farm 431 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 465 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIR) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), with specialist reports, are available for an additional 30-day commenting period, extending from 07 November – 08 December 2025.

Cape EAPrac will host a Public Open Day on 25 November 2025 from 12:00 to 19:00 at the Vleifontein Community Hall located in Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt. This event is intended to provide community members who may have difficulty accessing or interpreting the reports with an opportunity to engage directly, ask questions, and share their comments on the proposed developments.

Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



Reduce Reuse Recycle

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

Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for any of our environmental projects, or submitting comment on the same, you automatically consent to the lawful processing, publishing and distribution of your personal information, as provided by yourself via submissions, for the purpose specific intent of participating in an environmental process, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](http://www.cape-eaprac.co.za) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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.

From: Francois Byleveld
Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 431 • Remainder of Farm 466 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425, • Remainder of Farm 430 • Farm 431 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
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Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

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Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

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Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfk0c9o6ijnuy&st=5gs9tr

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

[17 Progress Street, George](#)

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Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:33
To: Motshewa Matimolane; Francois Byleveld
Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motshewa

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

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Please note that the Cape EAPrac Offices will be closed from 12 December 2025 – 05 January 2026. Any further correspondence received during this period will be responded to after this period.

Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind regards,

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 05:23
To: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: Re: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Good morning Dale,

Could you kindly please share with us the contact details of the case offer at DFFE or regulating authority who is handling this application.

Regards
Motshewa

On Mon, 06 Oct 2025 at 14:29, Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

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Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

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Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:34
To: 'Motshewa Matimolane'
Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

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Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind regards,

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 10 October 2025 07:42
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: Re: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Hi Dale,

I'm struggling to access the document through the provided link - it returning an error message. Kindly please try another means of making the available perhaps through your website or sharepoint.

Regards

Motshewa

On Wed, Oct 8, 2025 at 11:59 AM Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Mr Matimolane

Thank you very much for your email below.

Please find link below to a copy of the Final Environmental Impact Reports and Final Environmental Management Programmes for the proposed Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput and Makoppa Solar PV Developments. Please note that the public participation information (inclusive of the comments and responses report) is included in Appendices F1 – F7 of the respective Final Environmental Impact Reports.

- Bethel Solar PV Final Environmental Impact Report: <https://we.tl/t-kUQDteepa2>
- Draailoop Solar PV Final Environmental Impact Report: <https://we.tl/t-UtvIAtrtDf>
- Klipput Solar PV Final Environmental Impact Report: <https://we.tl/t-fMWa0kpc8l>
- Makoppa Solar PV Final Environmental Impact Report: <https://we.tl/t-xWBKV0x4fq>
- Bethel Solar PV Final Environmental Management Programme: <https://we.tl/t-Yaon2tQDAA>
- Draailoop Solar PV Final Environmental Management Programme: <https://we.tl/t-V0zFUphWyR>
- Klipput Solar PV Final Environmental Management Programme: <https://we.tl/t-8W4HHtyb9g>
- Makoppa Solar PV Final Environmental Management Programme: <https://we.tl/t-YQVNkVbMpc>

For ease of reference, please find the below summary of engagement between Cape EAPrac (The Environmental Assessment Practitioners in respect of these applications) and yourself (hereafter referred to as the “I&AP”).

1. 15 March 2025 - Registered as an I&AP via the Cape EAPrac Website. This registration was in a personal capacity.
2. 22 April 2025 – Cape EAPrac confirmed registration of I&AP in writing.
3. 24 April 2025 – I&AP notified of availability of Draft Scoping Reports for review and comment.

4. 02 May 2025 – I&AP confirmed that he had downloaded Draft Scoping Report for Draailoop PV, Klippot PV and Makoppa PV but was unable to download the Draft Scoping Report for Bethel PV. I&AP requested that the Chatleka CPA and parties in copy be registered as I&AP's.

5. 02 May 2025 – Cape EAPrac registered the Chatleka CPA and all parties in copy as I&AP's.

6. 03 May 2025 – I&AP provided formal comment on the Draft Scoping Report for Draailoop PV.

7. 03 May 2025 – I&AP confirmed that the comment submitted on Draailoop PV is applicable to all 4 Projects (i.e. Bethel PV, Draailoop PV, Klippot PV and Makoppa PV).

8. 05 May 2025 - Cape EAPrac acknowledged receipt of the I&AP comment of 03 May 2025.

9. 05 May 2025 – Cape EAPrac provided I&AP with copy of Draft Scoping Report for Bethel PV.

10. 19 June 2025 – The Social Specialist responded to the I&AP confirming that the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) report will clearly record the current status of the land claims in relation to the project properties. The Social Specialist furthermore confirmed that it falls outside the scope and competency of the SIA to assess or comment on the land claims.

11. 22 June 2025 – The I&AP addressed an email to the Social Specialist requesting a comprehensive and substantive response to all the issues raised in the letter. The Social Specialist provided this request to the EAP.

12. 30 June 2025 - The Social Specialist responded to the I&AP thanking him for the comments submitted to on the Social Scoping Report (03 May 2025). The social specialist reiterated that the SIA Report will acknowledge the land claim on Draailoop 430 LS by the Chatleka CPA and other project related land claims. The SIA Report will also identify potential opportunities for local communities associated with the construction and operation of the proposed solar projects. The social specialist furthermore that the land claim process is separate to the EIA process and that while the EIA and SIA will clearly acknowledge the current land claims, it falls outside the scope of the EIA and SIA to assess and or comment on the land claims.

13. 22 August 2025 – Chatleka CPA was notified of the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for review and comment. These Draft Environmental Impact Reports included the comprehensive responses to all of the comments in the letter of 05 May 2025.

During the comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (which included the comprehensive response to the comment of 05 May 2025), no further comment was received from the CPA, nor was a public meeting requested by the CPA or any other I&AP. A public meeting was therefore not held in respect of these environmental applications, but may still take place as part of future regulated processes for the development of these projects.

Please contact the undersigned should you have any further comments in this regard.

Sincerely,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, 07 October 2025 18:26

To: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Good day,

Please send us copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports (for all four farms/projects).

As registered I&AP we never received any invite to a public meeting to fully ventilate our issue. Please advise if such meetings were held. Please provide us with full details of the public participate process that was undertaken.

Regards

Motshewa

On Mon, 06 Oct 2025 at 14:29, Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

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Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind regards,

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 07 October 2025 18:26
To: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Good day,

Please send us copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports (for all four farms/projects).

As registered I&AP we never received any invite to a public meeting to fully ventilate our issue. Please advise if such meetings were held. Please provide us with full details of the public participate process that was undertaken.

Regards
Motshewa

On Mon, 06 Oct 2025 at 14:29, Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farm 431• Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 425,• Remainder of Farm 430• Farm 431	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 425• Portion 1 of Farm 466• Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 465	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



Reduce Reuse Recycle

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

Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for any of our environmental projects, or submitting comment on the same, you automatically consent to the lawful processing, publishing and distribution of your personal information, as provided by yourself via submissions, for the purpose specific intent of participating in an environmental process, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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.

From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILoop SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farm 431• Remainder of Farm 466	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 425,• Remainder of Farm 430• Farm 431	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 425• Portion 1 of Farm 466• Remainder of Farm 466	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 465	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
---------------------------	--

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

[17 Progress Street, George](#)

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



Reduce Reuse Recycle

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Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:34
To: RICHARD MALEFO
Subject: RE: objection by Mr Malefo
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Richard

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

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Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: RICHARD MALEFO <malefotrans@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:46
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: objection by Mr Malefo

You don't often get email from malefotrans@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

please receive the letter attached

Regards:
Malefo Transport
94 3rd street
mohodi -ga- madikana

0788.

082 410 1452

063 648 7862

FAX: 086 275 2830

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: 'Motshewa Matimolane'; Francois Byleveld
Cc: Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; RICHARD MALEFO; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Sylvia Mdaka; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; Motz Ntimo
Subject: RE: Objection to Tabor Solar PV project Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motshewa

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

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Kind Regards,

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 02 December 2025 08:02
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Subject: Objection to Tabor Solar PV project Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

Good day Dale,

Attached please find Letter of Objection against the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment reports for the Tabor Solar projects.

Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane
Chatleka CPA

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: Motz Ntimo; Francois Byleveld; nic.wiltshire@ctsheritage.com; jenna.lavin@ctsheritage.com; info@sahra.org
Subject: RE: Procedural deficiency with Heritage Impact Assessment studies for the Tabor Solar PV projects
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motz

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

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Kind Regards,

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

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, 23 November 2025 15:01
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; nic.wiltshire@ctsheritage.com; jenna.lavin@ctsheritage.com; info@sahra.org
Subject: Re: Procedural deficiency with Heritage Impact Assessment studies for the Tabor Solar PV projects

Good day,

I received the following input from Another member of Chatleka CPA who reviewed the HIA report. I have loaded these on your website for records as well:

The Heritage Impact Assessment reports for Makkoppa, Klipput, Bethel, and Draailoop demonstrate a reasonable effort to comply with the requirements of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act and the integration provisions under NEMA. However, several critical gaps remain that compromise full compliance and best practice.

Firstly, the reports do not fully align with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations. While they provide impact assessments and mitigation measures, they lack explicit specialist declarations of independence and disclosure of potential conflicts of interest, which are mandatory under Appendix 6. There is also no clear matrix comparing alternatives in terms of heritage impacts, even though alternatives are mentioned in narrative form. Furthermore, the reports do not include a structured monitoring and reporting framework for heritage compliance during construction and operation phases, leaving enforcement and accountability unclear.

Public participation is another area of weakness. Although the reports state that consultation will occur as part of the broader EIA process, they do not summarize heritage-specific stakeholder input or demonstrate how such feedback influenced the assessment. This omission undermines transparency and fails to meet the expectation of meaningful engagement on heritage matters.

Management planning is insufficient. Each report recommends the development of a Conservation Management Plan for significant archaeological sites and burial grounds, yet none provides a draft or even an outline of its contents, timelines, or responsibilities. Similarly, while Chance Finds Procedures are mentioned, they are not detailed enough to ensure effective implementation. Clear steps, roles, and communication protocols for unexpected discoveries are missing.

The treatment of intangible heritage is minimal. Beyond acknowledging burial grounds, the reports do not explore living heritage or cultural practices associated with the landscape, nor do they reflect direct engagement with descendant communities or custodians of graves. This is a significant gap given the holistic definition of heritage under the NHRA.

Data presentation also requires improvement. Although maps and coordinates are provided, some site descriptions lack sufficient detail for future verification, and photographic records are referenced but not fully integrated into the main reports. Additionally, cumulative impacts on the cultural landscape are acknowledged but not quantified or analyzed in a regional context, despite multiple solar projects being planned in the same area.

In summary, while the reports meet the basic requirements of identification, grading, and mitigation, they fall short in demonstrating full compliance with statutory and best-practice standards. Strengthening these areas—through detailed management plans, robust public participation records, comprehensive monitoring frameworks, and deeper consideration of intangible heritage—would significantly improve the quality and defensibility of these assessments.

Recommended Improvements Across All HIA Reports

1. Append CMP with:

- Roles, timelines, and enforcement.
- Access guarantees for graves.

2. Add Appendix 6 Compliance Matrix:

- Specialist declaration, independence, limitations.
- Alternatives comparison table.

3. Enhance Public Participation Section:
 - Summarize heritage-specific feedback and responses.
4. Develop Monitoring & Reporting Plan:
 - Frequency, responsible parties, adaptive management triggers.
5. Expand Intangible Heritage Assessment:
 - Engage local communities and custodians.
6. Detail Chance Finds Protocol:
 - Step-by-step procedure, contact details, stop-work triggers.
7. Integrate Full Photographic Record into main report or annexure.
8. Quantify Cumulative Impacts:
 - Scenario-based analysis for multiple solar projects in the region.

On Sun, Nov 23, 2025 at 8:38 AM Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com> wrote:

Good day Dale,

Based on the provided Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) reports for the Draailoop, Bethel, Makoppa, and Klipput Solar PV Facilities, I must note with serious concern that **the documents do not contain detailed evidence of specific public consultation undertaken as part of the heritage impact assessment process.**

What the Reports State

Section 6 of each HIA report contains an identical standardized statement:

"As this application is made in terms of NEMA, the public consultation on the HIA will take place with the broader public consultation process required for the Environmental Impact Assessment process and will be managed by the lead environmental consultants on the project."

The Regulatory Gap

This approach presents a significant concern regarding compliance with Section 38(3)(e) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), which explicitly requires HIAs to include "the results of consultation with communities affected by the proposed development and other interested parties regarding the impact of the development on heritage resources."

Furthermore, NEMA Section 2(4)(f) and (o) mandates that:

- Participation of all interested and affected parties (I&APs) in environmental governance must be promoted
- All people must have opportunities to develop understanding, skills, and capacity for equitable and effective participation
- Participation by vulnerable and disadvantaged persons must be ensured

What is Missing from the Reports

The HIA reports do **not** provide documentation of:

1. **Specific heritage-focused consultation activities** conducted with affected communities
2. **Engagement with land claimants** regarding heritage resources and impacts
3. **Documented outcomes** of consultations specifically addressing heritage concerns (as distinct from general environmental issues)
4. **Community input** on the significance of identified heritage resources, including:
 - The burial sites (Sites 9, 25, 37, 38)
 - Rock art and archaeological sites (Sites 11, 44)
 - Historical structures and cultural landscapes
5. **Consultation with descendants** or communities associated with identified graves and burial grounds
6. **Engagement processes** ensuring participation of vulnerable and disadvantaged persons in heritage matters

Critical Heritage Issues Requiring Community Consultation

Given the findings in these reports, the following would have warranted specific community engagement:

- **Multiple burial grounds** identified within development areas (graded IIIA due to high local social and spiritual significance)
- **Rock art sites** with Later Stone Age paintings
- **Iron Age archaeological resources** associated with granite koppies
- **Cultural landscape impacts** affecting the sense of place for communities
- **Access provisions** to burial sites for the operational life of the facilities

Conclusion

The HIA reports defer heritage-specific public consultation to the broader NEMA-driven EIA process managed by environmental consultants, rather than demonstrating compliance with NHRA Section 38(3)(e)'s requirement for documented consultation outcomes on heritage impacts. **No evidence is provided in these reports of how public, interested and affected parties, and especially land claimants, were specifically engaged and consulted regarding heritage resources and impacts as part of the Heritage Impact Assessment process.**

This represents a procedural deficiency that should be addressed to ensure full compliance with both NHRA and NEMA consultation requirements, particularly given the presence of culturally sensitive resources such as burial grounds and archaeological sites within the development areas.

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: 'Motz Ntimo'; Francois Byleveld; nic.wiltshire@ctsheritage.com; jenna.lavin@ctsheritage.com; info@sahra.org
Subject: RE: Procedural deficiency with Heritage Impact Assessment studies for the Tabor Solar PV projects
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motz

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Kind Regards,

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

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, 23 November 2025 08:38
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; nic.wiltshire@ctsheritage.com; jenna.lavin@ctsheritage.com; info@sahra.org
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Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: RICHARD MALEFO
Cc: info@ctsheritage.com
Subject: RE: proposed responses to proposed site visit
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Richard

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

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Kind Regards,

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

From: RICHARD MALEFO <malefotrans@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 21 November 2025 15:15
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: info@ctsheritage.com
Subject: proposed responses to proposed site visit

please see the attached letter

Regards:
Malefo Transport
94 3rd street
mohodi -ga- madikana

0788.

082 410 1452

063 648 7862

FAX: 086 275 2830

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:34
To: 'Motz Ntimo'; Francois Byleveld
Subject: RE: Request for Intervention and Corrective Action – Inadequate Public Participation in the Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV EIA Processes
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motz

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

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Kind Regards,

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

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 16:30
To: 'Motz Ntimo' <motzntimo@gmail.com>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: Request for Intervention and Corrective Action – Inadequate Public Participation in the Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV EIA Processes

Dear Motshewa.

I can confirm that your attached and below communication to the DFFE has been received by our office.

We are in the process of reviewing the content of the submission in conjunction with the Applicant.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 13:23

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Subject: Fwd: Request for Intervention and Corrective Action – Inadequate Public Participation in the Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV EIA Processes

You don't often get email from motzntimo@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good day Dale / Francois,

Please take note of this communication to DFFE with regard to Chatleka CPA's concerns with the public participation process.

We hope that we can resolve this issue amicably.

Regards
Motshewa

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Motz Ntimo** <motzntimo@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Oct 9, 2025 at 12:19 PM

Subject: Request for Intervention and Corrective Action – Inadequate Public Participation in the Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV EIA Processes

To: <zlanga@dffe.gov.za>, <ldlova@dffe.gov.za>, <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>, <Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za>

Cc: Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>, <kiltonm12@gmail.com>,

<jalinetworking682@gmail.com>, RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>, Motshewa Matimolane <MotshewaMatimolane@gmail.com>

Dear Case Officers,

I write to you on behalf of the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA) regarding the Final Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Programme (EMP) submissions for the following proposed developments south of Louis Trichardt, within the Makhado Local Municipality:

- Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd — DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
- Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd — DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
- Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd — DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
- Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd — DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Please find attached our formal letter of response to Cape EAPrac, dated 09 October 2025, which comprehensively outlines the CPA's concerns regarding the procedural integrity and fairness of the EIA process.

1. Lack of Meaningful Public Participation

The CPA wishes to place on record that the consultation process conducted by Cape EAPrac was materially deficient. The process relied almost entirely on electronic communication and online documentation, which effectively excluded the majority of Chatleka CPA beneficiaries—most of whom are rural residents without reliable internet access or proficiency in English.

This exclusion contradicts the principles of inclusivity and procedural fairness enshrined in the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998) and the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

2. Expectation of Direct Community Engagement

As a landholding community directly bordering the proposed project areas, the Chatleka CPA had a legitimate and reasonable expectation of in-person consultation. No such engagement occurred. The community was never afforded a properly constituted meeting where concerns could be raised, understood, or documented.

Given the scale and potential impact of these developments—on land use, livelihoods, and cultural heritage sites—this omission is of serious concern.

3. Request for DFFE Oversight and Corrective Measures

In light of these procedural deficiencies, we respectfully request the Department's intervention to ensure that:

The Final EIA and EMP submissions for the above-listed projects are not accepted for decision-making until proper, inclusive public participation has been undertaken;

Cape EAPrac is directed to convene an in-person public consultation meeting within the Chatleka CPA area, facilitated in an appropriate language and manner; and

The rights and voices of rural and historically disadvantaged communities are upheld in accordance with the principles of environmental justice and equitable governance.

4. Reservation of Rights

The Chatleka CPA reserves all rights available under NEMA and related legislation to appeal, review, or challenge any decision made on the basis of an exclusionary or procedurally flawed process.

We submit this correspondence in good faith, seeking a constructive resolution that ensures transparent, fair, and culturally appropriate engagement before any environmental authorisation is issued.

5. Conclusion

We trust that the Department will treat this matter with the seriousness it deserves and provide formal written feedback indicating the steps to be taken to rectify the identified shortcomings.

We further request acknowledgment of receipt of this correspondence and confirmation that our concerns will be duly considered in the environmental decision-making process.

Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane (0834676947)

on behalf of:
Mr. N.A. Maphala
Acting Chairperson
Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)
 jalinetworking682@gmail.com

 071 121 3905
P.O. Box 536, Dwarsriver, 0812

Attachment:

Chatleka CPA – Formal Response to Final EIA and EMP Submission (09 October 2025)

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:34
To: 'Motz Ntimo'
Cc: Francois Byleveld; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Sylvia Mdaka; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO
Subject: RE: Request for Intervention and Corrective Action – Inadequate Public Participation in the Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV EIA Processes
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motz

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

This CRR as well as all comments received will be provided to the Competent Authority and SAHRA to inform their decision-making processes in terms of the EIA regulations as well as the National Heritage Resources Act.

Following the submission of the Final Environmental Impact Report to the competent authority, a copy of this report including all relevant appendices will be provided to all stakeholders.

Please note that the Cape EAPrac Offices will be closed from 12 December 2025 – 05 January 2026. Any further correspondence received during this period will be responded to after this period.

Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 16:59
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Request for Intervention and Corrective Action – Inadequate Public Participation in the Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV EIA Processes

Dear Dale,

Thank you for the acknowledgement of receipt of our letter.

We shall await your formal response to this matter including but not limited to:

1. Your preliminary views on the concerns raised herein;
2. Any proposed steps toward addressing the identified deficiencies; and
3. Your availability or that of Cape EAPrac representatives or the applicant to discuss these matters further.

The Chatleka CPA community stands ready to engage constructively and in good faith, provided we are afforded a fair, appropriate, and accessible opportunity to participate meaningfully in this process.

I thank you for your attention to this matter

Regards
Motshewa Matimolane
083 467 6947

On Thu, 09 Oct 2025 at 16:30, Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Motshewa.

I can confirm that your attached and below communication to the DFFE has been received by our office.

We are in the process of reviewing the content of the submission in conjunction with the Applicant.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 13:23

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Subject: Fwd: Request for Intervention and Corrective Action – Inadequate Public Participation in the Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV EIA Processes

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Good day Dale / Francois,

Please take note of this communication to DFFE with regard to Chatleka CPA's concerns with the public participation process.

We hope that we can resolve this issue amicably.

Regards

Motshewa

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Motz Ntimo** <motzntimo@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Oct 9, 2025 at 12:19 PM

Subject: Request for Intervention and Corrective Action – Inadequate Public Participation in the Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV EIA Processes

To: <zlanga@dffe.gov.za>, <ldlova@dffe.gov.za>, <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>, <Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za>

Cc: Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>, <kiltonm12@gmail.com>,

<jalinetworking682@gmail.com>, RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>, Motshewa Matimolane <MotshewaMatimolane@gmail.com>

Dear Case Officers,

I write to you on behalf of the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA) regarding the Final Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Programme (EMP) submissions for the following proposed developments south of Louis Trichardt, within the Makhado Local Municipality:

- Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd — DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

- Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd — DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
- Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd — DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
- Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd — DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Please find attached our formal letter of response to Cape EAPrac, dated 09 October 2025, which comprehensively outlines the CPA's concerns regarding the procedural integrity and fairness of the EIA process.

1. Lack of Meaningful Public Participation

The CPA wishes to place on record that the consultation process conducted by Cape EAPrac was materially deficient. The process relied almost entirely on electronic communication and online documentation, which effectively excluded the majority of Chatleka CPA beneficiaries—most of whom are rural residents without reliable internet access or proficiency in English.

This exclusion contradicts the principles of inclusivity and procedural fairness enshrined in the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998) and the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

2. Expectation of Direct Community Engagement

As a landholding community directly bordering the proposed project areas, the Chatleka CPA had a legitimate and reasonable expectation of in-person consultation. No such engagement occurred. The community was never afforded a properly constituted meeting where concerns could be raised, understood, or documented.

Given the scale and potential impact of these developments—on land use, livelihoods, and cultural heritage sites—this omission is of serious concern.

3. Request for DFFE Oversight and Corrective Measures

In light of these procedural deficiencies, we respectfully request the Department's intervention to ensure that:

The Final EIA and EMP submissions for the above-listed projects are not accepted for decision-making until proper, inclusive public participation has been undertaken;

Cape EAPrac is directed to convene an in-person public consultation meeting within the Chatleka CPA area, facilitated in an appropriate language and manner; and

The rights and voices of rural and historically disadvantaged communities are upheld in accordance with the principles of environmental justice and equitable governance.

4. Reservation of Rights

The Chatleka CPA reserves all rights available under NEMA and related legislation to appeal, review, or challenge any decision made on the basis of an exclusionary or procedurally flawed process.

We submit this correspondence in good faith, seeking a constructive resolution that ensures transparent, fair, and culturally appropriate engagement before any environmental authorisation is issued.

5. Conclusion

We trust that the Department will treat this matter with the seriousness it deserves and provide formal written feedback indicating the steps to be taken to rectify the identified shortcomings.

We further request acknowledgment of receipt of this correspondence and confirmation that our concerns will be duly considered in the environmental decision-making process.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane (0834676947)

on behalf of:

Mr. N.A. Maphala

Acting Chairperson

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

 jalinetworking682@gmail.com

 071 121 3905

P.O. Box 536, Dwarsriver, 0812

Attachment:

Chatleka CPA – Formal Response to Final EIA and EMP Submission (09 October 2025)

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:34
To: 'Motz Ntimo'; Francois Byleveld
Subject: RE: Request for Intervention and Corrective Action – Inadequate Public Participation in the Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV EIA Processes
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Motz

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

This CRR as well as all comments received will be provided to the Competent Authority and SAHRA to inform their decision-making processes in terms of the EIA regulations as well as the National Heritage Resources Act.

Following the submission of the Final Environmental Impact Report to the competent authority, a copy of this report including all relevant appendices will be provided to all stakeholders.

Please note that the Cape EAPrac Offices will be closed from 12 December 2025 – 05 January 2026. Any further correspondence received during this period will be responded to after this period.

Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 09 October 2025 13:23
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: Fwd: Request for Intervention and Corrective Action – Inadequate Public Participation in the Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV EIA Processes

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Good day Dale / Francois,

Please take note of this communication to DFFE with regard to Chatleka CPA's concerns with the public participation process.

We hope that we can resolve this issue amicably.

Regards
Motshewa

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Motz Ntimo** <motzntimo@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Oct 9, 2025 at 12:19 PM

Subject: Request for Intervention and Corrective Action – Inadequate Public Participation in the Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV EIA Processes

To: <zlanga@dffe.gov.za>, <ldlova@dffe.gov.za>, <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>, <Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za>

Cc: Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>, <kiltonm12@gmail.com>,

<jalinetworking682@gmail.com>, RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>, Motshewa

Matimolane <MotshewaMatimolane@gmail.com>

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Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane (0834676947)

on behalf of:
Mr. N.A. Maphala
Acting Chairperson
Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

 jalinetworking682@gmail.com

 071 121 3905
P.O. Box 536, Dwarsriver, 0812

Attachment:

Chatleka CPA – Formal Response to Final EIA and EMP Submission (09 October 2025)

Dale Holder

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 11 December 2025 10:35
To: 'Makgetsi Matimolane'; Francois Byleveld
Cc: info@sahra.org.za; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; info@ctsheritage.com
Subject: RE: OBJECTION TO THE HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDIES FOR THE TABOR PV CLUSTER ON THE ANCESTRAL LAND THE CHATLEKA CPA AND OTHER AFFECTED COMMUNITIES
Attachments: 16. App F2_Comments and Responses Report.pdf

Dear Makgetsi

Thank you once again for your comments and for your active participation in this Environmental Process.

Kindly find the attached Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which includes responses to this comment, and all others received during the environmental process as a whole. This CRR also provides details of how the Development Proposal has been adapted in response to concerns raised.

This CRR as well as all comments received will be provided to the Competent Authority and SAHRA to inform their decision-making processes in terms of the EIA regulations as well as the National Heritage Resources Act.

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Wishing you the best for the upcoming festive period.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, 22 November 2025 17:52
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: info@sahra.org.za; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; info@ctsheritage.com
Subject: OBJECTION TO THE HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDIES FOR THE TABOR PV CLUSTER ON THE ANCESTRAL LAND THE CHATLEKA CPA AND OTHER AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

Dear Mr Holder,

Please find attached my objection to the Heritage Impact Assessment for the Tabor PV Cluster.
Kindly acknowledge receipt and confirm that the document will be included in the project's official record.

Regards

Mr. Makgetsi Matimolane

Ordinary Member

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 082 511 3062

Email: makgetsimatimolane@gmail.com

Francois Byleveld

From: Aviation Environmental Compliance <environment@caa.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 05 December 2025 12:37
To: Francois Byleveld
Cc: Evelyn Shogole
Subject: Re: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Good day, I trust that you are well.

The South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) :Aviation Environmental Protection (AEP) Department has no comments regarding the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV , Makoppa Solar PV and Associated Infrastructure.

However, please note that should the project include any temporary or permanent structures of height, a formal obstacle assessment may be required for the proposed development.

To lodge an application, kindly refer to the list and contact details of the approved obstacle assessment service providers available on the SACAA website:

www.caa.co.za/industryinformation/obstacles/.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me.

Kind regards,

Vhukhudo Chaka
Aviation Environmental Compliance Trainee
Air Safety Infrastructure
Office: | Email: ChakaV@caa.co.za | www.caa.co.za

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Keeping

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<https://www.caa.co.za/paia-and-privacy/>

From: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 14:34

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

"This message was sent from outside of SACAA. Please use caution when opening links and/ or attachments"

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 431 • Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425, • Remainder of Farm 430 • Farm 431 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 465 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIR) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), with specialist reports, are available for an additional 30-day commenting period, extending from 07 November – 08 December 2025.

Cape EAPrac will host a Public Open Day on 25 November 2025 from 12:00 to 19:00 at the Vleifontein Community Hall located in Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt. This event is intended to provide community members who may have difficulty accessing or interpreting the reports with an opportunity to engage directly, ask questions, and share their comments on the proposed developments.

Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530



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

Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for any of our environmental projects, or submitting comment on the same, you automatically consent to the lawful processing, publishing and distribution of your personal information, as provided by yourself via submissions, for the purpose specific intent of participating in an environmental process, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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.

From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klippot Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILoop SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Farm 431Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Portion 1 of Farm 425,Remainder of Farm 430Farm 431	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 465 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530



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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm 431 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430 Farm 431 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425 Portion 1 of Farm 466 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljnuuy&st=5gs9tnq

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

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<https://www.caa.co.za/paia-and-privacy/>

Francois Byleveld

From: Chantell Bruintjies Transnet Freight Rail Port Elizabeth
<Chantell.Bruintjies@transnet.net>
Sent: Monday, 10 November 2025 07:51
To: Sam Fiff Transnet Freight Rail BLM
Cc: Francois Byleveld; Dale Holder
Subject: FW: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province
Attachments: VHE853 Notification and BID (Tshivenda).pdf; VHE853 Notification and BID (English).pdf

fyi

From: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 14:34
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

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Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Farm 431- Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Remainder of Farm 466- Portion 1 of Farm 466- Portion 1 of Farm 425- Portion 2 of Farm 425- Remainder of Farm 424- Portion 2 of Farm 470- Farm 1211- Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472- Farm 1209- Portion 1 of Farm 473	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425, - Remainder of Farm 430 - Farm 431 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klippot Solar PV	Klippot Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 465 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIR) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), with specialist reports, are available for an additional 30-day commenting period, extending from 07 November – 08 December 2025.

Cape EAPrac will host a Public Open Day on 25 November 2025 from 12:00 to 19:00 at the Vleifontein Community Hall located in Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt. This event is intended to provide community members who may have difficulty accessing or interpreting the reports with an opportunity to engage directly, ask questions, and share their comments on the proposed developments.

Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Farm 431 - Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Portion 1 of Farm 425, - Remainder of Farm 430 - Farm 431	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Portion 1 of Farm 465	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED

SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farm 431 - Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425, - Remainder of Farm 430 - Farm 431 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klippot Solar PV	Klippot Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/A10M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfk0c9o6ljnuy&st=5gs9tnq

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

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T: 044 874 0365

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Francois Byleveld

From: Gauteng-Wayleaves <Gauteng-Wayleaves@vodacom.co.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 11 November 2025 14:00
To: Francois Byleveld
Cc: Goodstuff Liphahla, Vodacom; Awelani Sengani, Vodacom
Subject: FW: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province
Attachments: VHE853 Notification and BID (Tshivenda).pdf; VHE853 Notification and BID (English).pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good day and please be advised that your wayleave application **must include the following information:** (also, this application is for Limpopo) please amend your application to include the below info and send to Goodstuff and Awelani.

- 1. A cover letter containing all your company details and a comprehensive scope of work.**
- 2. A clear and precise location indicated on a locality or topographical map**
- 3. And a kmz file for an exact location to accompany your application.**

Kindly note, **that NO wayleave applications will be processed without this required information.**

Additionally, all services requests must be sent via email to our designated services inbox: Gauteng-wayleaves@vodacom.co.za

Thank you and have a good day further



Sharona Maduray

Wayleave Administrator

Sharona.Maduray@vcontractor.co.za

071 3537649

Address: South Wing, Renaissance Park
082 Vodacom Boulevard, Midrand 1685

vodacom.co.za

Further together

From: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 14:34
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

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Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farm 431 - Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425, - Remainder of Farm 430 - Farm 431 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 465 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

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Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

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MSc Geology (UFS)

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T: 044 874 0365

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PO Box 2070, George 6530

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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Farm 431 - Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Portion 1 of Farm 425, - Remainder of Farm 430 - Farm 431	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Portion 1 of Farm 465	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Farm 431- Remainder of Farm 466	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Portion 1 of Farm 425,- Remainder of Farm 430- Farm 431	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Portion 1 of Farm 425- Portion 1 of Farm 466- Remainder of Farm 466	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Portion 1 of Farm 465	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljinuy&st=5gs9tnq

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



Reduce Reuse Recycle

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Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for any of our environmental projects, or submitting comment on the same, you automatically consent to the lawful processing, publishing and distribution of your personal information, as provided by yourself via submissions, for the purpose specific intent of participating in an environmental process, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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C2 General

Francois Byleveld

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 25 November 2025 18:12
To: info@sahra.org; nngobeni@sahra.org.za
Cc: Dale Holder; jenna.lavin@ctsheritage.com; nic.wiltshire@ctsheritage.com; Francois Byleveld; Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; RICHARD MALEFO; Sylvia Mdaka; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za
Subject: Engagement with SAHRA: Objection letters against the Tabor solar PV submitted by member of Chatleka CPA
Attachments: Chatleka CPA - Objection by Ngwako Seima 25 November 2025.pdf; Chatleka CPA - Objection by Makgetsi to HIA.pdf; Chatleka CPA - Summary of objections to Tabor Solar PV to date 20 November 2025.pdf; Chatleka CPA - Objection by Mr Richard Malefo.pdf; Chatleka CPA - Objection to Heritage Impact Assessment Report 10 November 2025.pdf; Chatleka CPA - Response to Wiltshire (Heritage Impact Assessment Specialist).pdf; Chatleka CPA - Response to Mr Holder (Site visit with Heritage Impact Assessment Specialist).pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA) hereby registers a formal and unequivocal objection to the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) conducted by CTS Heritage for the proposed Tabor Solar PV Cluster of projects (Draailoop, Bethel, Klipput, and Makoppa).

The land in question is the subject of a decades-old, unresolved Land Restitution Claim (KRP 693), and this HIA—in its current form—is fundamentally flawed, procedurally defective, and substantively incomplete. We believe that reliance on this report will lead to the irreversible loss of critical heritage resources and further institutionalize the dispossession of our community.

Core Grounds for Objection:

- 1. Failure to Assess Living Cultural Landscape:** The HIA focuses almost exclusively on archaeological artefacts (stone tools, ceramics) and fails entirely to assess the **Living Cultural Landscape, Oral History, and Intangible Heritage** of the Batlokwa ba Chatleka community. This omission is a direct contravention of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) requirements.
- 2. Omission of Ancestral Graves and Sites:** The assessment failed to adequately consult with the CPA's elders and leadership, resulting in the exclusion of numerous **unmarked ancestral graves**, burial grounds, and sacred sites that are of profound significance to our community. The report does not reflect the spiritual and historical memory of the land.
- 3. Procedural Flaws and Exclusion:** The process has been exclusionary. We demand a transparent and inclusive engagement process, with our elders actively involved in defining, identifying, and verifying all heritage resources on the ancestral land.
- 4. HIA Recommendations are Insufficient:** We demand the **rejection** of the current HIA and all associated Environmental Authorisation processes until a comprehensive, participatory Living Heritage Assessment is undertaken. This new assessment must include a binding

commitment to a **Conservation Management Plan (CMP)**, developed in collaboration with the Chatleka CPA, prior to any future consideration of construction.

We urge SAHRA to exercise its regulatory mandate by reviewing the attached formal objection letters from the CPA's leadership and demanding a complete suspension of the current heritage assessment process.

The attached documents provide detailed narratives and critiques of the HIA's methodology and findings from various CPA members, including:

- Chatleka CPA - Response to Wiltshire (Heritage Impact Assessment Specialist).docx
- Chatleka CPA - Objection by Mr Richard Malefo.pdf
- Chatleka CPA - Objection by Makgetsi to HIA.pdf
- Chatleka CPA - Objection by Ngwako Seima 25 November 2025.pdf
- Chatleka CPA - Objection to Heritage Impact Assessment Report 10 November 2025.pdf

We look forward to your urgent confirmation that this objection has been received and that the necessary steps will be taken to mandate a process that respects the letter and spirit of the NHRA and the constitutional rights of our community.

Yours Faithfully,

Motz Ntimo

(For the) Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA) Registration No: KRP 693 P.O. Box 536, Dwarsriver, 0812 Tel: 071 121 3905

Questions submitted by Chatleka CPA as part of the Public Participation Process for the EIA for the development of the Tabor Solar PV energy facilities near Banderlierkop, Limpopo

1. The EIR cites contradictory correspondence from the RLCC, relying primarily on the 9 October 2024 letter stating "no claims exist," despite letters from 19 September 2024 and 10 June 2025 reaffirming that claims were lodged prior to 1998. How does the EAP justify relying on the single contradictory letter to infer that the RLCC has "cleared the project"?
2. Given the clear inconsistencies in the RLCC correspondence, why did the EIR fail to flag the contradictory land claim status as a material legal risk to the project's feasibility, as required for transparent impact assessment?
3. If the RLCC cannot formally confirm the definitive status of claims in writing, will the EAP commit to suspending the EIA process immediately, as requested by the CPA, to rectify this legal uncertainty?
4. Will the EAP disclose all correspondence between Cape EAPrac, Mulilo Renewable Energy, and the RLCC relating to the status of claims and any alleged engagement restrictions, as requested by the CPA?
5. The EIR asserts that "Prior consent is not required from the Claimants". How does the EAP reconcile this assertion with the Restitution of Land Rights Act (RLRA) Section 6(2)(a), which explicitly prohibits acts that may "diminish or prejudice the rights of any claimant"?
6. How does the EAP justify treating the current Title Holder's consent as legally sufficient under Regulation 39(1) of the EIA Regulations, without the concurrence of the RLCC or the Inchoate Owner (the CPA), considering the land is Gazetted?
7. Will the EAP produce, for the public record, proof of compliance with RLRA Section 11(7), which requires giving the RLCC one month's written notice of the developer's intention to "develop the land" or "lease" the land?
8. Considering the project's 25- to 30-year operational life, which constitutes irreversible sterilization of the land for a generation, how does the EAP ensure that the CPA will receive the true benefit of restoration once the land claim is finalized?
9. The EIR records that Mulilo was verbally advised by the RLCC "not to engage directly with the claimants at this stage". How does the EAP defend the acceptance of an alleged verbal instruction as a "legitimate basis for excluding claimants from direct consultation," violating NEMA's participatory principles?
10. Why did the EIA process reduce the Chatleka CPA, a claimant body defending a constitutional right, to the status of an "ordinary Interested and Affected Party" (I&AP), disregarding their special legal status as potential future landowners?

11. Why did the EAP rely primarily on electronic communication and online dissemination, thereby effectively excluding the majority of CPA beneficiaries who are illiterate, reside in rural areas, and lack reliable internet access?
12. Why is the EAP continuing with the public open day engagement session at the Vleifontein Community Hall, a venue the CPA finds inaccessible and inappropriate for the Matoks/Indermark-based, predominantly Sepedi-speaking members?
13. Will the EAP commit to convening a structured public meeting at an appropriate, accessible venue like Banderlierkop, as requested by the CPA, to ensure fair and equitable participation?
14. Will the EAP grant the CPA's request for an extension of the public comment period to allow for proper consultation and independent review, given the complexity and legal challenge inherent in the restitution claims?
15. The EIR asserts that "Landowner consent is not required for Strategic Integrated Projects". Does the EAP possess a written legal justification for applying this SIP exemption to override constitutional rights and NEMA participatory provisions on actively claimed land?
16. Will the EAP disclose the SIP Confirmation Letter and any related legal opinion regarding its applicability to land under active restitution claim, as requested by the CPA?
17. If SIP status expedites administrative coordination, how does the EAP justify placing permanent, heavy infrastructure on land that is simultaneously the subject of a sensitive socio-political transfer process?
18. Given the Tabor Cluster covers over 1,000 hectares and represents 795 MW of development, how will the EAP assess the cumulative effect of this total land transformation on the CPA's ability to realize its post-restitution agricultural and conservation vision?
19. How does the EIA address the intergenerational impacts of the development, specifically how future generations of land claimants will inherit land industrially transformed for 25–30 years, contradicting NEMA's requirement to consider future generations?
20. Will the EAP commit to commissioning a comprehensive Cumulative Social Impact Assessment for the full Tabor Cluster, addressing environmental justice implications?
21. The proposed mitigation is that the Applicant will undertake "to engage... and negotiate an option to lease". What specific binding mechanism guarantees that this negotiation will be equitable and not simply coerce the new landowners into compliance with a pre-determined development model (*a fait accompli*)?
22. Given the CPA's formal objection that the Draailoop development exceeds allowable agricultural limits by 193.8 ha, will the EAP confirm this non-compliance with GN 320 of 2020?

23. Will the EAP facilitate independent technical and legal support for the claimants during the review process, given the complexity of the legal challenge and the CPA's limited access to resources?
24. How will the EAP demonstrate that the project adheres to NEMA Principle 2(4)(g), ensuring the "values" of the Chatleka CPA—which prioritize ancestral connection and agricultural restoration—are taken into account over industrial energy generation?
25. Under which section of NEMA would the DFFE be legally obliged to REFUSE the Environmental Authorisation if the project is found to violate the principles of environmental justice and equitable access to resources for claimants?
26. The HIA notes no direct engagement with the Chatleka CPA. How does the EAP justify this procedural defect given that the CPA holds living oral histories, ancestral sites, and community graves in the area that were not documented?
27. Why did the HIA focus predominantly on archaeological materials (stone tools, ceramics) while failing to assess the living cultural landscape, including sacred sites and intangible cultural values central to the CPA's identity?
28. How does the narrow focus of the HIA comply with the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) Section 3(2)(b), which explicitly includes "places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage"?
29. In light of affidavit testimony that farmers in the area previously "desiccated some graves, scattering the human bones all over," what specific methodology was used to ensure every unmarked burial site was identified, verified, and protected?
30. How does the HIA's finding that the project area has "insufficient value to warrant formal protection" reconcile with the sworn testimony that the land holds sites where human bones were scattered and where ancestral sacred sites are now "sporting grounds"?
31. Given the affidavit confirming that Masalesa Washington Selabe's father and grandmother's tombstone still stands in the middle of Draailoop farm, what specific steps were taken to verify the exact GPS coordinates of this living grave site and ensure its permanent exclusion?
32. Why did the HIA not document the community's specific cultural practices, such as the right to access ancestral graves and circumcision sites, which the claimants state were curtailed by dispossession?
33. How is the HIA's dismissive valuation validated when it was reached without participatory validation from the communities of origin, making the valuation scientifically and ethically invalid?
34. Will the EAP commission a Supplementary Heritage Impact Addendum specifically to document the CPA's oral history, living heritage, and sacred sites in direct collaboration with CPA elders, as requested?

35. The HIA recommends excluding sensitive areas like granite koppies. Why does the EIR not include a verified layout map confirming the exact, final exclusion zones for all identified and potential heritage areas?
36. Does the absence of a verified layout map confirming heritage exclusion zones violate NHRA Regulation 38(3)(g), which requires the location and nature of heritage resources to be clearly identified?
37. Why does the EIR fail to confirm that the recommended Conservation Management Plan (CMP) has been prepared, adopted, or reviewed by heritage authorities, despite it being a key mitigation measure?
38. Will the EAP commit to developing and implementing a binding CMP in collaboration with the Chatleka CPA and neighboring claimants, ensuring approval by the relevant heritage authorities prior to any construction activity?
39. How will the EAP ensure that the high-security fencing and industrial nature of the solar facility does not compromise the community's restored right to access to ancestral graves and circumcision sites once the land is operational, especially given the historical context of access being strictly forbidden?
40. Why does the HIA make no reference to the Restitution of Land Rights Act or the existence of active land claims, thereby decontextualizing heritage from the history of dispossession which is central to the land's significance?
41. How is the HIA's failure to integrate the restitution context compatible with the Constitutional mandate for restorative justice (Section 25(7)), which demands recognition of the history of dispossession?
42. Since the land is claimed under KRP 693, will the revised HIA explicitly involve the Chatleka CPA in defining and valuing the cultural significance of the land to ensure the assessment is not scientifically or ethically invalid?
43. How will the EAP address the cumulative effect of the Tabor Cluster on the cultural landscape alteration of the entire claimed area, which collectively covers over 1,000 hectares?
44. Will the EAP recognize the claimant communities as custodians of heritage resources within their ancestral land and include their representatives in all heritage monitoring and mitigation teams?
45. Will the EAP commit to suspending the heritage authorisation process until meaningful consultation has occurred with the Chatleka CPA to ensure the full documentation of living heritage, sacred sites, and oral histories?
46. The SIA explicitly states that it is "beyond the scope of the SIA to assess or comment on the status of the land claims". How does this deliberate exclusion allow the SIA to meet NEMA's core purpose of evaluating the "social and economic impacts" on people and their rights, especially the land claimants?

47. Will the EAP commit to commissioning a Supplementary Social Impact Addendum specifically analyzing land restitution implications, economic justice, and equitable benefit-sharing models, as requested by the CPA?
48. Why did the SIA methodology fail to assess the Opportunity Cost to the Chatleka CPA, considering their post-restitution land use vision emphasizes agriculture, livestock farming, and conservation?
49. How does the EAP explain the SIA's flawed assertion that the social benefits "will not be affected by the change of ownership," given that successful land claimants have the constitutional right to redefine land use and reject or renegotiate lease terms?
50. Since the SIA admits that employment is temporary, skills are low, and most benefits will "likely accrue to external contractors", how does the SIA justify rating the social impact of employment as "high positive"?
51. Why does the SIA fail to propose a formal benefit-sharing arrangement, community trust, or equity participation structure that would ensure long-term benefits to claimant communities, contradicting requirements for projects on restitution land?
52. Given the SIA's failure to propose equitable mechanisms, how does the EAP ensure that the project will not lead to a continuation of historic exclusion patterns for the Chatleka CPA members?
53. Will the EAP require the preparation of a Community Benefit-Sharing and Local Development Plan detailing binding commitments, such as equity participation and revenue-sharing options, negotiated with the Chatleka CPA before construction?
54. Why does the SIA dismiss the "reduction of land with natural vegetation for livestock grazing" as a negligible impact, when this transformation of over 1,000 hectares undermines the CPA's ability to realize its core restorative agricultural objectives?
55. How will the SIA now quantify and mitigate the loss of agricultural and grazing land based on the future land use objectives of the claimant communities?
56. Given the SIA's omission of intergenerational impacts, how will the EAP now assess the effect of this industrial transformation on the rights and livelihoods of future generations of land claimants?
57. Why did the SIA fail to assess the cumulative effect of the entire Tabor Cluster on the long-term displacement of local agricultural economies and the combined pressure on social infrastructure?
58. Did the SIA adequately assess the psychological and historical impacts of another development being imposed on ancestral land that was originally taken through forced removals and the trek-pass system, just as the community is about to reclaim it?

59. Will the EAP commit to providing documents in accessible formats, including vernacular translations or simplified summaries, and distributing them physically in the affected CPA communities, rectifying the electronic access barriers?

60. Since the assertion that benefits “will not be affected by the change of ownership” is flawed, will the Supplementary Addendum detail precisely how ownership changes will affect future economic returns and align the project with the CPA's post-restitution land use vision

Francois Byleveld

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, 23 November 2025 09:52
To: Dale Holder; Francois Byleveld
Cc: Kilton Dipodumo; Sylvia Mdaka; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane; RICHARD MALEFO
Subject: Formal Submission of Questions: Chatleka CPA - Public Participation Process - Tabor Solar PV Cluster EIA
Attachments: Questions submitted by Chatleka CPA as part of the Public Participation Process for the EIA for the development of the Tabor Sol.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mr Holder,

Please find attached a formal submission of sixty (60) critical questions raised by the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA) regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed Tabor Solar PV Cluster.

The Chatleka CPA submits these questions as a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and as the representative body of the land claimants for the properties in question. These inquiries address fundamental concerns regarding:

- **Land Restitution Status:** Contradictory correspondence from the RLCC and the material legal risks posed to the project's feasibility.
- **Procedural Fairness:** The exclusion of claimants from direct consultation and the reliance on electronic communication methods inaccessible to the majority of beneficiaries.
- **Heritage Impacts:** deficiencies in the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), specifically the failure to document living heritage, oral histories, and sacred sites associated with the dispossession.
- **Social & Economic Impacts:** The lack of a comprehensive assessment regarding the intergenerational impacts on the claimants and the conflict between the proposed development and the CPA's agricultural restoration vision.

Please note that these questions are not exhaustive. The Chatleka CPA reserves the right to submit further inquiries, comments, or objections as the EIA process unfolds or as new information comes to light.

Request for Response

Given the gravity of the issues raised, the Chatleka CPA requests that these questions be treated as a priority. We require a comprehensive, written response to each point from:

1. **The EAP (Cape EAPrac)** regarding procedural and regulatory compliance.
2. **The Applicant (Mulilo Renewable Energy)** regarding project feasibility, consent, and benefit-sharing mechanisms.
3. **The Specialist Consultants** (specifically the Heritage, Social, Agricultural Impact specialists) regarding the methodological deficiencies identified.

We request that this submission and the attached questions be formally recorded in the Comments and Responses Report (CRR) for the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR).

We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

Motshewa Matimolane

Francois Byleveld

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, 23 November 2025 08:38
To: Dale Holder; Francois Byleveld; nic.wiltshire@ctsheritage.com; jenna.lavin@ctsheritage.com; info@sahra.org
Subject: Procedural deficiency with Heritage Impact Assessment studies for the Tabor Solar PV projects
Attachments: 10. App E4_Heritage Impact Assessment_compressed (Draailoop).pdf; 10. App E4_Heritage Impact Assessment_compressed (Klipput).pdf; 10. App E4_Heritage Impact Assessment_compressed (Makkoppa).pdf; 10. App E4_Heritage Impact Assessment_compressed (Bethel).pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good day Dale,

Based on the provided Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) reports for the Draailoop, Bethel, Makoppa, and Klipput Solar PV Facilities, I must note with serious concern that **the documents do not contain detailed evidence of specific public consultation undertaken as part of the heritage impact assessment process.**

What the Reports State

Section 6 of each HIA report contains an identical standardized statement:

"As this application is made in terms of NEMA, the public consultation on the HIA will take place with the broader public consultation process required for the Environmental Impact Assessment process and will be managed by the lead environmental consultants on the project."

The Regulatory Gap

This approach presents a significant concern regarding compliance with Section 38(3)(e) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), which explicitly requires HIAs to include "the results of consultation with communities affected by the proposed development and other interested parties regarding the impact of the development on heritage resources."

Furthermore, NEMA Section 2(4)(f) and (o) mandates that:

- Participation of all interested and affected parties (I&APs) in environmental governance must be promoted
- All people must have opportunities to develop understanding, skills, and capacity for equitable and effective participation
- Participation by vulnerable and disadvantaged persons must be ensured

What is Missing from the Reports

The HIA reports do **not** provide documentation of:

1. **Specific heritage-focused consultation activities** conducted with affected communities
2. **Engagement with land claimants** regarding heritage resources and impacts
3. **Documented outcomes** of consultations specifically addressing heritage concerns (as distinct from general environmental issues)
4. **Community input** on the significance of identified heritage resources, including:
 - The burial sites (Sites 9, 25, 37, 38)
 - Rock art and archaeological sites (Sites 11, 44)
 - Historical structures and cultural landscapes
5. **Consultation with descendants** or communities associated with identified graves and burial grounds
6. **Engagement processes** ensuring participation of vulnerable and disadvantaged persons in heritage matters

Critical Heritage Issues Requiring Community Consultation

Given the findings in these reports, the following would have warranted specific community engagement:

- **Multiple burial grounds** identified within development areas (graded IIIA due to high local social and spiritual significance)
- **Rock art sites** with Later Stone Age paintings
- **Iron Age archaeological resources** associated with granite koppies
- **Cultural landscape impacts** affecting the sense of place for communities
- **Access provisions** to burial sites for the operational life of the facilities

Conclusion

The HIA reports defer heritage-specific public consultation to the broader NEMA-driven EIA process managed by environmental consultants, rather than demonstrating compliance with NHRA Section 38(3)(e)'s requirement for documented consultation outcomes on heritage impacts. **No evidence is provided in these reports of how public, interested and affected parties, and especially land claimants, were specifically engaged and consulted regarding heritage resources and impacts as part of the Heritage Impact Assessment process.**

This represents a procedural deficiency that should be addressed to ensure full compliance with both NHRA and NEMA consultation requirements, particularly given the presence of culturally sensitive resources such as burial grounds and archaeological sites within the development areas.

Francois Byleveld

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, 23 November 2025 15:01
To: Dale Holder; Francois Byleveld; nic.wiltshire@ctsheritage.com;
jenna.lavin@ctsheritage.com; info@sahra.org
Subject: Re: Procedural deficiency with Heritage Impact Assessment studies for the Tabor Solar PV projects

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good day,

I received the following input from Another member of Chatleka CPA who reviewed the HIA report. I have loaded these on your website for records as well:

The Heritage Impact Assessment reports for Makkoppa, Klipput, Bethel, and Draailoop demonstrate a reasonable effort to comply with the requirements of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act and the integration provisions under NEMA. However, several critical gaps remain that compromise full compliance and best practice.

Firstly, the reports do not fully align with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations. While they provide impact assessments and mitigation measures, they lack explicit specialist declarations of independence and disclosure of potential conflicts of interest, which are mandatory under Appendix 6. There is also no clear matrix comparing alternatives in terms of heritage impacts, even though alternatives are mentioned in narrative form. Furthermore, the reports do not include a structured monitoring and reporting framework for heritage compliance during construction and operation phases, leaving enforcement and accountability unclear.

Public participation is another area of weakness. Although the reports state that consultation will occur as part of the broader EIA process, they do not summarize heritage-specific stakeholder input or demonstrate how such feedback influenced the assessment. This omission undermines transparency and fails to meet the expectation of meaningful engagement on heritage matters.

Management planning is insufficient. Each report recommends the development of a Conservation Management Plan for significant archaeological sites and burial grounds, yet none provides a draft or even an outline of its contents, timelines, or responsibilities. Similarly, while Chance Finds Procedures are mentioned, they are not detailed enough to ensure effective implementation. Clear steps, roles, and communication protocols for unexpected discoveries are missing.

The treatment of intangible heritage is minimal. Beyond acknowledging burial grounds, the reports do not explore living heritage or cultural practices associated with the landscape, nor do they reflect direct engagement with descendant communities or custodians of graves. This is a significant gap given the holistic definition of heritage under the NHRA.

Data presentation also requires improvement. Although maps and coordinates are provided, some site descriptions lack sufficient detail for future verification, and photographic records are referenced but not fully integrated into the main reports. Additionally, cumulative impacts on the cultural landscape are acknowledged but not quantified or analyzed in a regional context, despite multiple

solar projects being planned in the same area.

In summary, while the reports meet the basic requirements of identification, grading, and mitigation, they fall short in demonstrating full compliance with statutory and best-practice standards. Strengthening these areas—through detailed management plans, robust public participation records, comprehensive monitoring frameworks, and deeper consideration of intangible heritage—would significantly improve the quality and defensibility of these assessments.

Recommended Improvements Across All HIA Reports

1. Append CMP with:

- Roles, timelines, and enforcement.
- Access guarantees for graves.

2. Add Appendix 6 Compliance Matrix:

- Specialist declaration, independence, limitations.
- Alternatives comparison table.

3. Enhance Public Participation Section:

- Summarize heritage-specific feedback and responses.

4. Develop Monitoring & Reporting Plan:

- Frequency, responsible parties, adaptive management triggers.

5. Expand Intangible Heritage Assessment:

- Engage local communities and custodians.

6. Detail Chance Finds Protocol:

- Step-by-step procedure, contact details, stop-work triggers.

7. Integrate Full Photographic Record into main report or annexure.

8. Quantify Cumulative Impacts:

- Scenario-based analysis for multiple solar projects in the region.

On Sun, Nov 23, 2025 at 8:38 AM Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com> wrote:

Good day Dale,

Based on the provided Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) reports for the Draailoop, Bethel, Makoppa, and Klipput Solar PV Facilities, I must note with serious concern that **the documents do not contain detailed evidence of specific public consultation undertaken as part of the heritage impact assessment process.**

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"As this application is made in terms of NEMA, the public consultation on the HIA will take place with the broader public consultation process required for the

Environmental Impact Assessment process and will be managed by the lead environmental consultants on the project."

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This approach presents a significant concern regarding compliance with Section 38(3)(e) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), which explicitly requires HIAs to include "the results of consultation with communities affected by the proposed development and other interested parties regarding the impact of the development on heritage resources."

Furthermore, NEMA Section 2(4)(f) and (o) mandates that:

- Participation of all interested and affected parties (I&APs) in environmental governance must be promoted
- All people must have opportunities to develop understanding, skills, and capacity for equitable and effective participation
- Participation by vulnerable and disadvantaged persons must be ensured

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3. **Documented outcomes** of consultations specifically addressing heritage concerns (as distinct from general environmental issues)
4. **Community input** on the significance of identified heritage resources, including:
 - The burial sites (Sites 9, 25, 37, 38)
 - Rock art and archaeological sites (Sites 11, 44)
 - Historical structures and cultural landscapes
5. **Consultation with descendants** or communities associated with identified graves and burial grounds
6. **Engagement processes** ensuring participation of vulnerable and disadvantaged persons in heritage matters

Critical Heritage Issues Requiring Community Consultation

Given the findings in these reports, the following would have warranted specific community engagement:

- **Multiple burial grounds** identified within development areas (graded IIIA due to high local social and spiritual significance)
- **Rock art sites** with Later Stone Age paintings
- **Iron Age archaeological resources** associated with granite koppies
- **Cultural landscape impacts** affecting the sense of place for communities
- **Access provisions** to burial sites for the operational life of the facilities

Conclusion

The HIA reports defer heritage-specific public consultation to the broader NEMA-driven EIA process managed by environmental consultants, rather than demonstrating compliance with NHRA Section 38(3)(e)'s requirement for documented consultation outcomes on heritage impacts. **No evidence is provided in these reports of how public, interested and affected parties, and especially land claimants, were specifically engaged and consulted regarding heritage resources and impacts as part of the Heritage Impact Assessment process.**

This represents a procedural deficiency that should be addressed to ensure full compliance with both NHRA and NEMA consultation requirements, particularly given the presence of culturally sensitive resources such as burial grounds and archaeological sites within the development areas.

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Friday, 07 November 2025 18:14
To: Motz Ntimo; Francois Byleveld
Cc: Sylvia Mdaka; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane; Motshewa Matimolane; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klippot Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Mr Matimolane

Thank you so much for your email below, the content of which is duly noted.

The digital copies of the revised reports and all associated specialist studies are available on the Cape EAPrac Website and via DropBox direct download at the links provided in the Notification Letters. Should you have any problems accessing the documents via these links please inform us without delay so that we can assist you otherwise.

Should you prefer another method to access the digital versions of the reports (i.e. Sharepoint, WeTransfer, SMASH etc), please let me know and we will provide these wherever reasonably possible.

Hard copies of the reports are available at:

1. Viva Bandelierkop – N1 Main Road Bandelierkop, and
2. Munzhedzi Post Office - Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt.

Members of your organisation/beneficiaries and other registered stakeholders are invited to review these documents in the event that there are any challenges in accessing the available digital platforms.

With regards to your query about the venue for the upcoming open house, we can confirm that the Vleifontein Community Hall was purposefully selected for the upcoming stakeholder engagement opportunity in conjunction with the local Ward Councillor for Ward 20 in which the application sites fall.

This municipal community hall is a public neutral venue that is accessible to all stakeholders, including members of any of the different CPAs, other interest groups as well as members of the general public. The Councillor assured us that the facility is often used for similar events where locals and community engagements take place.

The purpose of the open day event is to allow stakeholders and registered Interested & Affected Parties, such as yourselves, to engage on a one on one basis with members of the project team as a further opportunity to participate.

We do acknowledge that that not all members of the different CPAs, other interest groups or registered stakeholders, will be able to attend this engagement session for various reasons. We are

hopeful however that the continued involvement of the CPA representatives at such an event, will ultimately help to relay comments/concerns from your members/beneficiaries to us, as well for representatives to give feedback to their members/beneficiaries via their existing internal communication channels.

It will be extremely beneficial and greatly appreciated if members of the CPA will avail themselves to attend this open day to engage with the EAP, Applicant and attending Specialist and we do hope that this opportunity for further engagement will add value to the outcome of the public participation process.

It must be noted that should there be any members of the CPA, other registered I&APs or members of the General Public, not able to attend the open day engagement session, they will still be able to meaningfully participate in the process via any of the other mechanisms available. Not attending this upcoming event does not exclude stakeholders from giving input and/or engaging with us about this application.

With regards to your generous offer of having the meeting at your farm, kindly note that we are mindful of the fact that having a public engagement session, on private land i.e. CPA farm, may deter members of the public and other registered stakeholders from attending. To ensure transparency it is therefore deemed best to have this session at a neutral venue such as the Vleifontein Community Hall.

We'd also like to use this opportunity to highlight a number of additional steps that have been initiated in this follow-up public participation period to ensure enhanced inclusivity, transparency, and improve on the overall quality of stakeholder engagement where previous shortfalls have been identified:

1. The DEIR has been updated and an additional 30-Day comment period provided as per the Regulations.
2. Considering the CPAs previous submission, a background information document has been compiled and apart from English, it is also been translated into Tshivenda and circulated to registered I&APs.
3. We have placed follow-up newspaper adverts in English and Tshivenda.
4. We put up additional site notices in English and Tshivenda.
5. In addition to the electronic platforms used to make the DEIR available, provision has been made for hard copies of reports at a number of local venues for any stakeholder who may not have access to the various digital platforms.
6. Facilitation of the open house event, within the ward of the application area, at a venue that is accessible and neutral in support of the ongoing public consultation.
7. We have taken care to ensure that a translator (for Tshivenda speaking individuals who may attend the open house) will be present, also to assist with capturing comments/inputs from people who may not be able to make their own submissions in writing.
8. Considering the specific concerns previously raised by the CPA with regards to community engagement and more specifically the CPAs land claim, the EAP, Heritage Specialist, Social Specialist and Applicant will be available at the public open day to ensure direct engagement with community members also and/or stakeholder who may be impacted/affected by the proposed activities.

We kindly request that the CPA informs its members/beneficiaries of the opportunity to engage with the project team members at the upcoming open day and we sincerely hope that such engagement will be of value.

During the course of next week, we will share a document that outlines the structure of the open day engagement session and introduction to the project team members who will be present.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 15:11

To: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO

<Malefotrans@gmail.com>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane

<Makgetsi.Matimolane@gmail.com>; Motshewa Matimolane <MotshewaMatimolane@gmail.com>;

zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za

Subject: Re: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Francois,

Thank you for your email and for sharing the notice regarding the availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports and Environmental Management Programmes for the proposed Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV projects.

Kindly forward copies of the revised reports and associated specialist studies to us for review.

In addition, we would like to strongly recommend that Cape EAPrac consider arranging a dedicated public engagement meeting at our farms, rather than relying solely on the Public Open Day planned for Vleifontein. An invite should be extended to all other CPA's in the area including those neighbouring the affected farms.

Our concern is that Vleifontein is quite far for most members of the Chatleka community, and as a result, many affected or interested landholders may not be able to attend. A local engagement session held at our farms would make it possible for members to participate more meaningfully — in a setting, language, and manner that allows for robust and accessible discussion about the proposed developments and their implications.

We believe such a session would greatly enhance inclusivity, transparency, and the overall quality of stakeholder engagement.

We look forward to your response and the sharing of the revised documentation.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane

0834676947

On Thu, 06 Nov 2025 at 14:34, Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Farm 431Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Remainder of Farm 466Portion 1 of Farm 466Portion 1 of Farm 425Portion 2 of Farm 425Remainder of Farm 424Portion 2 of Farm 470Farm 1211	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425, • Remainder of Farm 430 • Farm 431 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	

Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIR) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), with specialist reports, are available for an additional 30-day commenting period, extending from 07 November – 08 December 2025.

Cape EAPrac will host a Public Open Day on 25 November 2025 from 12:00 to 19:00 at the Vleifontein Community Hall located in Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt. This event is intended to provide community members who may have difficulty accessing or interpreting the reports with an opportunity to engage directly, ask questions, and share their comments on the proposed developments.

Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

[17 Progress Street, George](#)

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



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Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for any of our environmental projects, or submitting comment on the same, you automatically consent to the lawful processing, publishing and distribution of your personal information, as provided by yourself via submissions, for the purpose specific intent of participating in an environmental process, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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.

From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farm 431• Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 425,• Remainder of Farm 430• Farm 431	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 425• Portion 1 of Farm 466• Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 465	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm 431 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430 Farm 431 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425 Portion 1 of Farm 466 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljinuy&st=5gs9tr

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

[17 Progress Street, George](#)

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



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Francois Byleveld

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Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 15:11
To: Francois Byleveld; Dale Holder
Cc: Sylvia Mdaka; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane; Motshewa Matimolane; zlanga@dff.gov.za; Idlova@dff.gov.za; MYeni@dff.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dff.gov.za
Subject: Re: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

You don't often get email from motzntimo@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Francois,

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Kindly forward copies of the revised reports and associated specialist studies to us for review.

In addition, we would like to strongly recommend that Cape EAPrac consider arranging a dedicated public engagement meeting at our farms, rather than relying solely on the Public Open Day planned for Vleifontein. An invite should be extended to all other CPA's in the area including those neighbouring the affected farms.

Our concern is that Vleifontein is quite far for most members of the Chatleka community, and as a result, many affected or interested landholders may not be able to attend. A local engagement session held at our farms would make it possible for members to participate more meaningfully — in a setting, language, and manner that allows for robust and accessible discussion about the proposed developments and their implications.

We believe such a session would greatly enhance inclusivity, transparency, and the overall quality of stakeholder engagement.

We look forward to your response and the sharing of the revised documentation.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane

0834676947

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Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

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PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farm 431• Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remainder of Farm 466• Portion 1 of Farm 466• Portion 1 of Farm 425• Portion 2 of Farm 425• Remainder of Farm 424• Portion 2 of Farm 470• Farm 1211• Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472• Farm 1209• Portion 1 of Farm 473	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
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PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 431 <p>Grid Connection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<p>PV:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 <p>Grid Connection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
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PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	

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Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
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Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 425• Portion 1 of Farm 466• Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 465	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

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PO Box 2070, George 6530

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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm 431 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430 Farm 431 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425 Portion 1 of Farm 466 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljinuy&st=5gs9tr

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

[17 Progress Street, George](#)

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



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Francois Byleveld

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 25 November 2025 17:51
To: Dale Holder
Cc: nic.wiltshire@ctsheritage.com; info@sahra.org; jenna.lavin@ctsheritage.com; Francois Byleveld; RICHARD MALEFO; Sylvia Mdaka; Makgetsi Matimolane; Kilton Dipodumo; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; nngobeni@sahra.org.za
Subject: Object to the Tabor solar PV heritage impact assessment by Chatleka Elder (Mr Nkgwako Seima)
Attachments: Chatleka CPA - Objection by Ngwako Seima 25 November 2025.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good day,

I hereby submitted the attached letter of objection to the heritage impact assessment report by Chatleka Elder - Mr Ngwako Seima.

We ask that this objection be officially acknowledged and recorded.

Your sincerely

Motz Ntimo on behalf of Mr Ngwako Seima

CHATLEKA CPA

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Registration No: KRP 693

Address: P.O. Box 536, Dwarsriver, 0812

Tel: 071 121 3905 | Email: chatlekacpa@gmail.com

To:

Mr. Dale Holder

Senior Environmental Practitioner

Cape EAPrac

Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Tel: 044 874 0365

CC: DFFE and RLCC: Limpopo

Date: 22 November 2025

FORMAL OBJECTION TO THE TABOR SOLAR PV CLUSTER – HALTING THE REPETITION OF HISTORICAL DISPOSSESSION AND PROTECTING OUR ANCESTRAL INHERITANCE AND LIVING HERITAGE.

Dear Mr Holder,

I come before you today not with legal statutes alone, but with the unburied grief and enduring hope of a community that has fought for thirty long years for justice. I write this as an elder whose lifespan has bridged the cruelty of the past regime and the slow, agonizing promise of the present one. I am deeply involved in the struggle for land claim KRP 693. My hands have held the original affidavits, signed in 2003, detailing the trauma we endured.

My greatest fear, Mr. Holder, is that after decades of waiting, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Tabor Solar PV Cluster—the Draailoop, Bethel, Klipput, and Makoppa projects—will formalize a second, final act of dispossession. This time, the violence is not committed by the trek-pass system; it is committed by glossy reports and an Environmental Authorisation that declares our ancestral heritage to be of “insufficient value”.

We appeal to the humanity that must still reside within the processes of development. We plead with you to give serious consideration to the grounds of objection against the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA, Appendix E4) and the Social Impact Assessment (SIA, Appendix E7).

PART I: THE LAND IS A GRAVEYARD – TRAUMA AND HERITAGE IN THE AFFIDAVITS

To understand why the Heritage Impact Assessment is a profound insult, you must know what the land already holds: not merely soil for photovoltaic panels, but the unhealed wounds of our ancestors. The heritage we seek to protect is not static; it is the bitterness that is still felt by us and our descendants due to the loss of rights and the lack of access to ancestral sites.

1. The Desecration and the Souvenirs

The most painful legacy of our dispossession is the trauma inflicted upon our burial grounds. Selokela Wilson Selota, in his affidavit concerning the farms Ladybrand (360LS) and Weltevreden (359LS), testified to a cruelty that defies comprehension.

He recounted that a white farm manager was "even keen to collect human skulls as souvenirs for his living room". He detailed how a later farmer on Ladybrand "desiccated some graves, scattering the human bones all over," simply because he was "annoyed that people were still visiting the sacred sites".

Think of this, Mr. Holder: the ground where your consultants found ceramics and stone tools is the very ground where our forebears' bones were scattered and collected as gruesome trophies. Mr. Selota concluded with a heavy heart that "our ancestral sacred sites are sporting grounds and nobody cares about them". We fight to restore the right to ancestral worship and visits to ancestral graves, rights that were strictly forbidden.

2. The Forbidden Graves on Draailoop and Myngenoegen

This desecration is not history confined to one corner; it stains the entire Tabor cluster footprint.

On Draailoop (430LS)—the very farm at the center of this application—Masalesa Washington Selabe confirmed that his father and grandmother’s tombstone still stands in the middle of the farm. His family was given the trek-pass and forced to leave without compensation, but the loss of residence leaves us with "the feeling of a loss of a real home". The idea that a vast solar plant might now fence off or build upon the location of that tombstone is a spiritual violation that echoes the original dispossession by Jan Haasbroek.

Similarly, Ngwako Alpheus Mangweto and Puledi Martha Rangwedi confirmed that what is left of Myngenoegen (436LS) and Nooitgedacht (437LS) are "large patches of ruins and ancestral graves". The bitterness from the loss of rights and lack of access to ancestral sites are still felt by us and the descendants. The EIA, which seeks to authorize permanent industrial activity on this land for 25 to 30 years, will ensure that this lack of access is formalized and guaranteed for a full generation.

We pleaded in 2003 for the government to return our ancestral land so "we can live, work, prosper and die in dignity. No more as paupers". The core of that dignity is the right to mourn and remember our dead, undisturbed.

PART II: THE HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT’S FAILURE

The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA, Appendix E4) for the Draailoop facility and implicitly for the cluster not only failed to protect our sacred heritage but actively disregarded the very process that would have revealed it.

A. The Insult of Dismissive Valuation and Exclusion of Living Heritage

The HIA focuses predominantly on static archaeological materials such (stone tools and ceramics). This focus is insufficient and reduces our profound history to mere objects. The greatest insult, Mr. Holder, is the statement included in the EIR that the area “has insufficient value to warrant formal protection”.

- How can the land containing ploughed over and desecrated graves, the site of forced removal, and the visible tombstone of a claimant's ancestor be deemed of "insufficient value"?
- This conclusion, reached without participatory validation from the Chatleka CPA, repeats the historical denial of our cultural worth. It is a decision that violates post-apartheid heritage ethics and the very notion of restorative justice.
- The HIA fails to assess the living cultural landscape, including sacred sites and intangible cultural values associated with the area. This omission directly contravenes the requirement to consider "places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage".

B. Procedural Exclusion of the Custodians

The Heritage Impact Assessment is procedurally defective because it actively excluded the CPA, the custodians and mandated land claimants.

- The HIA notes no direct engagement with the Chatleka CPA or other affected claimant communities, despite explicitly acknowledging the active restitution claims.
- The EAP relied on an alleged verbal directive from the RLCC "not to engage directly with the claimants at this stage", using this as a justification to bypass engagement mandated by heritage and environmental laws. This procedural exclusion rendered the heritage assessment invalid.
- The CPA was not involved in fieldwork or in the review of findings. Myself and other elders were denied the opportunity to walk the land with the specialists, pointing out the precise location of the granite koppies—identified as containing possible burial sites—or confirming the location of Masalesa Washington Selabe's family gravesite.

C. Incomplete Protection and the Risk of Future Desecration

The HIA's recommendations are cosmetic at best and dangerously vague at worst, ensuring that if construction proceeds, the heritage trauma will continue.

- **Absence of Verified Maps:** Although the HIA recommends that "no development take place within or on the granite koppies", the EIR does not include a verified layout map confirming the exact exclusion zones. Without clear, mapped boundaries, we cannot trust that the construction crews will not encroach upon these sensitive areas, repeating the desecration witnessed on Ladybrand and elsewhere.
- **Missing Conservation Management Plan (CMP):** The HIA recommends the preparation of a CMP, yet the report does not confirm that this essential protective measure has been drafted, adopted, or reviewed. Proceeding without a binding CMP in place violates the precautionary principle and exposes the developer to non-compliance with heritage protection obligations.
- **Failure to Integrate Restitution:** The HIA makes no reference to the Restitution of Land Rights Act or the existence of active land claims. This fundamental omission decontextualizes the land's heritage from the history of dispossession. The cultural and spiritual significance of the land is inextricably linked to the fact that we were forcibly removed from it, and now seek to restore our cultural sovereignty.

D. The Cumulative Cultural Wall

The heritage impact must be viewed cumulatively across the Tabor Solar Cluster (Draailoop, Bethel, Klipput, and Makoppa).

- The collective footprint of over 1,000 hectares represents a massive transformation of the cultural landscape.
- Your HIA treats solar PV projects in isolation, failing to assess the cumulative loss of heritage landscape integrity across the cluster. The demarcation of these lands is an

apartheid and colonial artefact foreign to our historic way of live. If all four projects are approved, the land claim area will be surrounded and saturated, creating a "Wall of Glass" that permanently barricades our people from the continuity of their ancestral inheritance.

PART III: WHY THE SIA AND EIR ENABLE THE HERITAGE INJUSTICE

The defects in the Heritage Impact Assessment are not standalone errors; they are enabled by the procedural and legal failures embedded in the main EIR and SIA documents.

1. Exclusion of Restitution as the Central Social Constraint

The Social Impact Assessment (SIA, Appendix E7) explicitly states that “It is beyond the scope of the SIA to assess or comment on the status of the land claims”.

- This disclaimer eliminates the central legal, spiritual, and social constraint on the project. The psychological blow of seeing ancestral land—the land where graves were desecrated—turned into an industrial zone just as we reclaim it is a High Negative impact.
- The SIA failed to assess the psychological and historical impacts of another development imposed on land under claim. It ignores the bitterness and frustration felt by the community, which resulted from the loss of access to ancestral sites.

2. The Final Act of Prejudice – Foreclosing Future Rights

The EIR’s assertion that “Prior consent is not required from the Claimants” allows this heritage destruction to proceed.

- By authorizing a 25- to 30-year industrial project, the DFFE would be irreversibly sterilizing the land. This pre-empts the restitution outcome and prevents us from exercising our full land use rights.

- We assert our constitutional right to determine land use, including ancestral worship. The proposed mitigation—"to engage... and negotiate an option to lease"—is a *fait accompli*. It guarantees that if we win the claim, we will inherit a security gate and a commercial contract, not our cultural sovereignty or the ability to freely tend to our ancestral graves.

PART IV: THE ELDER'S DEMAND – RESTORING DIGNITY AND CULTURAL CONTINUITY

I have lived through dispossession and worked for decades for redress. I implore you, Mr. Holder (EAP), Mulilo, DFFE and RLCC Limpopo, to halt this process immediately. We will not allow the memory of our ancestors—those whose skulls were sought as souvenirs, whose graves were scattered, and whose right to mourn was forbidden—to be dismissed as a minor risk. The bitterness by our ancestors and the harsh treatment endured through the loss of rights to keep cattle crop production lack of access to ancestral sites are still felt by us and the descendants.

We demand that the following actions be taken to prevent the repetition and perpetuation of historical injustice:

1. **Immediate and Permanent Suspension:** Suspend the entire EIA process for the Tabor Cluster projects immediately. This suspension must last until the status of the land claims is definitively resolved and, crucially, until Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) is obtained from the Chatleka CPA and other affected claimant communities.
2. **Withdrawal and Participatory Revision:** Withdraw the current Heritage Impact Assessment (Appendix E4) and Social Impact Assessment (Appendix E7). We demand a Supplementary Heritage and Restitution Impact Addendum that:
 - Incorporates Oral History and Living Heritage, engaging directly with CPA elders to document sacred sites, oral traditions, and ancestral graves.

- Involves the Chatleka CPA in defining and valuing the cultural significance of the land.
3. **Guaranteed Protection for Ancestral Sites:** Map and disclose all identified heritage sites (koppies, burial grounds, archaeological features) in consultation with the CPA. We require a binding Conservation Management Plan (CMP) developed with the CPA and approved by heritage authorities prior to any future construction.
 4. **End the Exclusion:** The EAP must disclose all correspondence regarding the alleged instruction from the RLCC "not to engage directly with the claimants" and initiate structured, inclusive public engagement in an accessible venue like Banderlierkop or at our farms.

We are not resisting progress; we are insisting on **justice**. We ask you to appeal to the highest ideal of South Africa's Constitution: that the dignity lost in the past is restored, not permanently buried under a wall of glass and steel.

We await your urgent written confirmation that this heartfelt appeal and detailed objection will lead to the suspension of the process.

Yours Faithfully,

pp 

Mr. Ngwako Seima

Elder and Former Treasurer

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 082 358 1018

Francois Byleveld

From: RICHARD MALEFO <malefotrans@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 25 November 2025 20:15
To: Motz Ntimo
Cc: Dale Holder; nic.wiltshire@ctsheritage.com; info@sahra.org; jenna.lavin@ctsheritage.com; Francois Byleveld; Sylvia Mdaka; Makgetsi Matimolane; Kilton Dipodumo; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; nngobeni@sahra.org.za
Subject: Re: Object to the Tabor solar PV heritage impact assessment by Chatleka Elder (Mr Nkgwako Seima)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Ok thanks

Regards:

Malefo Transport
94 3rd street
mohodi -ga- madikana
0788.

082 410 1452

063 648 7862

FAX: 086 275 2830

On Tue, 25 Nov 2025, 17:50 Motz Ntimo, <motzntimo@gmail.com> wrote:

Good day,

I hereby submitted the attached letter of objection to the heritage impact assessment report by Chatleka Elder - Mr Ngwako Seima.

We ask that this objection be officially acknowledged and recorded.

Your sincerely

Motz Ntimo on behalf of Mr Ngwako Seima

Francois Byleveld

From: Mantombi Ndlovu (MH) <MantombiN1@openserve.co.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 11 November 2025 12:52
To: Francois Byleveld
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Good day,

Request for Additional Information – Application Re-evaluation

Your application/notification is due for re-evaluation. Official letter outlining your intentions.

The name of the town or suburb, accompanied by the following:

Clear maps,

A **Google Earth KMZ file**, or

Coordinates in DMS (Degrees, Minutes, and Seconds) format, specifying both latitude and longitude.

Kindly provide the following within 24 hours: should the requested information not be received within the stated timeframe, please direct your application to NER Wayleaves Management at: NorthzoneWayleaves@telkom.co.za

From: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 14:34

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments, unless you trust the sender and know that the content is safe.

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: - Farm 431	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425, - Remainder of Farm 430 - Farm 431 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klippot Solar PV	Klippot Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 465 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	

Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIR) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), with specialist reports, are available for an additional 30-day commenting period, extending from 07 November – 08 December 2025.

Cape EAPrac will host a Public Open Day on 25 November 2025 from 12:00 to 19:00 at the Vleifontein Community Hall located in Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt. This event is intended to provide community members who may have difficulty accessing or interpreting the reports with an opportunity to engage directly, ask questions, and share their comments on the proposed developments.

Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Farm 431 - Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Portion 1 of Farm 425, - Remainder of Farm 430 - Farm 431	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Portion 1 of Farm 465	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld
Candidate EAP
MSc Geology (UFS)
Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365
17 Progress Street, George
PO Box 2070, George 6530



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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Farm 431- Remainder of Farm 466	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Portion 1 of Farm 425,- Remainder of Farm 430- Farm 431	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Portion 1 of Farm 425- Portion 1 of Farm 466- Remainder of Farm 466	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Portion 1 of Farm 465	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljnuy&st=5gs9tnq

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



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====

Francois Byleveld

From: RICHARD MALEFO <malefotrans@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 21 November 2025 15:15
To: Dale Holder
Cc: info@ctsheritage.com
Subject: proposed responses to proposed site visit
Attachments: IMG_20251121_0002_1.pdf

please see the attached letter

Regards:

Malefo Transport

94 3rd street

mohodi -ga- madikana

0788.

082 410 1452

063 648 7862

FAX: 086 275 2830

Mr Richard Malefo

PO BOX 547

Bochum

0790

Cell: 082 410 1452

Email: malefo@gmail.com

To:

Mr. Dale Holder

Senior Environmental Practitioner,

Cape EAPrac

Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

CC:

Mr. Nicholas Wiltshire

Director, CTS Heritage

Email: info@ctsheritage.com

Date: 20 November 2025

RE: Formal Response to Proposed Site Visit and Requirement for a Comprehensive Living Heritage Assessment (Tabor PV cluster)

Dear Mr. Holder,

Your email dated Nov 20, 2025 at 3:09 PM, refers. Thank you for your response and confirming the logistical arrangements for the 26th November meeting.

However, your email failed to formally commit to the expanded scope and resources required to rectify the fundamental flaws in the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA). The meeting on the 26th cannot proceed as planned without written confirmation of the following core requirements:

Requirements for Legal Compliance and Fair Process

- **Living Heritage Assessment:** Mr. Wiltshire must commit to conducting a dedicated, funded Living Heritage Assessment to comply with NHRA Section 3(2)(b), not merely recording oral histories.

- **Structured Mapping:** The 26th November meeting must include collaborative mapping using aerial and cadastral maps provided by CTS Heritage.
- **Site Verification Technology:** We require a formal commitment to develop and fund a plan for Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and/or magnetometry surveys for all high-probability burial areas identified by elders. This cannot be conditional or explored later.
- **Fair Compensation and Logistics:** We require a formal commitment to the provision of reasonable sitting allowances/compensation for the time and specialized knowledge of the elders and the Chatleka Heritage Verification Committee. We also require confirmation of funding for the required formal public notice process to engage the broader community.

Please provide detailed justification for any request that cannot be accommodated

We look forward to receiving confirmation on these specific commitments immediately, as they are mandatory steps toward a legally compliant HIA and a fair, resourced process.

Yours in the struggle for land, dignity, and justice,

Mr. Malefo
Elder and Former Chairperson
Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)
Cell: 082 410 1452
Email: malefotrans@gmail.com

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2025 15:09
To: RICHARD MALEFO; info@ctsheritage.com; Nicholas Wiltshire
Cc: Jenna Lavin; Francois Byleveld
Subject: RE: FORMAL RESPONSE TO PROPOSED SITE VISIT

Dear Mr Malefo,

Thank you for getting back to us and for making the CPA available on Wednesday 26th November. The Heritage Specialist, Nic Wiltshire is travelling up from Cape Town on Tuesday (25th) and has changed his flights to accommodate the extra day on Wednesday (26th of November) after the Open Day on Tuesday. There will be recordings taken of oral histories submitted during the Open Day as well as on site on Wednesday. Nic is renting a 4x4 and is happy to collect the relevant Elder you had in mind to visit the farm.

The additional heritage information will be incorporated into the revised Heritage Impact Assessment.

Unfortunately it will not be feasible to carry out a GPR survey on Wednesday 26th November, however, the site visit will assist the specialist in determining whether a GPR survey could be explored in future.

Could you let me know if the heritage specialist can continue to communicate directly with you or is there a different community Elder you had in mind that will be the correct person to contact in terms of arrangements for Wednesday 26th?

Kind Regards,

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

From: RICHARD MALEFO <malefotrans@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 10:07
To: info@ctsheritage.com
Cc: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: FORMAL RESPONSE TO PROPOSED SITE VISIT

Please receive the attached response letter

Regards:
Malefo Transport
94 3rd street
mohodi -ga- madikana
0788.

082 410 1452

063 648 7862

FAX: 086 275 2830

B. Required Resources and Process Commitment

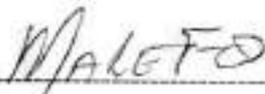
The CPA requires the following commitment from the Project Proponent (through the EAP and Specialist) to complete a legally compliant HIA:

Requirement	Action Requested	Purpose
Living Heritage Assessment	Mr. Wiltshire must conduct dedicated, funded oral history interviews with the elders to document intangible values.	To comply with NHRA Section 3(2)(b) and assess the cultural value of the land beyond artefacts.
Site Verification Technology	Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and/or magnetometry surveys must be committed to by the Specialist for all high-probability areas identified by the elders. Also consider use of high resolution drone and satellite images.	To locate and verify the unmarked and ploughed-over graves (Challenge 4).
Logistics and Accessibility	Provision of appropriate, accessible transport (e.g., 4x4) and reasonable sitting allowances/compensation for the time of the elders and the Chatleka Heritage Verification Committee.	To overcome Elder Mobility and Resource Constraints (Challenges 3 & 1).
HIA Addendum	Commitment to developing and funding a formal Addendum to the current HIA that incorporates the findings of the Living Heritage Assessment and the CPA's verified site data.	To ensure the final report reflects the full legislative requirements and community input before submission for Environmental Authorisation.

We look forward to a productive and constructive meeting on November 26th, provided the scope is expanded to address these critical issues. The Chatleka CPA is committed to the protection of our ancestral heritage, and we expect the Tabor PV cluster of projects to demonstrate an equal commitment to legal compliance and restorative justice.

Yours in the struggle for land, dignity, and justice,

Mr. Malefo



Elder and Former Chairperson

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 082 410 1452

Email: malefotrans@gmail.com

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1. Core Objection: Failure to Assess Living Cultural Landscape

The central point of the Chatleka CPA's objection to the HIA is not merely the omission of graves, but the complete failure to assess our living cultural landscape and intangible heritage.

The current HIA focuses predominantly on archaeological artefacts (stone tools, ceramics, and rock shelters) and fails to address the ongoing, spiritual relationship the Chatleka people have with our ancestral land. This omission renders the HIA legally deficient, as it directly contravenes Section 3(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA, Act 25 of 1999), which explicitly defines heritage resources to include:

"Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage."

By focusing only on the physical, the HIA reduces our two centuries of history on this land to "objects" rather than an ongoing, living relationship with the land that is central to our cultural continuity, identity, and the basis of our land restitution claim. We require an assessment that recognises the farms on Tabor PV cluster sites (especially Draailoop) as the *"cradle and the graveyard of the Chatleka people."*

2. Practical Challenges to Site Identification

The CPA is fully committed to identifying and protecting all ancestral graves and heritage sites, but our capacity to execute this without project resources is severely limited.

The following practical challenges must be formally accommodated in the extended HIA process:

- 1. Time and Resource Constraints:** The process of calling on all families who once resided on the affected farms to come forward and identify their ancestors' graves requires a formalized public notice process funded and facilitated by the Project,

and a dedicated timeline extending beyond the current Environmental Authorisation window.

2. **Loss of Knowledge:** Many elders with detailed knowledge of burial sites and historical locations have since passed on, making the identification of unmarked sites reliant on fragmented knowledge and complex methods.
3. **Elder Mobility:** The remaining elders who hold vital oral history are too old and often too frail to walk the vast land required for a comprehensive loco-inspection. Accessible transport and assistance are mandatory.
4. **Unmarked and Desecrated Graves:** The bulk of the graves are unmarked, and many have been ploughed over by previous farm activities. Visual inspection alone will not suffice.
5. **Historical Denial of Access:** The difficulty and denial of access faced by our elders in the early 2000s during the land claim process has delayed our ability to formally map these sites for decades. This must now be remedied with guaranteed, formal access.

3. Proposed Way Forward: A Comprehensive and Resourced Plan

To rectify the HIA's flaws and overcome the logistical challenges, the Chatleka CPA proposes the following minimum requirements for the immediate way forward:

A. Redefinition of the November 26th Meeting

The meeting on Wednesday, 26th November must be dedicated to two primary tasks:

1. **Formal Oral History Session:** A sit-down session with the identified elders, facilitated by Mr. Wiltshire and the EAP, to conduct structured interviews and collaborative mapping using aerial photographs and cadastral maps provided by CTS Heritage. This is to identify not just marked graves, but sacred sites, ancestral narratives, and intangible heritage locations which fall under the NHRA's definition of "living heritage."
2. **Agreement on Resources:** Formal agreement on the budget and logistics for the full CPA-led verification process (as detailed below).

Chatleka CPA — Guardians of our Land, Heritage, and Future

Mr Richard Malefo
PO BOX 547
Bochum
0790
Cell: 082 410 1452
Email: malefotrans@gmail.com

To:
Mr. Nicholas Wiltshire
Director, CTS Heritage
Email: info@ctsheritage.com

CC:
Mr. Dale Holder
Senior Environmental Practitioner,
Cape EAPrac
Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Date: 17 November 2025

Formal Response to Proposed Site Visit and Requirement for a Comprehensive Living Heritage Assessment (Tabor PV cluster)

Dear Mr. Wiltshire and Mr. Holder,

We acknowledge receipt of your emails dated 14 November 2025, confirming the consideration of the Chatleka CPA's formal objection to the Heritage Assessment Study.

We view Mr. Wiltshire's offer for a site visit on Wednesday, 26th November, to conduct detailed recordings of graves at Tabor PV cluster proposed project sites as a necessary first step towards meaningful engagement. However, we must immediately clarify that this meeting cannot proceed as a standard, limited loco-inspection. The fundamental flaw in the current Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) requires a complete expansion of its scope, and the challenges we face require significant resource commitment from the Project Proponent.

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MR.

- **Structured Mapping:** The 26th November meeting must include collaborative mapping using aerial and cadastral maps provided by CTS Heritage.
- **Site Verification Technology:** We require a formal commitment to develop and fund a plan for Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and/or magnetometry surveys for all high-probability burial areas identified by elders. This cannot be conditional or explored later.
- **Fair Compensation and Logistics:** We require a formal commitment to the provision of reasonable sitting allowances/compensation for the time and specialized knowledge of the elders and the Chatleka Heritage Verification Committee. We also require confirmation of funding for the required formal public notice process to engage the broader community.

Please provide detailed justification for any request that cannot be accommodated

We look forward to receiving confirmation on these specific commitments immediately, as they are mandatory steps toward a legally compliant HIA and a fair, resourced process.

Yours in the struggle for land, dignity, and justice,

Mr. Malefo



Elder and Former Chairperson

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 082 410 1452

Email: malefotrans@gmail.com

Chatleka CPA — Guardians of our Land, Heritage, and Future

Francois Byleveld

From: RICHARD MALEFO <malefotrans@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 10:07
To: info@ctsheritage.com
Cc: Dale Holder
Subject: FORMAL RESPONSE TO PROPOSED SITE VISIT
Attachments: CamScanner 2025-11-18 09.02.pdf

Please receive the attached response letter

Regards:

Malefo Transport

94 3rd street

mohodi -ga- madikana

0788.

082 410 1452

063 648 7862

FAX: 086 275 2830

Francois Byleveld

From: RICHARD MALEFO <malefotrans@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 14 November 2025 11:53
To: Dale Holder
Subject: Re: objection by Mr Malefo

Thank you for your response.

Regards:

Malefo Transport
94 3rd street
mohodi -ga- madikana
0788.

082 410 1452

063 648 7862

FAX: 086 275 2830

On Fri, Nov 14, 2025 at 9:47 AM Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Mr Malefo.

Thank you very much for the below email and the attached comment. We hereby confirm receipt of your email and comment.

The concerns raised by yourself as an elder of the Chatleka community and former chairperson of the Chatleka CPA are currently under consideration by all parties (including the Social and Heritage Specialists) and will be considered, addressed and formally responded to in due course. We look forward to further productive engagement as part of this environmental process.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: RICHARD MALEFO <malefotrans@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:46
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: objection by Mr Malefo

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please receive the letter attached

Regards:

Malefo Transport

94 3rd street

mohodi -ga- madikana

0788.

082 410 1452

063 648 7862

FAX: 086 275 2830

Francois Byleveld

From: Nicholas Wiltshire <nic.wiltshire@ctsheritage.com>
Sent: Friday, 14 November 2025 13:02
To: Malefotrans@gmail.com
Cc: Dale Holder; Jenna Lavin; Louise-Mari van Zyl; Francois Byleveld
Subject: Site visit to the graves at Draailoop

Hi Richard, Dale sent me your details about the graves that are being visited at Draailoop and Bethel farms. We have an Open Day on Tuesday 25th November to invite interested and affected parties to submit their comments and inputs to the impact assessment process and I would like to go with you to the sites you submitted to carry out detailed recordings of the graves.

Would you be available on Wednesday 26th (in the morning) to visit the farms or if you are not available perhaps another person on your committee could join me?

All the best

Nic



Nicholas Wiltshire, Director

CTS Heritage

Unit 5 off Rectory Lane, 112 St Georges Street, Simon's Town, 7975

Cell: +27 (0)82 303 7870

Office: +27 (0)87 550 1516

info@ctsheritage.com * www.ctsheritage.com

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Friday, 14 November 2025 09:47
To: RICHARD MALEFO
Cc: Francois Byleveld
Subject: RE: objection by Mr Malefo
Attachments: CamScanner 2025-11-13 11.28.pdf

Dear Mr Malefo.

Thank you very much for the below email and the attached comment. We hereby confirm receipt of your email and comment.

The concerns raised by yourself as an elder of the Chatleka community and former chairperson of the Chatleka CPA are currently under consideration by all parties (including the Social and Heritage Specialists) and will be considered, addressed and formally responded to in due course. We look forward to further productive engagement as part of this environmental process.

Kind Regards,

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

From: RICHARD MALEFO <malefotrans@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:46
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: objection by Mr Malefo

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please receive the letter attached

Regards:
Malefo Transport
94 3rd street
mohodi -ga- madikana
0788.

082 410 1452
063 648 7862
FAX: 086 275 2830

Mr Richard Malefo
PO BOX 547
Bochum
0790
Cell: 082 410 1452
Email: malefotrans@gmail.com

To:
Mr. Dale Holder
Senior Environmental Practitioner
Cape EAPrac
Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za
Tel: 044 874 0365

Date: 13 November 2025

To: Mr. Dale Holder

**OBJECTION TO THE REVISED DRAFT EIR, SIA, AND HIA FOR THE DRAA LOOP
SOLAR PV FACILITY AND THE ENTIRE TABOR PV CLUSTER ON CHATLEKA
ANCESTRAL LAND**

I am Mr. Malefo, an elder of the Chatleka community and a former Chairperson of the Chatleka Communal Property Association. I write to you not with a cold pen, but with a heavy heart and a memory that burns—a memory stretching back to the time before your maps and boundaries were drawn.

This land, the entire Tabor Cluster encompassing Draailoop, Bethel, Klipput and Makoppa, and the farms beyond, is not merely a "site" for a PV project. It is the cradle and the graveyard of the Chatleka people and related communities. It is a living cultural landscape built on two centuries of our suffering. Your reports—the EIR, the SIA, and the HIA—speak of logistics and finance; they speak of everything *but* the soul of the land.

We reject these reports in their entirety. They propose to commit a third wave of dispossession upon our community. The first was by the settlers who stole our land; the

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second was by the apartheid regime which scattered us; the third will be by the hands of 'green energy' developers who seek to bury our history under metal and glass.

I. The Enduring Trauma: Our Land is a Monument to Injustice

The historical facts of our removal are not anecdotes; they are the scars we carry on our backs to this day.

The Forgery and the Betrayal

Our trauma began not with violence, but with deceit. On Benauwdheid (Ha-Mporetji), the old man Ngwako Jan Mporetji was found staying there by a surveyor, Mr. Hill, who issued him a permit to remain. When the farmer Ben Lavin arrived in 1949, the old man proudly produced those papers—proof of his right to the land. Lavin simply asked to see them and never brought them back, initiating the fight that drove the Mporetji family out. This act of deceptive forgery caused the old man such distress that for the rest of his life, he was always reciting the names of the farmers, as if mentally deranged. That plight is still haunting his descendants.

On Bonne-Esperance, the first signs of doom came as early as 1892, when our young herdsmen came running in panic, having witnessed white men knocking beacons into the ground—the first physical signs of the land being stolen.

The Branding of "MOREKOMO"

Our families were not offered a fair wage; they were forced into "MOREKOMO"—the brutal labour tenancy system.

- On Dassieshoek, the original headquarters of the Chatlekas, children had no opportunities for schooling but were forced to work on alternative weeks for the farmer.
- On Weltevreden and Ladybrand, adult males worked three months a year for no pay, while women worked two days a week.
- On Mooimeissiedraai, the exploitation escalated until farmer Attie Venter demanded work for the whole year in exchange for only a single bag of mealie meal.

Chatleka CPA — Guardians of our Land, Heritage, and Future

MR

We lost our rights to crop production and cattle rearing across all these farms, including Draailoop, where the limiting of livestock led to the expulsion of the Selabe family through the dreaded *trek-pass* system.

The Sacred Ground

This land is not just *where* we lived; it is where we buried our dead.

On Draailoop, the tombstone of old man Mamokutupi Jacob Selabe still stands in the middle of the farm. When we take our children and grandchildren there, pointing to the tombstones of grandfather and grandmother and the sites of our homesteads, the feeling of a profound loss of home is felt anew. This loss is not mitigated; it is exacerbated by your plans.

It is highly irregular that the Heritage Specialist in the HIA can claim to have identified graves and sites without engagement with our elders. This entire area is littered with the unmarked graves of the forebearers of Chatleka members and other communities. Many were deliberately destroyed by ploughing over them by previous farmers, but our elders possess the living, cultural memory of where these souls rest—all over the area. The entire project footprint is a consecrated burial ground.

Furthermore, we recall the pain on Ladybrand where a farm owner desecrated graves, scattering human bones, because people were visiting these ancestral sites yearly. And the chilling fact that a white farm manager on the same land was keen to collect human skulls as souvenirs for his living room. This history of systematic grave destruction and cultural desecration makes your current Heritage Impact Assessment a travesty.

II. The Procedural and Legal Failure of Your Reports

The Draft EIR, HIA, and SIA are not merely inadequate; they are procedurally, legally, and ethically deficient.

A. Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) Rejection

We formally object to the HIA and its findings because:

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1. **Exclusion of Living Heritage:** The assessment failed to recognise the claims and traditional knowledge of the Chatleka CPA as the custodians of heritage resources within our ancestral land.
2. **Cumulative Impact:** The HIA is incomplete because it failed to conduct a cumulative heritage assessment across all four Tabor Cluster projects to evaluate the true loss of cultural continuity and landscape.
3. **Irregular Methodology:** The Specialist's claim to identify graves without the direct, on-site engagement and verification from the elders who know the unmarked resting places is a fundamental, fatal flaw that renders the HIA null and void.

B. Environmental and Social Impact Reports (EIR/SIA) Rejection

Your entire process is built on shifting sand because it ignores the central legal reality: The land is subject to an unresolved Land Restitution Claim (KRP 693).

1. **Violation of Restitution Rights:** Advancing an Environmental Authorisation on disputed land under claim is a violation of the principles of procedural fairness and environmental justice and fundamentally undermines the constitutional right to land restitution.
2. **Lack of Genuine Consent (FPIC):** The EIR and SIA must stop peddling superficial consultations. We demand that no Environmental Authorisation is granted until Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) is obtained from the Chatleka CPA and other claimant communities.
3. **Flawed Social Assessment:** The SIA is biased and misleading, as it overstates local benefits while ignoring the severe social impacts of further diminishing our access to agricultural land and traditional cultural sites. A Cumulative Social Impact Assessment for the entire cluster is mandatory.

III. Conclusion and Non-Negotiable Demands

We do not oppose development in principle. We oppose the reproduction of historical dispossession on our ancestral land. We seek the dignity and rights that were stolen from the Mporetjis, the Selabes, the Selotas, and the countless others scattered to crowded reserves and urban areas.

Chatleka CPA — Guardians of our Land, Heritage, and Future

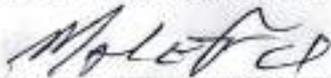
MR

We therefore demand that the Competent Authority (DFFE) and the EAP (Cape EAPrac) immediately:

1. HALT the Environmental Authorisation process for the Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Cluster until the Land Restitution Claims in the area are fully resolved.
2. REJECT the current Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), Social Impact Assessment (SIA), and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) as procedurally and substantively flawed.
3. INITIATE a new, transparent, and inclusive engagement process, with our elders at the forefront of identifying and verifying all heritage resources, including unmarked and desecrated graves.
4. Commit to a binding community benefit-sharing framework and a joint governance mechanism to be fully negotiated with the Chatleka CPA *prior* to any consideration of construction.

We stand firm. We will protect the living memory and the spiritual resting places of our ancestors, and we will not accept a renewable energy project that serves as a veil for an ancient injustice. Give us back our land so that we can live, work, prosper, and die in dignity.

Yours in the struggle for land, dignity, and justice,



Mr. Malefo
Elder and Former Chairperson
Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)
Cell: 082 410 1452
Email: malefotrans@gmail.com

Chatleka CPA — Guardians of our Land, Heritage, and Future



Francois Byleveld

From: RICHARD MALEFO <malefotrans@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 11:46
To: Dale Holder
Subject: objection by Mr Malefo
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please receive the letter attached

Regards:

Malefo Transport

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CHATLEKA CPA

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Registration No: KRP 693

Address: P.O. Box 536, Dwarsriver, 0812

Tel: 071 121 3905 | Email: chatlekacpa@gmail.com

To:

Mr. Dale Holder

Senior Environmental Practitioner

Cape EAPrac

Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Tel: 044 874 0365

Date: 02 December 2025

To: Mr. Holder

CC:

DFFE Reference Number	DFFE Case Officer	Email	Proponent
14/12/16/3/3/2/2698	Ms Zamalanga Langa	zlanga@dfpe.gov.za	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2699	Mr Lunga Dlova	ldlova@dfpe.gov.za	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2700	Ms Makhosazane Yeni	MYeni@dfpe.gov.za	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2701	Ms Thulisile Nyalunga	Tnyalunga@dfpe.gov.za	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd

FORMAL OBJECTION AND REQUEST FOR REFUSAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION FOR THE TABOR SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC CLUSTER PROJECTS (KLIPPUT, DRAAILOOP, MAKOPPA, AND BETHEL PV) BASED ON FUNDAMENTALLY FLAWED LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (LVIA) REPORTS.

1. INTRODUCTION AND LEGAL STANDING

The Chatleka Community Property Association (CPA) hereby registers its strong formal objection to the proposed Tabor Solar Photovoltaic Cluster projects, which include the Klipput, Draailoop, Makoppa, and Bethel PV Facilities, and their associated grid connections.

As the land claimants on the affected farms representing the long-term interests, livelihoods, and cultural heritage of our members in the vicinity of these proposed developments, the CPA is an Affected Party with a direct material and legal interest in the outcome of this Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

This objection is based on a comprehensive, review of the submitted Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) reports prepared by Visual Resource Management Africa (VRMA). Our review concludes that the reports are fundamentally inadequate and misleading, failing to meet the requirements of Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, the principles of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), and international best practice.

The LVIA's final recommendation for authorization WITH Mitigation is irrational, as it is based on inconsistent application of standards, flawed data, and a systematic underestimation of irreversible impacts.

2. CORE GROUNDS FOR SUBSTANTIVE OBJECTION

2.1 The Critical Fatal Flaw Inconsistency: PV vs. OHPL

The LVIA reports demonstrate an irreconcilable contradiction in the application of environmental significance criteria, undermining the credibility of the entire assessment cluster.

The specialist consistently identifies the Overhead Powerline (OHPL) Tertiary Alternative as the "No-Go Alternative" and a "Fatal Flaw". This rejection is explicitly motivated by the Medium to High visual impact significance of the linear infrastructure, reasoning that the effective encirclement of Klipputs Farm (a property used for eco-tourism and hunting with an established lodge) would "significantly reduce the property's tourism value and altering its established sense of place".

In direct contrast, the much larger, area-intensive Solar PV and BESS facilities themselves (totalling thousands of hectares across the four projects) are recommended for authorization WITH Mitigation. The operational visual impact significance for the expansive solar arrays is rated only Medium to Medium-Low WITH Mitigation.

Ground for Objection: The CPA objects that this constitutes irrational administrative action. If a linear, discrete power line is considered a fatal flaw for the local eco-tourism economy, then the simultaneous approval of four clustered, massive industrial solar facilities that collectively cover hundreds of hectares in the immediate vicinity, causing far greater visual intrusion, must also be considered a fatal flaw. The specialist is applying an inconsistent standard that appears to prioritize industrial energy development over existing high-value, lawful eco-tourism land use.

2.2 Unacceptable Cumulative Impact and Violation of NEMA Principles

The assessment of cumulative impacts (CLVIA) is demonstrably inadequate and contradicts the specialist's own baseline findings.

1. **Admission of Irreversible Harm vs. Acceptance:** The reports unequivocally state that the combined PV cluster "will result in a substantial transformation of the local landscape character, regardless of mitigation". Despite this admission of *substantial* and *irreversible* landscape change, the cumulative visual risk is ultimately rated as only Medium with mitigation.

Ground for Objection: The CPA asserts that recommending approval when the specialist confirms "substantial transformation... regardless of mitigation" violates the Precautionary Principle (NEMA s. 2(4)(a)(vii)).

2. **Unquantified Dark Sky Degradation:** The CLVIA identifies that combined light spillage from the numerous Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) and security lighting will significantly degrade the dark-sky quality, which supports local eco-tourism and the rural sense of place. However, the reports provide no site-specific photometric modelling or cumulative night-time visualization to quantify this critical impact.

2.3 Failure to Adhere to Environmental Justice and Procedural Fairness

1. **Exclusion of CPA Viewpoints:** The LVIA relies on Key Observation Points (KOPs) selected mainly from major roads (Botteliers Road, Gage Road) and commercial farmsteads. There is no evidence that KOPs were selected based on the specific viewpoints, communal grazing areas, footpaths, or residential clusters of the Chatleka CPA members or the vulnerable Klipputs Labour Tenants. The Klipputs Labour Tenants are listed as a Very High visual exposure receptor, yet were initially dismissed as not a KOP in one report.

Ground for Objection: The systematic exclusion of communal land viewpoints violates the NEMA principle of Environmental Justice (NEMA s. 2(4)(c)) by failing to assess the disproportionate visual impact borne by vulnerable communities.

2. **Absence of Site-Specific Visualizations:** A material procedural deficiency across all reports is the critical absence of site-specific photomontages or visualizations from the identified KOPs. The reports admit visualizations are "vital in large-scale modifications" to inform I&APs. This omission prevents the Chatleka CPA from meaningfully verifying the subjective Contrast Ratings (Weak, Moderate, Strong) and constitutes a breach of transparency and procedural fairness.

2.4 Underestimation of Technical and Socio-Economic Impacts

1. **Unreliable Technical Data:** The viewshed analysis (Zone of Visual Influence/ZVI) relies on open-source NASA ASTER Digital Elevation Model (DEM) data, which the reports

themselves admit is "approximate" and may incorrectly represent local topography, requiring verification via detailed survey. Relying on acknowledged approximate data for impacts of this magnitude is unacceptable.

2. **Economic Loss Unquantified:** The reports acknowledge the clear emphasis on eco-tourism and game farming in the area but are entirely spatial and visual, lacking any socio-economic impact assessment to quantify the potential loss of tourism revenue, devaluation of land, or impact on the wilderness experience for existing lawful livelihoods.
3. **Inadequate Mitigation and Irreversibility:** The reports classify the extensive PV arrays (with an operational life of 20 years) as "reversible," yet simultaneously acknowledge that the loss of bushveld vegetation would not be reversed and cannot be fully restored. This misclassification undermines the entire impact assessment. Furthermore, reliance on generic mitigation measures (e.g., dust suppression) lacks specific enforcement metrics and monitoring protocols.

3. GENERAL GAPS TO HIGHLIGHT

The CPA further highlights the following systemic gaps found across the LVIA cluster reports:

General Gap	Specific Deficiency to Highlight
Cultural Landscape Gap	The LVIA fails to document or assess the profound cultural, traditional, or spiritual significance of the bushveld landscape to the Chatleka CPA members or local indigenous communities.
Glint and Glare Analysis	There is a complete omission of a formal, technical analysis or modelling of glint and glare impacts from the photovoltaic panels on sensitive receptors.
Long-Term Liability	The reports lack secure, legally-binding mechanisms and financial assurances to ensure perpetual maintenance of mitigation and comprehensive site restoration after decommissioning.
Alternatives Inadequacy	The assessment fails to demonstrate that less visually sensitive alternative locations or reduced project extents were genuinely considered to avoid high-conflict areas.
Seasonal Variation	The site visit was conducted in January 2025, failing to assess visual exposure during the dry, winter months when vegetation screening is dramatically reduced.

The LVIA reports for the Tabor Solar projects are critically flawed by a "Cultural Landscape" Gap, failing to document the profound cultural, traditional, and spiritual significance of the bushveld landscape to the Chatleka CPA members and local indigenous communities. The assessment treats the area as a mere physical container, disregarding its status as a lived-in, worked-in, and spiritually significant space, thereby ignoring the principles of cultural value established in the referenced International Good Practice (GLVIA) and IFC Performance Standards (PS 6 & PS 8), which require the consideration of non-material benefits and socio-cultural responses derived from the landscape.

4. REQUESTED ACTIONS BY THE CHATLEKA CPA

Based on the substantive and procedural flaws identified in the LVIA documentation, the Chatleka CPA demands that the Competent Authority take the following steps:

PRIMARY DEMAND: REFUSAL OF AUTHORIZATION

The Competent Authority is requested to REFUSE Environmental Authorization for all four Tabor Solar PV Cluster Projects and associated grid infrastructure.

Grounds for Refusal: Violation of the NEMA Precautionary Principle, failure to adequately assess cumulative impacts, and the existence of irresolvable conflict with established, high-value eco-tourism land uses and the CPA's communal land rights.

ALTERNATIVE DEMAND: REQUIREMENT FOR SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Should the Competent Authority not immediately refuse authorization, the CPA demands that the LVIA reports be formally **REJECTED AS INADEQUATE**, and the Proponents be mandated to supply the following essential information before the assessment process can proceed:

1. **Comprehensive Cumulative Modelling:** Provision of full, integrated cumulative visual and night-time photometric models showing the stacked intervisibility and light spill from all four projects, demonstrating the visual impact on receptors up to 10km away.
2. **Socio-Economic Quantification:** A detailed socio-economic impact assessment that quantifies the potential loss of tourism revenue and devaluation of the wilderness experience for eco-tourism operations in the region.

3. **Corrected Visualizations:** Provision of site-specific photomontages from all identified KOPs, including newly identified CPA community viewpoints, complete with verified metadata (coordinates, focal length).
4. **Technical Data Verification:** Viewshed modelling must be redone using high-resolution DEM data (5m or better) and cross-sections to verify outputs, rectifying the acknowledged reliance on approximate ASTER data.
5. **Resolution of Inconsistency:** A full explanation and justification resolving the PV versus OHPL "fatal flaw" inconsistency.
6. **Heritage impact assessment:** Evaluate the heritage, cultural, and spiritual impacts resulting from the project's modified landscape and visual elements. This assessment must be conducted in direct consultation with the Chatleka CPA and all other affected Communal Property Associations in the project area.

Failure to address these issues will constitute procedural unfairness and irrational administrative action, as decision-making cannot be based on incomplete, unverifiable, or technically deficient specialist studies.

We reserve all rights, including the right to appeal any decision and the right to seek legal review and compensation.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr MR Matimolane
Member: Extended Executive Committee

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)
Email Address: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com
Cell No.: 083 467 6947

Francois Byleveld

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 02 December 2025 08:02
To: Dale Holder; Francois Byleveld
Cc: Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; RICHARD MALEFO; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Sylvia Mdaka; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; Motz Ntimo
Subject: Objection to Tabor Solar PV project Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
Attachments: Chatleka CPA - Objection to Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 02 December 2025.pdf

Good day Dale,

Attached please find Letter of Objection against the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment reports for the Tabor Solar projects.

Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane
Chatleka CPA

Francois Byleveld

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 21 November 2025 11:52
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Francois Byleveld; Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: Re: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Mr Holder,

Thank you for your detailed response dated 21 November 2025, and for outlining the rationale behind the open-day format and the selection of Vleifontein Community Hall as the venue.

We acknowledge your position and note your persistence in maintaining the open-day format despite the reservations expressed by the Chatleka CPA. We have carefully considered the points you have raised regarding flexibility, personalized engagement, and inclusivity, and we recognize that the EAP has given thought to these aspects of public participation.

However, we must express our profound disappointment that the EAP continues to treat the Chatleka CPA in the same manner as general Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), rather than recognizing us as a special category of directly affected stakeholder with distinct legal standing and procedural rights.

Recognition of the CPA's Unique Status

The Chatleka CPA is not merely an interested party expressing general concerns. We are:

- Holders of active land claim rights over the affected land, which creates a direct legal interest in any development proposals;
- A communal property association representing collective land rights and interests that cannot be disaggregated into individual stakeholder concerns;
- A community whose constitutional rights to land, dignity, and meaningful participation are directly engaged by this process.

The failure to differentiate between our status and that of general I&APs constitutes a material deficiency in the public participation process. Our objections are rooted not only in preferences about engagement format, but in substantive legal and procedural rights that require specific recognition and accommodation under NEMA, the Constitution, and land reform legislation.

A generic, one-size-fits-all approach to public participation—however well-intentioned—cannot satisfy the heightened duty of meaningful engagement owed to communities with direct, legally recognized interests in the land in question.

Logistical and Financial Barriers to Participation

While we note your emphasis on accessibility, we must respectfully point out that your assessment does not adequately account for the practical realities faced by our members:

- **Distance and Travel:** Vleifontein is not easily accessible to the majority of Chatleka CPA members, who reside primarily in Matoks and Indermark. The distances involved are substantial, and travel to Vleifontein requires significant time and logistical coordination that many of our members—particularly elderly and working members—cannot easily manage.
- **Financial Burden:** We must emphasize the financial stress associated with attending the proposed open day at Vleifontein. Many of our members face economic hardship, and the cost of transport to and from the venue represents a genuine barrier to participation. While you mention "good public transport links," we would respectfully note that public transport in rural areas is often infrequent, unreliable, and costly, particularly for return journeys in the evening.
- **Time Constraints for Working Members:** While the seven-hour window (12:00–19:00) offers flexibility in theory, many of our working members cannot take time off during weekday working hours, and the open-day format—by its nature—does not provide a guaranteed opportunity for collective engagement at a time when the majority of members can attend together.

These barriers are not abstract concerns—they are material obstacles that will result in the exclusion or under-representation of significant portions of our membership, thereby undermining the legitimacy and fairness of the public participation process.

Proposed Way Forward: Dual Engagement Approach

In light of the above, and in the spirit of constructive engagement, we propose a dual approach that accommodates both the EAP's preference for an open-day format and the CPA's need for meaningful, collective engagement:

1. Proceed with the Open Day at Vleifontein (as currently planned), to accommodate general I&APs and any CPA members who are able to attend; and
2. Convene an Additional Public Meeting specifically to engage with the Chatleka CPA and other affected CPAs, to be held:
 - On a Saturday or Sunday, to allow working members to participate without loss of income;
 - At Banderlierkop, approximately 10 km from our farm, which is significantly more accessible to our members;
 - At a date to be mutually agreed following the open day, to allow adequate time for preparation and notice to members.

This dual approach would:

- Respect the EAP's chosen format for general stakeholder engagement;
- Provide the structured, collective forum necessary for the CPA to engage meaningfully on matters affecting our constitutional and statutory rights;
- Demonstrate good faith and procedural fairness by accommodating the specific needs of directly affected rights-holders;
- Mitigate the financial and logistical barriers that would otherwise exclude many of our members from the process.

We believe this proposal represents a reasonable and proportionate accommodation of both parties' concerns, and we respectfully urge the EAP and applicant to give it serious consideration.

Acknowledgment of Financial and Logistical Realities

Finally, we request that the EAP formally acknowledge the financial stress and logistical challenges

faced by CPA members in accessing the proposed open-day venue. This acknowledgment is important not only for the record, but to ensure that the public participation process is assessed against the actual—rather than theoretical—accessibility of engagement opportunities.

If the EAP is unwilling to provide an additional, more accessible engagement opportunity, we ask that you place on record your reasons for declining to do so, particularly in light of the CPA's status as a directly affected rights-holder with active land claims over the affected area.

Conclusion

We remain committed to constructive engagement and trust that the EAP will give serious consideration to the dual approach we have proposed. We believe this represents a fair and workable solution that respects both the integrity of the public participation process and the legitimate interests of all parties.

We look forward to your response at your earliest convenience, given the time-sensitive nature of the EIA process.

Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane
On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive
Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com
Cell: 083 467 6947

On Fri, Nov 21, 2025 at 10:44 AM Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Mr Matimolane

Thank you for your email and continued engagement in this regard.

With careful consideration of the concerns raised regarding the format of the engagement session, we acknowledge that a public meeting is an appropriate way for effective engagement in some instances, we however maintain that in this instance, the open day format provides a fair opportunity for constructive engagement which we submit being better than a meeting format alternative, for the following reasons:

1. In the open day format, stakeholders can attend at a time that suits them best within the event window because of an open day stretching over a much longer period of time (in this instance from 12h00-19h00 i.e. seven hours). With a public meeting format, it requires everyone to be available for both a limited and fixed time i.e. 1.5 – 2hrs, at a set time during the day or evening or both, which may still exclude people who cannot attend at such a fixed time due to i.e. work or personal commitments. The time limitation in particular is also prohibitive because it restricts the time for information sharing and discussions more so than in an open house format that extends for a much longer period.
2. An open day allows for one-on-one, or small group discussions with the EAP, specialist or applicant which is more enabling to stakeholders who can discuss matters that are of interest/concern to them specifically. Whereas a meeting alternative effectively forces

attendees to have to listen to issues/matters that are not of their specific interest. Attendees may also not find enough time during such a limited period to fully disclose and/or unpack their specific concerns.

3. We often do find that not all attendees in a meeting format are comfortable speaking up in front of a larger crowd that gather in a public meeting format, some simply being shy, others not feeling comfortable expressing their views/opinions in front of a group/s of people that otherwise may have conflicting views on the same topic for instance. Such a format then discourages detailed or personal inquiries and subsequent engagement. An open house format by nature, creates a safe space for such stakeholders to disclose their inputs/concerns in a manner that is not exposed to the views/opinions of other stakeholders
4. In the open day format, multiple stations or displays present different aspects of the environmental process (e.g., maps, data, timelines), allowing stakeholders to explore and engage on topics that concern them at their own pace. In a public meeting format, information is usually presented in a linear format which limits effective engagement and depending on the nature of people's interest, some disciplines may then become lost in the process.
5. An open day format allows for improved quality of feedback, where stakeholders can engage on concerns individually via written or verbal means, leading to more thorough engagement.

In summary, an open day format fosters flexibility, personalized engagement, and a more inclusive, less intimidating environment for some stakeholders, which ultimately leads to better engagement, stakeholder understanding and higher-quality feedback compared to a traditional public meeting format.

We therefore feel strongly that the open day format will not detract from constructive engagement and although we take note of your concerns in this regard, we are confident that participation through such a format remains fair and transparent. All specialists/EAP/Applicant will keep notes from discussions and will be sure to record all comments/engagements during this session which we shall be sure to reflect as part of the ongoing public participation process.

The key criteria in selecting this venue for the open house was to be able to accommodate all potential stakeholders irrespective of their interest in this application. In selecting this venue, the following was considered amongst others:

1. The Community Hall is accessible to all stakeholders of the community being used for similar events.
2. The Community Hall has good public transport links and parking facilities. This reduces barriers to attendance.
3. The Community Hall is a space people recognise and are familiar with. This encourages meaningful participation and engagement.
4. The neutrality of the Community Hall avoids perceptions of bias that might arise if the open day was to be held at a private venue.
5. The Community Hall is designed to accommodate larger groups, with seating arrangements that can be adapted for the discussions.
6. The Community Hall also include essential amenities such as restrooms and accessibility features.

7. The Community Hall also has electricity which is needed for the presentations.

In summary, the Vleifontein Community Hall offers accessibility, familiarity, flexibility, and inclusivity, making it the most practical and stakeholder-friendly venue for the public open day.

We acknowledge that although the dominant home language in the Makhado Municipality is TsiVenda (75.88% according to the Social Impact Assessment), some members of the CPA are predominantly Sepedi speaking (According to the Social Impact Assessment, Sepedi speaking individuals make up 2.31%). To ensure that the Sepedi members are not excluded in terms of communication/information sharing, we have also taken the step of translating the Background Information Document to Sepedi which will also be made available at the open day for further distribution. We have taken the liberty of attaching copies of these BIDs to this email (which we'll also distribute to other registered I&APs) to help with further communication in preparation of the upcoming open day event. You are most welcome to distribute this to a wider audience as well as the beneficiaries that fall under your CPA. We trust that these measures are helpful in improving the communications to date.

We look forward to further continuous engagement with the CPA as this environmental process progresses.

Kind Regards,

Dale

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2025 17:48

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

Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>;

Dear Mr Holder,

I am writing to follow up on our correspondence dated 14 November 2024 (see email below), to which we have not yet received a response. As the date of the proposed public open day approaches—an approach we have already indicated strong reservations about—it is important that the Chatleka CPA receives clarity on the key issues raised in that letter, particularly regarding:

1. Accessibility and Demographics, and
2. Format and Quality of Engagement.

As highlighted previously, the concerns raised by our members regarding the suitability of the Vleifontein venue and the open-day engagement format remain unresolved. These factors materially affect the ability of our members—most of whom reside in Matoks and Indermark and are predominantly Sepedi-speaking—to participate meaningfully in the EIA process.

Similarly, the open-day format does not provide the structured, collective platform necessary for robust public engagement, which is central to the intent of the public participation process.

We therefore respectfully request your written response to the issues outlined in the letter, particularly whether the EAP and applicant are willing to:

Reconsider the venue to ensure accessibility and demographic appropriateness, and

Provide a structured, formal public meeting format in place of, or in addition to, the proposed open-day format.

We also reiterate our openness to constructive dialogue with the applicant, provided the purpose, basis, and expected outcomes of any separate meeting are clearly communicated in advance. As stated, all arrangements can be coordinated through:

Mr Motshewa Matimolane

Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com

Cell: 083 467 6947

with Mr Maphala (CPA Chairperson) copied to ensure continuity.

Given the time-sensitive nature of the EIA process, as well as the extended comment and response period, we respectfully request a response at your earliest convenience to enable all affected parties to plan and engage appropriately. In addition, we kindly request clarity on the process and anticipated timeframe for addressing and responding to the objections and concerns we have submitted. This information is essential to ensure that our participation remains informed, meaningful, and aligned with the statutory timelines of the EIA process.

Thank you for your continued engagement. We look forward to your clarification on these outstanding matters.

Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane
On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

On Fri, Nov 14, 2025 at 4:52 AM Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr Holder,

Thank you for your email and for confirming receipt of our formal submission. We appreciate the confirmation that our inputs will be included in further submissions to the Competent Authority (DFFE).

We request that the EAP take careful note of all submissions made to date, including those submitted by individual members of the Chatleka CPA in their personal capacities. Additional written inputs should also be expected before the due date, as our members continue to engage with the documents and the process.

With regard to your indication that the applicant is willing to meet directly with the CPA, we wish to clarify that the CPA did not request a separate meeting with the applicant outside the EIA public participation process. Our request was specifically for a physical public participation meeting as part of the formal EIA process.

Should the applicant wish to meet with us outside that formal process, we request clarity on the purpose, basis, and expected outcomes of such a meeting before we can consider it.

Notwithstanding this, the Chatleka CPA remains open to constructive dialogue with any stakeholder, including the applicant, where such engagement helps address our concerns. Any arrangements for such dialogue should be made through:

Mr. Motshewa Matimolane

Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com

Cell: 083 467 6947

with Mr. Maphala (CPA Chairperson) copied on all correspondence to ensure organisational continuity.

Our request for a physical public engagement meeting as part of the EIA process therefore remains in place. If our farm is not deemed a suitable or neutral venue, we propose Banderlierkop, approximately 10 km from our farm, as an alternative. The local police station may also provide an appropriate and secure venue, should neutrality or safety be a concern.

We would like to emphasise again why the Chatleka CPA members do not prefer the open-day format or the Vleifontein venue:

1. Accessibility and Demographics:

Vleifontein is not easily accessible to most of our members, and none of our members reside there. The majority are based in Matoks and Indermark and are predominantly Sepedi-speaking. We respectfully request that the EAP take these demographic realities into account in determining a suitable engagement venue.

2. Format and Quality of Engagement:

The open-day format does not allow for the collective, robust, and transparent engagement required for meaningful public participation. A structured public meeting is essential to ensure that CPA members and other affected community members can collectively raise their issues, receive responses, and engage meaningfully in a public setting.

We appreciate your ongoing engagement and look forward to your response on the above matters. We trust that the public participation process will be adapted to ensure fairness, accessibility, and meaningful involvement for all affected parties.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane

On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

On Thu, 13 Nov 2025 at 12:40, Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Mr Maphala (c/o Mr Motshewa Matimolane)

Thank you very much for your comment. Your email below as well as the appended formal comment (reattached in this email) are herewith acknowledged and we confirm that this will be included in any further submissions to the Competent Authority.

Cape EAPrac have discussed the CPA's comments and concerns with the applicant, social specialist and heritage specialist. The concerns raised by the Chatleka CPA are currently under consideration by all parties and will be considered, addressed and formally responded to in due course. We look forward to further productive engagement with the Chatleka CPA as this environmental process progresses.

The applicant in respect of these applications has indicated their willingness to meet directly with the members of the CPA as requested. In this regard, could you kindly provide the details (name and telephone number) of the relevant CPA representative where the arrangements for such a meeting can be made.

The other aspects currently underway as part of the public participation process, including the public open day engagement session at the Vleifontein Community Hall will continue as planned.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, 10 November 2025 17:50

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za

Subject: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Dear Mr. Holder,

Please find attached the formal letter of objection submitted by **Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)**, dated 10 November 2025.

This objection specifically targets the proposed **Draailoop Solar PV Facility** (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699).

Crucially, the Chatleka CPA requests that the objections, legal arguments, and procedural deficiencies raised in the attached letter be formally applied and considered for all other projects that constitute the Tabor Solar PV Cluster, including:

- Bethel Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2698)
- Klipput Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2700)
- Makoppa Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2701)

The grounds for objection relate primarily to the failure to recognize active land claim rights, inadequate community engagement, and procedural defects under NEMA.

We expect a formal acknowledgement of receipt for both this email and the attached objection. We look forward to your prompt response regarding the requested suspension of the EIA process and the initiation of meaningful engagement (in the form and manner we have requested).

Sincerely,

Motshewa Matimolane on behalf of:

Mr. N.A. Maphala

Acting Chairperson Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 071 121 3905

Email: jalinetworking682@gmail.com

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Friday, 21 November 2025 10:44
To: Motshewa Matimolane
Cc: Francois Byleveld; Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; MYeni@dfpe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dfpe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dfpe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO; zlanga@dfpe.gov.za
Subject: RE: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster
Attachments: Public Open Day Pamphlet (English).pdf; Public Open Day Pamphlet (Sepedi).pdf; Public Open Day Pamphlet (Tshivenda).pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mr Matimolane

Thank you for your email and continued engagement in this regard.

With careful consideration of the concerns raised regarding the format of the engagement session, we acknowledge that a public meeting is an appropriate way for effective engagement in some instances, we however maintain that in this instance, the open day format provides a fair opportunity for constructive engagement which we submit being better than a meeting format alternative, for the following reasons:

1. In the open day format, stakeholders can attend at a time that suits them best within the event window because of an open day stretching over a much longer period of time (in this instance from 12h00-19h00 i.e. seven hours). With a public meeting format, it requires everyone to be available for both a limited and fixed time i.e. 1.5 – 2hrs, at a set time during the day or evening or both, which may still exclude people who cannot attend at such a fixed time due to i.e. work or personal commitments. The time limitation in particular is also prohibitive because it restricts the time for information sharing and discussions more so than in an open house format that extends for a much longer period.
2. An open day allows for one-on-one, or small group discussions with the EAP, specialist or applicant which is more enabling to stakeholders who can discuss matters that are of interest/concern to them specifically. Whereas a meeting alternative effectively forces attendees to have to listen to issues/matters that are not of their specific interest. Attendees may also not find enough time during such a limited period to fully disclose and/or unpack their specific concerns.
3. We often do find that not all attendees in a meeting format are comfortable speaking up in front of a larger crowd that gather in a public meeting format, some simply being shy, others not feeling comfortable expressing their views/opinions in front of a group/s of people that otherwise may have conflicting views on the same topic for instance. Such a format then discourages detailed or personal inquiries and subsequent engagement. An open house format by nature, creates a safe space for such stakeholders to disclose their inputs/concerns in a manner that is not exposed to the views/opinions of other stakeholders
4. In the open day format, multiple stations or displays present different aspects of the environmental process (e.g., maps, data, timelines), allowing stakeholders to explore and engage on topics that concern them at their own pace. In a public meeting format, information

is usually presented in a linear format which limits effective engagement and depending on the nature of people's interest, some disciplines may then become lost in the process.

5. An open day format allows for improved quality of feedback, where stakeholders can engage on concerns individually via written or verbal means, leading to more thorough engagement.

In summary, an open day format fosters flexibility, personalized engagement, and a more inclusive, less intimidating environment for some stakeholders, which ultimately leads to better engagement, stakeholder understanding and higher-quality feedback compared to a traditional public meeting format.

We therefore feel strongly that the open day format will not detract from constructive engagement and although we take note of your concerns in this regard, we are confident that participation through such a format remains fair and transparent. All specialists/EAP/Applicant will keep notes from discussions and will be sure to record all comments/engagements during this session which we shall be sure to reflect as part of the ongoing public participation process.

The key criteria in selecting this venue for the open house was to be able to accommodate all potential stakeholders irrespective of their interest in this application. In selecting this venue, the following was considered amongst others:

1. The Community Hall is accessible to all stakeholders of the community being used for similar events.
2. The Community Hall has good public transport links and parking facilities. This reduces barriers to attendance.
3. The Community Hall is a space people recognise and are familiar with. This encourages meaningful participation and engagement.
4. The neutrality of the Community Hall avoids perceptions of bias that might arise if the open day was to be held at a private venue.
5. The Community Hall is designed to accommodate larger groups, with seating arrangements that can be adapted for the discussions.
6. The Community Hall also include essential amenities such as restrooms and accessibility features.
7. The Community Hall also has electricity which is needed for the presentations.

In summary, the Vleifontein Community Hall offers accessibility, familiarity, flexibility, and inclusivity, making it the most practical and stakeholder-friendly venue for the public open day.

We acknowledge that although the dominant home language in the Makhado Municipality is TsiVenda (75.88% according to the Social Impact Assessment), some members of the CPA are predominantly Sepedi speaking (According to the Social Impact Assessment, Sepedi speaking individuals make up 2.31%). To ensure that the Sepedi members are not excluded in terms of communication/information sharing, we have also taken the step of translating the Background Information Document to Sepedi which will also be made available at the open day for further distribution. We have taken the liberty of attaching copies of these BIDs to this email (which we'll also distribute to other registered I&APs) to help with further communication in preparation of the upcoming open day event. You are most welcome to distribute this to a wider audience as well as the beneficiaries that fall under your CPA. We trust that these measures are helpful in improving the communications to date.

We look forward to further continuous engagement with the CPA as this environmental process progresses.

Kind Regards,
Dale

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2025 17:48
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: Re: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Dear Mr Holder,

I am writing to follow up on our correspondence dated 14 November 2024 (see email below), to which we have not yet received a response. As the date of the proposed public open day approaches—an approach we have already indicated strong reservations about—it is important that the Chatleka CPA receives clarity on the key issues raised in that letter, particularly regarding:

1. Accessibility and Demographics, and
2. Format and Quality of Engagement.

As highlighted previously, the concerns raised by our members regarding the suitability of the Vleifontein venue and the open-day engagement format remain unresolved. These factors materially affect the ability of our members—most of whom reside in Matoks and Indermark and are predominantly Sepedi-speaking—to participate meaningfully in the EIA process.

Similarly, the open-day format does not provide the structured, collective platform necessary for robust public engagement, which is central to the intent of the public participation process.

We therefore respectfully request your written response to the issues outlined in the letter, particularly whether the EAP and applicant are willing to:

Reconsider the venue to ensure accessibility and demographic appropriateness, and

Provide a structured, formal public meeting format in place of, or in addition to, the proposed open-day format.

We also reiterate our openness to constructive dialogue with the applicant, provided the purpose, basis, and expected outcomes of any separate meeting are clearly communicated in advance. As stated, all arrangements can be coordinated through:

Mr Motshewa Matimolane
Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com

Cell: 083 467 6947

with Mr Maphala (CPA Chairperson) copied to ensure continuity.

Given the time-sensitive nature of the EIA process, as well as the extended comment and response period, we respectfully request a response at your earliest convenience to enable all affected parties to plan and engage appropriately. In addition, we kindly request clarity on the process and anticipated timeframe for addressing and responding to the objections and concerns we have submitted. This information is essential to ensure that our participation remains informed, meaningful, and aligned with the statutory timelines of the EIA process.

Thank you for your continued engagement. We look forward to your clarification on these outstanding matters.

Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane
On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

On Fri, Nov 14, 2025 at 4:52 AM Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr Holder,

Thank you for your email and for confirming receipt of our formal submission. We appreciate the confirmation that our inputs will be included in further submissions to the Competent Authority (DFFE).

We request that the EAP take careful note of all submissions made to date, including those submitted by individual members of the Chatleka CPA in their personal capacities. Additional written inputs should also be expected before the due date, as our members continue to engage with the documents and the process.

With regard to your indication that the applicant is willing to meet directly with the CPA, we wish to clarify that the CPA did not request a separate meeting with the applicant outside the EIA public participation process. Our request was specifically for a physical public participation meeting as part of the formal EIA process.

Should the applicant wish to meet with us outside that formal process, we request clarity on the purpose, basis, and expected outcomes of such a meeting before we can consider it.

Notwithstanding this, the Chatleka CPA remains open to constructive dialogue with any stakeholder, including the applicant, where such engagement helps address our concerns. Any arrangements for such dialogue should be made through:

Mr. Motshewa Matimolane
Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com
Cell: 083 467 6947

with Mr. Maphala (CPA Chairperson) copied on all correspondence to ensure organisational continuity.

Our request for a physical public engagement meeting as part of the EIA process therefore remains in place. If our farm is not deemed a suitable or neutral venue, we propose Banderlierkop,

approximately 10 km from our farm, as an alternative. The local police station may also provide an appropriate and secure venue, should neutrality or safety be a concern.

We would like to emphasise again why the Chatleka CPA members do not prefer the open-day format or the Vleifontein venue:

1. Accessibility and Demographics:

Vleifontein is not easily accessible to most of our members, and none of our members reside there. The majority are based in Matoks and Indermark and are predominantly Sepedi-speaking. We respectfully request that the EAP take these demographic realities into account in determining a suitable engagement venue.

2. Format and Quality of Engagement:

The open-day format does not allow for the collective, robust, and transparent engagement required for meaningful public participation. A structured public meeting is essential to ensure that CPA members and other affected community members can collectively raise their issues, receive responses, and engage meaningfully in a public setting.

We appreciate your ongoing engagement and look forward to your response on the above matters. We trust that the public participation process will be adapted to ensure fairness, accessibility, and meaningful involvement for all affected parties.

Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane
On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

On Thu, 13 Nov 2025 at 12:40, Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Mr Maphala (c/o Mr Motshewa Matimolane)

Thank you very much for your comment. Your email below as well as the appended formal comment (reattached in this email) are herewith acknowledged and we confirm that this will be included in any further submissions to the Competent Authority.

Cape EAPrac have discussed the CPA's comments and concerns with the applicant, social specialist and heritage specialist. The concerns raised by the Chatleka CPA are currently under consideration by all parties and will be considered, addressed and formally responded to in due course. We look forward to further productive engagement with the Chatleka CPA as this environmental process progresses.

The applicant in respect of these applications has indicated their willingness to meet directly with the members of the CPA as requested. In this regard, could you kindly provide the details (name and telephone number) of the relevant CPA representative where the arrangements for such a meeting can be made.

The other aspects currently underway as part of the public participation process, including the public open day engagement session at the Vleifontein Community Hall will continue as planned.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, 10 November 2025 17:50

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za

Subject: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Dear Mr. Holder,

Please find attached the formal letter of objection submitted by **Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)**, dated 10 November 2025.

This objection specifically targets the proposed **Draailoop Solar PV Facility** (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699).

Crucially, the Chatleka CPA requests that the objections, legal arguments, and procedural deficiencies raised in the attached letter be formally applied and considered for all other projects that constitute the Tabor Solar PV Cluster, including:

- Bethel Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2698)
- Klippit Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2700)
- Makoppa Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2701)

The grounds for objection relate primarily to the failure to recognize active land claim rights, inadequate community engagement, and procedural defects under NEMA.

We expect a formal acknowledgement of receipt for both this email and the attached objection. We look forward to your prompt response regarding the requested suspension of the EIA process and the initiation of meaningful engagement (in the form and manner we have requested).

Sincerely,

Motshewa Matimolane on behalf of:

Mr. N.A. Maphala

Acting Chairperson Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 071 121 3905

Email: jalinetworking682@gmail.com

Francois Byleveld

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 21 November 2025 12:02
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Francois Byleveld
Subject: Engagement with Other Affected Land Claimant Communities

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Mr Holder

We wish to place on record a matter of **critical procedural importance**: it is essential that the EAP and applicant make a concerted and proactive effort to identify, reach out to, and meaningfully engage with **all other affected land claimant communities and CPAs in the area**.

This includes, but is not limited to (refer to pages 49-50 of EIR):

- Dithakone Community
- Matjuda Family
- Mokororwane Community
- Any other communities or CPAs with active or pending land claims over areas affected by the proposed developments

These communities, like the Chatleka CPA, hold **direct legal interests** in the land and are entitled to specific recognition and meaningful participation in this process. Their exclusion—whether through oversight, inadequate notification, or failure to accommodate their participation needs—would constitute a **material procedural defect** that could fundamentally undermine the legitimacy of the EIA process and any subsequent authorizations.

We therefore urge the EAP to:

1. **Confirm in writing** which other land claimant communities and CPAs have been identified and registered as I&APs;
2. **Proactively reach out** to any communities or CPAs who may not yet be aware of these applications or their rights to participate;
3. **Provide tailored engagement** that recognizes these communities' special status as rights-holders, similar to the accommodations we are requesting for the Chatleka CPA;
4. **Document all efforts** to identify and engage with these communities, including any challenges encountered and steps taken to overcome barriers to participation.

Failure to ensure comprehensive engagement with all affected land claimant communities could expose the EIA process to serious legal challenge and would be inconsistent with the constitutional and statutory obligations of meaningful public participation, particularly where the rights of historically disadvantaged, vulnerable and poor communities are at stake.

We wish to emphasize a fundamental principle of meaningful public participation: **the EAP and applicant must meet these communities where they are, not where it is convenient for you**. This means engagement must be designed around the realities, capacities, and circumstances of affected communities—their locations, languages, working schedules, economic constraints, and

cultural practices—rather than administrative convenience. It requires holding engagements in genuinely accessible locations, scheduling them to accommodate work commitments (including weekends), recognizing and mitigating financial barriers to participation, and adapting formats to suit collective decision-making practices rather than imposing standardized approaches. This is not merely good practice—it is a **constitutional and legal imperative** when engaging with communities whose land rights, dignity, and livelihoods are directly affected. We call on the EAP and applicant to demonstrate, through concrete actions, a genuine commitment to meeting affected land claimant communities where they are.

We trust that the EAP will treat this matter with the seriousness it deserves and will provide clarity on the steps being taken to ensure that all affected land claimant communities are brought into this process in a meaningful and procedurally fair manner.

Kind Regards

Motshewa Matimolane

CHATLEKA CPA

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Registration No: KRP 693

Address: P.O. Box 536, Dwarsriver, 0812

Tel: 071 121 3905 | Email: chatlekacpa@gmail.com

To:

Mr. Dale Holder

Senior Environmental Practitioner

Cape EAPrac

Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Tel: 044 874 0365

Date: 20 November 2025

To: Mr. Holder

CC:

DFFE Reference Number	DFFE Case Officer	Email	Proponent
14/12/16/3/3/2/2698	Ms Zamalanga Langa	zlanga@dfpe.gov.za	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2699	Mr Lunga Dlova	ldlova@dfpe.gov.za	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2700	Ms Makhosazane Yeni	MYeni@dfpe.gov.za	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2701	Ms Thulisile Nyalunga	Tnyalunga@dfpe.gov.za	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd

FORMAL OBJECTION TO THE AGRICULTURAL COMPLIANCE STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV FACILITY – VIOLATION OF GN 320 (2020), FAILURE TO CONSIDER LAND CLAIM RIGHTS, AND INADEQUATE CONSULTATION

1. Introduction

The Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA), representing the land claimants under the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 1994 (Act No. 22 of 1994), submits this formal objection to the Agricultural Compliance Statement for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, prepared by TerraAfrica Consult in July 2025 in terms of Government Notice 320 of 2020 (GN 320).

The proposed development is located on ancestral land that is subject to an unresolved land restitution claim by the Chatleka CPA and neighbouring claimant communities, covering:

- Portion 1 of Farm 425 LS (Klipput)
- Remainder of Farm 430 LS (Draailoop)
- Farm 431 LS (Bethel/Makoppa area)

The facility forms part of the Tabor Solar PV Cluster, which also includes the Bethel, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV projects.

This objection is grounded on legal, procedural, and substantive flaws in the agricultural assessment that render the Compliance Statement invalid and non-compliant.

2. Core Objection: Violation of GN 320 (2020) – Exceedance of Allowable Development Limits

The Agricultural Compliance Statement confirms a direct contravention of GN 320 of 2020, which prescribes the maximum allowable development footprint for renewable energy projects.

Parameter	GN 320 Allowance	Draailoop Proposal	Exceedance
Project capacity	240 MW	240 MW	—
Allowable area (Low sensitivity land)	2.5 ha/MW = 600 ha	793.8 ha	+193.8 ha
Total project boundary	—	857 ha	+257 ha

Despite acknowledging the exceedance, the specialist concludes that the project is “acceptable” because the excess occurs on “Low agricultural sensitivity” land. This reasoning is legally and technically unsound. The GN 320 limits are quantitative statutory thresholds, not discretionary guidelines. Their exceedance invalidates the compliance statement.

The Chatleka CPA objects on the grounds that the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility exceeds the legally allowable agricultural development limits and therefore fails to comply with GN 320 of 2020.

3. Land Ownership and Rights Ignored

The Compliance Statement fails to disclose or address the existence of an active land claim by the Chatleka CPA and other communities.

This omission represents a serious procedural flaw in the EIA process and directly violates the Restitution of Land Rights Act (1994) and the principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).

The report proceeds on the false assumption that the land is available for development, effectively undermining the pending restitution process and the CPA's right to determine land use post-restoration.

Approving the project under these conditions would prejudice the restitution outcome and compromise the community's constitutional right to land restitution.

4. Loss of Grazing Land and Livelihoods

The assessment acknowledges that the project area is currently used for livestock and game farming, including the Makoppa Game Farm with active hunting operations.

- The project footprint (857 ha) will be fenced off for 25–30 years, eliminating access to grazing land.
- Based on a grazing capacity of 9 ha/LSU, this represents a loss of 95 Large Stock Units (LSU).

“The project boundary area will temporarily be fenced off and won't be available for grazing for the life of the project.” (Section 7.5.2, p.25)

This loss is long-term and effectively permanent, resulting in direct economic harm to local farmers and future CPA landholders.

No mitigation, compensation, or benefit-sharing is proposed.

5. Cumulative Regional Impacts

The report identifies seven other renewable energy projects within a 30 km radius—including Bethel, Klipput, and Makoppa—yet downplays the combined agricultural impact.

The cumulative assessment itself shows:

Impact	Significance	Reversibility	Mitigation
Decrease in available farmland	Medium (44)	Low	Cannot be mitigated
Soil erosion risk	Medium (33)	Low	Cannot be mitigated
Soil pollution risk	Medium (30)	Low	Cannot be mitigated

These findings confirm that the regional loss of agricultural land is medium in significance, negative, and irreversible, contradicting DALRRD’s mandate to preserve productive land.

The project thus contributes to a regional pattern of agricultural land conversion that undermines land reform and food security.

6. Soil Degradation and Environmental Risks

The specialist identifies medium significance impacts from soil compaction, erosion, and pollution.

Additionally, site verification was incomplete, with two grid connection corridors inaccessible during fieldwork (p.13).

These data gaps reduce the reliability of conclusions on soil sensitivity and mitigation effectiveness.

The proposed development will cause long-term soil degradation, contravening the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act 43 of 1983).

7. Procedural and Consultation Deficiencies

The Chatleka CPA and neighbouring claimant communities were not consulted during the agricultural assessment.

The Compliance Statement also omits:

- Any acknowledgment of claimant status;
- DALRRD input or verification; and
- Consideration of restitution and social justice implications.

These omissions violate Section 2(4)(f) of NEMA, which mandates inclusive and equitable public participation.

We regard this exclusion as a fatal procedural defect and request that the Competent Authority invalidate the Compliance Statement pending full claimant consultation.

8. Economic and Social Justice Considerations

- The applicant, Mulilo Renewable Energy, is a private company, with no evidence of community ownership or benefit-sharing.
- The project will displace local agricultural livelihoods without offering economic alternatives.
- Once restitution is finalised, the land will be encumbered for decades, denying claimants the opportunity to pursue any other use including agricultural, eco-tourism, or mixed-use projects.

Renewable energy must not become a new form of land dispossession. Development on claimed land must include the direct participation and benefit of claimant communities.

9. Legal and Constitutional Framework

The proposed project contravenes the following legal provisions:

Legislation	Key Violation
Restitution of Land Rights Act (1994)	Failure to recognise and consult land claimants
GN 320 of 2020	Exceeds allowable development footprint by 194 ha
NEMA	Exclusion of affected parties; inadequate participation
Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act (1970)	Change of land use without Ministerial approval
CARA (1983)	Soil degradation and loss of agricultural potential
Constitution, Section 25	Undermines restitution and economic rights of claimants

10. Specific Requests

The Chatleka CPA formally requests the following actions:

1. Suspend the EIA process until the land claim status is formally clarified by the Regional Land Claims Commission (RLCC).
2. Reject the current Agricultural Compliance Statement for non-compliance with GN 320 of 2020.
3. Conduct a revised agricultural assessment with full participation of the Chatleka CPA and DALRRD.
4. Disclose all correspondence between EAPrac, Mulilo Renewable Energy, and the RLCC regarding claimant engagement.
5. Ensure no environmental authorization is granted without Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) from claimant communities.

11. Conclusion

The Agricultural Compliance Statement for the Draailoop Solar PV Facility is legally, procedurally, and substantively flawed.

It fails to:

- Recognise land claimants' rights,

- Comply with GN 320 development limits,
- Address the permanent loss of agricultural land and livelihoods, and
- Uphold constitutional principles of equity, justice, and restitution.

The Chatleka CPA does not oppose renewable energy, but we strongly oppose development that proceeds without our consent and at the expense of our land, rights, and future.

We therefore call upon Cape EAPrac, Mulilo Renewable Energy, and the DFFE to:

- Halt the authorisation process,
- Undertake inclusive engagement with all claimant communities, and
- Reassess the project's agricultural feasibility in line with land restitution principles.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr MR Matimolane

Member: Extended Executive Committee

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Email Address: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com

Cell No.: 083 467 6947

Francois Byleveld

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2025 07:12
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Francois Byleveld; RICHARD MALEFO; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane; Kilton Dipodumo; Sylvia Mdaka; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: FORMAL OBJECTION - Agricultural Compliance Statement for Draailoop Solar PV Facility (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699)
Attachments: Chatleka CPA - Objection to Agricultural Impact Assessment 20 November 2025.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mr Holder,

Please find attached our formal objection to the Agricultural Compliance Statement for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility and associated projects within the Tabor Solar PV Cluster.

This objection is submitted on behalf of the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA), representing land claimants under the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 1994.

Key Grounds for Objection:

1. Non-compliance with GN 320 of 2020 - the proposed development exceeds allowable limits by 193.8 ha
2. Failure to recognise and consult with land claimants holding active restitution claims over the affected properties
3. Violation of constitutional rights and procedural requirements under NEMA
4. Inadequate assessment of cumulative impacts and permanent loss of agricultural land and livelihoods

The proposed facilities are located on ancestral land subject to unresolved land claims by the Chatleka CPA and neighbouring communities, including Portion 1 of Farm 425 LS (Klipput), Remainder of Farm 430 LS (Draailoop), and Farm 431 LS (Bethel/Makoppa area).

We respectfully request that:

- The EIA process be suspended until land claim status is clarified by the Regional Land Claims Commission
- The current Agricultural Compliance Statement be rejected for non-compliance
- No environmental authorization be granted without Free, Prior, and Informed Consent from claimant communities

We trust this objection will be given due consideration and look forward to your written acknowledgment of receipt.

Yours sincerely,

Mr MR Matimolane

Member: Extended Executive Committee
Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)
Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com
Cell: 083 467 6947

CHATLEKA CPA

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Registration No: KRP 693

Address: P.O. Box 536, Dwarsriver, 0812

Tel: 071 121 3905 | Email: chatlekacpa@gmail.com

To:

Mr. Dale Holder

Senior Environmental Practitioner

Cape EAPrac

Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Tel: 044 874 0365

Date: 20 November 2025

To: Mr. Holder

CC:

DFFE Reference Number	DFFE Case Officer	Email	Proponent
14/12/16/3/3/2/2698	Ms Zamalanga Langa	zlanga@dfpe.gov.za	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2699	Mr Lunga Dlova	ldlova@dfpe.gov.za	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2700	Ms Makhosazane Yeni	MYeni@dfpe.gov.za	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2701	Ms Thulisile Nyalunga	Tnyalunga@dfpe.gov.za	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd

BRIEF OUTLINING FORMAL OBJECTIONS (TO DATE) TO THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) AND SPECIALIST REPORTS FOR THE DRAAIILOOP SOLAR PV FACILITY AND THE WIDER TABOR SOLAR PV CLUSTER

Dear Mr. Holder,

This brief serves as a detailed outline of the formal objections raised by the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA) against the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) dated November 2025, prepared by Cape EAPrac (Pty) Ltd on behalf of Mulilo Renewable Energy (Pty) Ltd. We formally request that the objections, legal arguments, and procedural deficiencies raised for the Draailoop Solar PV Facility be formally applied and considered for **all projects that constitute the Tabor Solar PV Cluster** (Bethel, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV Facilities).

The CPA represents land claimants under the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 1994, for properties directly and indirectly affected by the proposed development cluster, including but not limited to Portion 1 of Farm 425 LS (Klipput), Remainder of Farm 430 LS (Draailoop), Portion 0 of Farm 431 LS (Bethel), and Remainder and Portion 1 of Farm 466 LS (Makoppa).

The CPA’s position remains clear: *We do not oppose solar development in principle; we oppose the notion that it can be planned and implemented without our participation and prior consent. We resist the assumption that empowerment means leasing ancestral land to outside developers while remaining peripheral to the long-term benefits.*

The objections are organized below by theme, detailing the specific grievance, the legal or factual ground for the objection, and the resolution required by the CPA. For more details please refer to the letters of objections and emails by various CPA members.

1. Objection Theme: Land Restitution, Ownership, and Constitutional Rights

The core objection is that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process has fundamentally failed to recognize and appropriately manage the material risk and legal implications arising from the active, unresolved land claims covering the project footprint.

Objection Raised	Grounds for Objection	Resolution Required
<p>1.1. Procedural Inadequacy Regarding Active Claims</p>	<p>The Draft EIR acknowledges active restitution claims by the Chatleka CPA, Dithakone, and Matjuda communities. However, the EIR subsequently dismisses these claims by stating that it is “beyond the scope of the EIA process to assess and/or comment on the status of the land claims.” The blanket exclusion of the land restitution</p>	<p>The EAP must acknowledge that the EIA process is legally obligated to assess the social, legal, and procedural implications of unresolved claims. Withdraw and revise Section 3.1.11 of the Draft EIR to accurately reflect the existence and full implications of active land claims.</p>

	dimension renders the assessment incomplete and non-compliant with requirements to assess socio-economic impact and equitable environmental management.	
1.2. Dismissal of Prior Consent Requirement	The EIR asserts that “ Prior consent is not required from the Claimants, as the Commission has yet to finalize the decision on the land claim... ” Authorising a 25- to 30-year industrial energy project on claimed land would irreversibly sterilise it . This action pre-empts the outcome of the land claim, violating the Restitution Act, which prohibits acts that may “diminish or prejudice the rights of any claimant.”	Ensure that no Environmental Authorisation is granted until Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) is obtained from the Chatleka CPA and other affected claimant communities.
1.3. Contradictory Land Claims Commission Correspondence	The EIR cites contradictory communications from the RLCC– Limpopo: letters dated 19 September 2024 and 10 June 2025 reaffirm that claims were lodged prior to 1998, while a letter dated 9 October 2024 states there are no land claims and expresses no objection. The EAP relies primarily on the single letter stating no claims exist, which amounts to selective	Suspend the EIA process immediately until the status of the land claims is definitively resolved and formally confirmed in writing by the Regional Land Claims Commission (RLCC). Disclose all correspondence regarding the status of claims.

	interpretation of evidence. This creates legal uncertainty and administrative bias.	
1.4. Flawed and Unenforceable Mitigation Condition	The EIR proposes that <i>if</i> the Claimant is awarded a successful claim, the Applicant will undertake “to engage... and negotiate an option to lease.” This condition is cosmetic and unenforceable. Constructing infrastructure first creates a <i>fait accompli</i> , coercing the new landowners into compliance with a pre-determined development model, which undermines equitable restitution.	The EIA process and decision must require the development of a binding framework that ensures equitable negotiation, compensation, and community benefit, negotiated prior to construction.

2. Objection Theme: Procedural and Ethical Failures in Stakeholder Engagement (Public Participation)

The CPA argues that the Public Participation Process (PPP) was exclusionary and failed to recognize the claimants' special legal status.

Objection Raised	Grounds for Objection	Resolution Required
2.1. Improper Acceptance of RLCC Instruction to Exclude Claimants	The EIR records that the proponent was verbally advised by the RLCC on 22 September 2025 “not to engage directly with the claimants at this stage.” This alleged instruction was treated as a legitimate basis for excluding claimants from direct consultation. This action violates public	Pause the public consultation process immediately. Develop a differentiated engagement plan to enable direct, structured, face-to-face consultation with the Chatleka CPA, consistent with the principles of FPIC.

	participation obligations and the principles of fair administrative process.	
2.2. Treating Claimants as Ordinary I&APs	The EIA process reduced the Chatleka CPA and neighboring CPAs to the status of ordinary Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs). This disregards the special legal status of claimants as potential future legal landowners and violates the principle of restorative justice.	The CPA requests that the EAP recognize claimants as primary social stakeholders and facilitate independent technical and legal support for the claimants during the process.
2.3. Exclusion due to Limited Access to Electronic Communication	The methodology relied primarily on electronic communication and online document dissemination in English. The majority of the CPA's beneficiaries are illiterate, reside in rural areas, and lack reliable internet access . Relying on electronic communication effectively excluded the majority of affected members from meaningful participation.	Ensure documents are provided in accessible formats, including vernacular translations or simplified summaries, and distributed physically in the affected CPA's and communities.
2.4. Inadequate Engagement Format and Venue	The EAP proposes continuing the public participation process via the public open day engagement session at the Vleifontein Community Hall . The CPA objects, noting that Vleifontein is inaccessible and inappropriate, as members reside primarily in Matoks and Indermark and are predominantly Sepedi-speaking. The open-day	The EAP must convene a structured public meeting at an appropriate, accessible venue, such as Banderlierkop (approximately 10 km from the affected farm) or a local police station, to ensure equitable participation.

	format does not allow for the collective, robust, and transparent engagement required.	
2.5. Time Constraints	The 30-day comment period is considered insufficient for meaningful engagement among dispersed rural stakeholders.	The CPA requests an extension of the public comment period to allow for proper consultation and independent review.

3. Objection Theme: Social and Economic Impact Assessment (SIA) Deficiencies

The CPA submits a formal objection to the Social Impact Assessment (Appendix E7) on the basis that it is fundamentally flawed due to its narrow scope and failure to address the central social issue of restitution and equitable benefit-sharing.

Objection Raised	Grounds for Objection	Resolution Required
3.1. Exclusion of Land Claims from SIA Scope	The SIA explicitly states: “It is beyond the scope of the SIA to assess or comment on the status of the land claims.” This disclaimer eliminates consideration of the key social and legal factor, failing to evaluate the social and economic impacts on people, their rights, and their livelihoods.	Suspend approval of the SIA pending a full revision. Conduct a Supplementary Social Impact Addendum specifically analyzing land restitution implications, economic justice, and equitable benefit-sharing models.
3.2. Misleading Claim Regarding Social Benefits	The EIR states that the social benefits of the proposed development “will not be affected by the change of ownership.” This is a fundamentally flawed assumption, as successful land claimants (the CPA) will have the	The Supplementary Addendum must detail how ownership changes will affect future economic returns and how the project will align with the CPA's post-restitution land use vision.

	right to redefine land use, renegotiate lease terms, or reject the development, meaning the assertion pre-empts future ownership decisions.	
3.3. Overstated Benefits and Marginalization	The SIA concludes positive social benefits despite admitting that employment is temporary, skills-dependent, and that local economic participation is constrained by low diversification and education levels, meaning benefits will largely bypass the affected claimant communities . This contradicts the environmental justice principle.	Require the preparation of a Community Benefit-Sharing and Local Development Plan detailing binding commitments, such as employment quotas, equity participation, and revenue-sharing options, negotiated with the Chatleka CPA before construction.
3.4. Failure to Assess Impact of Land Use Transformation	The SIA identifies the " reduction of land with natural vegetation for livestock grazing " as a negative impact but dismisses it as negligible. The transformation of over 300 hectares (for Draailoop) and over 1,000 hectares (across the cluster) undermines the CPA's land use options, which emphasize agriculture, livestock farming, and conservation.	The SIA must be revised to quantify and mitigate the loss of agricultural and grazing land based on the future land use objectives of the claimant communities.
3.5. Absence of Equity or Benefit-Sharing Mechanisms	The SIA fails to propose a formal benefit-sharing arrangement, community trust, or equity participation structure that would ensure long-term benefits to claimant communities. Without such	This omission must be remedied by a binding plan that ensures community-level benefit, consistent with requirements for projects on ancestral or restitution land.

	arrangements, the assertion of a "positive social outcome" is baseless.	
3.6. Failure to Assess Cumulative and Intergenerational Impacts	The SIA treats the Draailoop facility in isolation, failing to assess cumulative social impacts across the Tabor Cluster, including combined land transformation. It also ignores intergenerational impacts —how future generations of land claimants will inherit land industrially transformed for 25–30 years.	Require a Cumulative Social Impact Assessment for the full Tabor Cluster, considering long-term and intergenerational social consequences in light of the restitution mandate.

4. Objection Theme: Heritage and Cultural Landscape Impacts

The CPA objects to the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA, Appendix E4) due to substantive incompleteness, procedural violations regarding consultation, and a narrow focus that excludes living heritage.

Objection Raised	Grounds for Objection	Resolution Required
4.1. Inadequate Consultation on Heritage	The HIA notes no direct engagement with the Chatleka CPA or other affected claimant communities, despite acknowledging the active restitution claims over the area. This violates the legal requirement for consultation with communities whose heritage resources may be affected. The CPA holds living oral	Suspend the heritage authorisation process until meaningful consultation has occurred with the Chatleka CPA to document living heritage, sacred sites, and oral histories.

	histories, ancestral sites, and community graves in the area that were not documented.	
4.2. Exclusion of Living and Intangible Heritage	The HIA focuses predominantly on archaeological materials (stone tools, ceramics) but fails to assess the living cultural landscape , including sacred sites and intangible cultural values central to the CPA's identity and restitution objectives. This presents an incomplete picture and reduces the CPA's history to static objects.	Conduct a Supplementary Heritage Impact Addendum incorporating oral history, living heritage, and the full restitution context.
4.3. Dismissive Valuation without Participatory Validation	The EIR includes the statement that “the area proposed for development has insufficient value to warrant formal protection.” This conclusion was reached without participatory validation from the communities of origin, making the valuation scientifically and ethically invalid.	The revised HIA must involve the Chatleka CPA in defining and valuing the cultural significance of the land.
4.4. Absence of a Verified Map of Heritage Exclusion Zones	The HIA recommends excluding sensitive areas like granite koppies, but the EIR does not include a verified layout map confirming the exact exclusion zones. Without mapped verification, communities cannot ensure construction boundaries avoid sensitive areas.	Map and disclose all identified heritage sites (koppies, burial grounds, archaeological features) in consultation with the CPA. Ensure a detailed map confirms that all burial sites and other heritage sites are excluded from development.
4.5. Missing Conservation	The HIA recommends the preparation of a CMP, but the report	Develop and implement a binding Conservation

Management Plan (CMP)	does not provide it, nor confirm that one has been prepared, adopted, or reviewed. Proceeding without this key mitigation measure contradicts the report's own findings.	Management Plan (CMP) in collaboration with the Chatleka CPA and neighboring claimants, approved by the relevant heritage authorities prior to any construction activity.
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5. Objection Theme: Legal Misapplication and Agricultural Compliance

The CPA objects to the EAP’s interpretation of legal exemptions and notes specific non-compliance in the agricultural assessment.

Objection Raised	Grounds for Objection	Resolution Required
5.1. Misuse of Strategic Integrated Project (SIP) Status	The EIR asserts that “ Landowner consent is not required for Strategic Integrated Projects. ” SIP designation expedites administrative coordination but does not override constitutional rights, pending land claims, or participatory provisions. Using SIP classification to bypass consent sets a dangerous precedent of development before justice.	Provide a written legal justification for applying the SIP exemption to land under active restitution claim. Disclose the SIP Confirmation Letter and any related legal opinion.
5.2. Non-compliance with Agricultural Limits	The CPA submitted a formal objection stating that the proposed Draailoop development exceeds allowable limits by 193.8 ha.	The current Agricultural Compliance Statement must be rejected for non-compliance and its failure to assess the long-term impact on the future agricultural economy of the claimants.

<p>5.3. Cumulative Environmental Justice Concerns</p>	<p>The Tabor Cluster (four projects) covers over 1,000 hectares and represents 795 MW of development. If authorised, claimant communities would inherit land that is environmentally and economically compromised due to permanent transformation, defeating the purpose of restitution.</p>	<p>Require a comprehensive cumulative impact assessment addressing all four projects and their combined environmental justice implications.</p>
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6. Comprehensive Summary of Requested Actions

In light of the substantial legal, procedural, and ethical deficiencies detailed above, the Chatleka CPA formally requests the following immediate actions:

1. **Suspend the entire EIA process** for the Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the wider Tabor Cluster until the status of the land claims is formally and definitively clarified in writing by the RLCC.
2. **Withdraw the current EIR and SIA conclusions** and revise all documentation to accurately reflect the existence and legal implications of active land claims.
3. **Conduct a supplementary assessment (Social, Heritage, and Restitution Impact Addendum)** addressing land restitution implications, economic justice/benefit-sharing, and living cultural heritage, engaging directly with the CPA in this process.
4. **Initiate transparent, structured, and inclusive engagement** with the Chatleka CPA and neighboring claimant communities, abandoning the unsuitable Vleifontein open-day format and instead utilizing a structured public meeting at an accessible, agreed-upon venue like Banderlierkop.
5. **Disclose all correspondence** regarding engagement restrictions (including the alleged RLCC instruction) and the application of SIP status to contested land.
6. Require the development and binding commitment to a **Community Benefit-Sharing framework** and a **Conservation Management Plan (CMP)** in collaboration with the CPA before construction.

7. Ensure that **no Environmental Authorisation is granted** by the Competent Authority (DFFE) until the procedural defects and equity concerns are fully remedied and **Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)** is obtained from the claimant communities.

The Chatleka CPA reiterates that we **do not oppose renewable energy in principle**; we oppose development on our ancestral land in a manner that excludes us from participation, decision-making, and long-term benefit. Failure to address these concerns will lead the CPA to register a formal complaint with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) concerning the inadequacy of public participation.

This brief provides a non-exhaustive summary of the objections submitted to date. We expect a full and comprehensive response to each individual objection submitted by any means (letter, email, or otherwise). The CPA will also be submitting additional inputs during the current comment and response period.

We appreciate your ongoing engagement and look forward to your response on the above matters. We trust that the public participation process will be adapted to ensure fairness, accessibility, and meaningful involvement for all affected parties.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr MR Matimolane

Member: Extended Executive Committee

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Email Address: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com

Cell No.: 083 467 6947

Francois Byleveld

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2025 19:51
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Francois Byleveld; RICHARD MALEFO; Kilton Dipodumo; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Sylvia Mdaka; Makgetsi Matimolane; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: Chatleka CPA - Summary of objections to date & request for clarity on process
Attachments: Chatleka CPA - Summary of objections to Tabor Solar PV to date 20 November 2025.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Mr. Holder,

Please find attached the formal and detailed legal brief submitted by the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA), dated 20 November 2025, which constitutes comprehensive summary of objections submitted to date to the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the wider Tabor Solar PV Cluster.

We explicitly request that the objections, arguments, and procedural deficiencies raised in the attached brief be formally applied and considered for all projects that constitute the Tabor Solar PV Cluster, including Bethel Solar PV, Klippot Solar PV, and Makoppa Solar PV.

The primary grounds for our objection center on the failure to recognize active land claim rights, the inadequate assessment of restitution impacts in the Social and Heritage reports, and fatal procedural defects related to the exclusion of the CPA from direct consultation.

We note that Cape EAPrac has acknowledged receipt of our input and confirmed that the concerns are under consideration by the applicant, social specialist, and heritage specialist. In light of the complexity and critical legal nature of the issues raised (including contradictory correspondence from the Land Claims Commission), we urgently request the following:

1. Detailed Explanation of Processing: We require a detailed, written explanation of the methodology that will be used to process and formally respond to these comprehensive objections, specifically outlining how the EAP will ensure full integration of input from the specialists and the applicant before submission of the Final EIR to the Competent Authority.

2. Extension of Commenting Period: The current commenting period extends until 08 December 2025. We suggest that more time be allowed to ensure both adequate opportunity for the further structured engagement requested by the CPA (e.g., a public meeting at Banderlierkop) and to allow the applicant sufficient time to properly consider the substantial implications of the land claim status and the requested revisions to the specialist studies. We previously requested an extension of the public comment period to allow for proper consultation and independent review.

We trust that this submission will receive the urgent and serious attention required to rectify the procedural and substantive shortcomings of the assessment process.

Yours sincerely,

Motshewa Matimolane
On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2025 12:57
To: Motshewa Matimolane
Cc: Francois Byleveld; RICHARD MALEFO; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane; Kilton Dipodumo; Sylvia Mdaka; zlanga@dfffe.gov.za; Idlova@dfffe.gov.za; MYeni@dfffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dfffe.gov.za
Subject: RE: FORMAL OBJECTION - Agricultural Compliance Statement for Draailoop Solar PV Facility (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699)
Attachments: Chatleka CPA - Objection to Agricultural Impact Assessment 20 November 2025.pdf

Good Afternoon Mr Matimolane

We hereby acknowledge receipt of your below email and the and the attached comment.

This comment has been provided to the agricultural specialist for consideration. We will provide a formal response in due course.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2025 07:12
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; zlanga@dfffe.gov.za; Idlova@dfffe.gov.za; MYeni@dfffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dfffe.gov.za
Subject: FORMAL OBJECTION - Agricultural Compliance Statement for Draailoop Solar PV Facility (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699)

Dear Mr Holder,

Please find attached our formal objection to the Agricultural Compliance Statement for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility and associated projects within the Tabor Solar PV Cluster.

This objection is submitted on behalf of the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA), representing land claimants under the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 1994.

Key Grounds for Objection:

1. Non-compliance with GN 320 of 2020 - the proposed development exceeds allowable limits by 193.8 ha
2. Failure to recognise and consult with land claimants holding active restitution claims over the affected properties

3. Violation of constitutional rights and procedural requirements under NEMA
4. Inadequate assessment of cumulative impacts and permanent loss of agricultural land and livelihoods

The proposed facilities are located on ancestral land subject to unresolved land claims by the Chatleka CPA and neighbouring communities, including Portion 1 of Farm 425 LS (Klipput), Remainder of Farm 430 LS (Draailoop), and Farm 431 LS (Bethel/Makoppa area).

We respectfully request that:

- The EIA process be suspended until land claim status is clarified by the Regional Land Claims Commission
- The current Agricultural Compliance Statement be rejected for non-compliance
- No environmental authorization be granted without Free, Prior, and Informed Consent from claimant communities

We trust this objection will be given due consideration and look forward to your written acknowledgment of receipt.

Yours sincerely,

Mr MR Matimolane

Member: Extended Executive Committee
Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)
Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com
Cell: 083 467 6947

Francois Byleveld

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 20 November 2025 17:48
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Francois Byleveld; Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; MYeni@dfpe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dfpe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dfpe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO; zlanga@dfpe.gov.za
Subject: Re: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Mr Holder,

I am writing to follow up on our correspondence dated 14 November 2024 (see email below), to which we have not yet received a response. As the date of the proposed public open day approaches—an approach we have already indicated strong reservations about—it is important that the Chatleka CPA receives clarity on the key issues raised in that letter, particularly regarding:

1. Accessibility and Demographics, and
2. Format and Quality of Engagement.

As highlighted previously, the concerns raised by our members regarding the suitability of the Vleifontein venue and the open-day engagement format remain unresolved. These factors materially affect the ability of our members—most of whom reside in Matoks and Indermark and are predominantly Sepedi-speaking—to participate meaningfully in the EIA process.

Similarly, the open-day format does not provide the structured, collective platform necessary for robust public engagement, which is central to the intent of the public participation process.

We therefore respectfully request your written response to the issues outlined in the letter, particularly whether the EAP and applicant are willing to:

Reconsider the venue to ensure accessibility and demographic appropriateness, and

Provide a structured, formal public meeting format in place of, or in addition to, the proposed open-day format.

We also reiterate our openness to constructive dialogue with the applicant, provided the purpose, basis, and expected outcomes of any separate meeting are clearly communicated in advance. As stated, all arrangements can be coordinated through:

Mr Motshewa Matimolane
Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com

Cell: 083 467 6947

with Mr Maphala (CPA Chairperson) copied to ensure continuity.

Given the time-sensitive nature of the EIA process, as well as the extended comment and response period, we respectfully request a response at your earliest convenience to enable all affected parties to plan and engage appropriately. In addition, we kindly request clarity on the process and anticipated timeframe for addressing and responding to the objections and concerns we have submitted. This information is essential to ensure that our participation remains informed, meaningful, and aligned with the statutory timelines of the EIA process.

Thank you for your continued engagement. We look forward to your clarification on these outstanding matters.

Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane
On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

On Fri, Nov 14, 2025 at 4:52 AM Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com> wrote:
Dear Mr Holder,

Thank you for your email and for confirming receipt of our formal submission. We appreciate the confirmation that our inputs will be included in further submissions to the Competent Authority (DFFE).

We request that the EAP take careful note of all submissions made to date, including those submitted by individual members of the Chatleka CPA in their personal capacities. Additional written inputs should also be expected before the due date, as our members continue to engage with the documents and the process.

With regard to your indication that the applicant is willing to meet directly with the CPA, we wish to clarify that the CPA did not request a separate meeting with the applicant outside the EIA public participation process. Our request was specifically for a physical public participation meeting as part of the formal EIA process.

Should the applicant wish to meet with us outside that formal process, we request clarity on the purpose, basis, and expected outcomes of such a meeting before we can consider it.

Notwithstanding this, the Chatleka CPA remains open to constructive dialogue with any stakeholder, including the applicant, where such engagement helps address our concerns. Any arrangements for such dialogue should be made through:

Mr. Motshewa Matimolane
Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com
Cell: 083 467 6947

with Mr. Maphala (CPA Chairperson) copied on all correspondence to ensure organisational continuity.

Our request for a physical public engagement meeting as part of the EIA process therefore remains in place. If our farm is not deemed a suitable or neutral venue, we propose Banderlierkop, approximately 10 km from our farm, as an alternative. The local police station may also provide an appropriate and secure venue, should neutrality or safety be a concern.

We would like to emphasise again why the Chatleka CPA members do not prefer the open-day format or the Vleifontein venue:

1. Accessibility and Demographics:

Vleifontein is not easily accessible to most of our members, and none of our members reside there. The majority are based in Matoks and Indermark and are predominantly Sepedi-speaking. We respectfully request that the EAP take these demographic realities into account in determining a suitable engagement venue.

2. Format and Quality of Engagement:

The open-day format does not allow for the collective, robust, and transparent engagement required for meaningful public participation. A structured public meeting is essential to ensure that CPA members and other affected community members can collectively raise their issues, receive responses, and engage meaningfully in a public setting.

We appreciate your ongoing engagement and look forward to your response on the above matters. We trust that the public participation process will be adapted to ensure fairness, accessibility, and meaningful involvement for all affected parties.

Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane
On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

On Thu, 13 Nov 2025 at 12:40, Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Mr Maphala (c/o Mr Motshewa Matimolane)

Thank you very much for your comment. Your email below as well as the appended formal comment (reattached in this email) are herewith acknowledged and we confirm that this will be included in any further submissions to the Competent Authority.

Cape EAPrac have discussed the CPA's comments and concerns with the applicant, social specialist and heritage specialist. The concerns raised by the Chatleka CPA are currently under consideration by all parties and will be considered, addressed and formally responded to in due course. We look forward to further productive engagement with the Chatleka CPA as this environmental process progresses.

The applicant in respect of these applications has indicated their willingness to meet directly with the members of the CPA as requested. In this regard, could you kindly provide the details (name and telephone number) of the relevant CPA representative where the arrangements for such a meeting can be made.

The other aspects currently underway as part of the public participation process, including the public open day engagement session at the Vleifontein Community Hall will continue as planned.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, 10 November 2025 17:50

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za

Subject: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Dear Mr. Holder,

Please find attached the formal letter of objection submitted by **Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)**, dated 10 November 2025.

This objection specifically targets the proposed **Draailoop Solar PV Facility** (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699).

Crucially, the Chatleka CPA requests that the objections, legal arguments, and procedural deficiencies raised in the attached letter be formally applied and considered for all other projects that constitute the Tabor Solar PV Cluster, including:

- Bethel Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2698)
- Klippot Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2700)
- Makoppa Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2701)

The grounds for objection relate primarily to the failure to recognize active land claim rights, inadequate community engagement, and procedural defects under NEMA.

We expect a formal acknowledgement of receipt for both this email and the attached objection. We look forward to your prompt response regarding the requested suspension of the EIA process and the initiation of meaningful engagement (in the form and manner we have requested).

Sincerely,

Motshewa Matimolane on behalf of:

Mr. N.A. Maphala

Acting Chairperson Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 071 121 3905

Email: jalinetworking682@gmail.com

Francois Byleveld

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 14 November 2025 04:52
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Francois Byleveld; Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; MYeni@dfpe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dfpe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dfpe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO; zlanga@dfpe.gov.za
Subject: Re: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Dear Mr Holder,

Thank you for your email and for confirming receipt of our formal submission. We appreciate the confirmation that our inputs will be included in further submissions to the Competent Authority (DFPE).

We request that the EAP take careful note of all submissions made to date, including those submitted by individual members of the Chatleka CPA in their personal capacities. Additional written inputs should also be expected before the due date, as our members continue to engage with the documents and the process.

With regard to your indication that the applicant is willing to meet directly with the CPA, we wish to clarify that the CPA did not request a separate meeting with the applicant outside the EIA public participation process. Our request was specifically for a physical public participation meeting as part of the formal EIA process.

Should the applicant wish to meet with us outside that formal process, we request clarity on the purpose, basis, and expected outcomes of such a meeting before we can consider it.

Notwithstanding this, the Chatleka CPA remains open to constructive dialogue with any stakeholder, including the applicant, where such engagement helps address our concerns. Any arrangements for such dialogue should be made through:

Mr. Motshewa Matimolane
Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com
Cell: 083 467 6947

with Mr. Maphala (CPA Chairperson) copied on all correspondence to ensure organisational continuity.

Our request for a physical public engagement meeting as part of the EIA process therefore remains in place. If our farm is not deemed a suitable or neutral venue, we propose Banderlierkop, approximately 10 km from our farm, as an alternative. The local police station may also provide an appropriate and secure venue, should neutrality or safety be a concern.

We would like to emphasise again why the Chatleka CPA members do not prefer the open-day format or the Vleifontein venue:

1. Accessibility and Demographics:

Vleifontein is not easily accessible to most of our members, and none of our members reside there. The majority are based in Matoks and Indermark and are predominantly Sepedi-speaking. We respectfully request that the EAP take these demographic realities into account in determining a suitable engagement venue.

2. Format and Quality of Engagement:

The open-day format does not allow for the collective, robust, and transparent engagement required for meaningful public participation. A structured public meeting is essential to ensure that CPA members and other affected community members can collectively raise their issues, receive responses, and engage meaningfully in a public setting.

We appreciate your ongoing engagement and look forward to your response on the above matters. We trust that the public participation process will be adapted to ensure fairness, accessibility, and meaningful involvement for all affected parties.

Kind regards,
Motshewa Matimolane
On behalf of the Chatleka CPA Executive

On Thu, 13 Nov 2025 at 12:40, Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Mr Maphala (c/o Mr Motshewa Matimolane)

Thank you very much for your comment. Your email below as well as the appended formal comment (reattached in this email) are herewith acknowledged and we confirm that this will be included in any further submissions to the Competent Authority.

Cape EAPrac have discussed the CPA's comments and concerns with the applicant, social specialist and heritage specialist. The concerns raised by the Chatleka CPA are currently under consideration by all parties and will be considered, addressed and formally responded to in due course. We look forward to further productive engagement with the Chatleka CPA as this environmental process progresses.

The applicant in respect of these applications has indicated their willingness to meet directly with the members of the CPA as requested. In this regard, could you kindly provide the details (name and telephone number) of the relevant CPA representative where the arrangements for such a meeting can be made.

The other aspects currently underway as part of the public participation process, including the public open day engagement session at the Vleifontein Community Hall will continue as planned.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, 10 November 2025 17:50

To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za

Subject: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster

Dear Mr. Holder,

Please find attached the formal letter of objection submitted by **Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)**, dated 10 November 2025.

This objection specifically targets the proposed **Draailoop Solar PV Facility** (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699).

Crucially, the Chatleka CPA requests that the objections, legal arguments, and procedural deficiencies raised in the attached letter be formally applied and considered for all other projects that constitute the Tabor Solar PV Cluster, including:

- Bethel Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2698)
- Klipput Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2700)
- Makoppa Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2701)

The grounds for objection relate primarily to the failure to recognize active land claim rights, inadequate community engagement, and procedural defects under NEMA.

We expect a formal acknowledgement of receipt for both this email and the attached objection. We look forward to your prompt response regarding the requested suspension of the EIA process and the initiation of meaningful engagement (in the form and manner we have requested).

Sincerely,

Motshewa Matimolane on behalf of:

Mr. N.A. Maphala

Acting Chairperson Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 071 121 3905

Email: jalinetworking682@gmail.com

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Thursday, 13 November 2025 12:41
To: Motshewa Matimolane; Francois Byleveld; Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: RE: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster
Attachments: Letter of objection from Chatleka CPA Chairperson 10 November 2025.pdf

Dear Mr Maphala (c/o Mr Motshewa Matimolane)

Thank you very much for your comment. Your email below as well as the appended formal comment (reattached in this email) are herewith acknowledged and we confirm that this will be included in any further submissions to the Competent Authority.

Cape EAPrac have discussed the CPA's comments and concerns with the applicant, social specialist and heritage specialist. The concerns raised by the Chatleka CPA are currently under consideration by all parties and will be considered, addressed and formally responded to in due course. We look forward to further productive engagement with the Chatleka CPA as this environmental process progresses.

The applicant in respect of these applications has indicated their willingness to meet directly with the members of the CPA as requested. In this regard, could you kindly provide the details (name and telephone number) of the relevant CPA representative where the arrangements for such a meeting can be made.

The other aspects currently underway as part of the public participation process, including the public open day engagement session at the Vleifontein Community Hall will continue as planned.

Kind Regards,

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

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 10 November 2025 17:50
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>; Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
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The grounds for objection relate primarily to the failure to recognize active land claim rights, inadequate community engagement, and procedural defects under NEMA.

We expect a formal acknowledgement of receipt for both this email and the attached objection. We look forward to your prompt response regarding the requested suspension of the EIA process and the initiation of meaningful engagement (in the form and manner we have requested).

Sincerely,

Motshewa Matimolane on behalf of:

Mr. N.A. Maphala

Acting Chairperson Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 071 121 3905

Email: jalinetworking682@gmail.com

Francois Byleveld

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 10 November 2025 08:44
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Motz Ntimo; Francois Byleveld; Sylvia Mdaka; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane; zlanga@dfpe.gov.za; Idlova@dfpe.gov.za; MYeni@dfpe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dfpe.gov.za
Subject: Re: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klippot Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province
Attachments: Chatleka CPA - Objection to Social Impact Assessment Report 10 November 2025.pdf; Chatleka CPA - Objection to Heritage Impact Assessment Report 10 November 2025.pdf; Chatleka CPA - Objection to Environmental Impact Report 10 November 2025.pdf

Subject: Formal Objections to Draailoop Solar PV Facility EIA Process - Chatleka CPA

Dear Mr. Holder,

I write to you on behalf of the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA), Registration No: KRP 693, in connection with the Environmental Impact Assessment process for the Draailoop Solar PV Facility and associated Tabor Solar Cluster Projects.

Purpose of Communication

Please find attached three formal objection letters submitted by Mr. MR Matimolane, Member of the Extended Executive Committee of the Chatleka CPA, regarding:

1. **Objection to the Heritage Impact Assessment Report (HIA)**
2. **Objection to the Social Impact Assessment Report (SIA)**
3. **Objection to the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)**

These submissions are made in terms of the public participation process under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended.

Background and Legal Standing

The Chatleka CPA is a recognized land claimant under the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 1994 (Act No. 22 of 1994), with an active claim affecting Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430, and Farm 431 — properties that fall directly within the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility footprint.

As such, we hold a direct legal interest in the environmental authorization process and submit these objections to ensure that our constitutional rights, cultural heritage, and restitution interests are properly recognized and protected.

Summary of Key Concerns

Our objections raise substantive and procedural concerns across three critical areas:

- **Heritage Impact Assessment:** Inadequate community consultation, exclusion of living heritage, absence of verified exclusion zone mapping, and failure to develop a Conservation Management Plan in consultation with affected communities.
- **Social Impact Assessment:** Exclusion of land claimants as distinct stakeholders, misrepresentation of community consent, overstated social benefits, failure to assess restitution impacts, and absence of benefit-sharing mechanisms.
- **Environmental Impact Report:** Contradictory treatment of land restitution, improper dismissal of prior consent requirements, acceptance of instruction not to engage with claimants, and misapplication of Strategic Integrated Project exemptions.

Formal Requests

We respectfully request that:

1. These submissions be formally registered as objections to the EIA process;
2. All attached documents be distributed to the relevant case officers at DFFE;
3. The EIA process be suspended pending meaningful consultation with the Chatleka CPA and resolution of the procedural deficiencies identified;
4. Written confirmation of receipt and registration be provided within 7 working days; and
5. The Chatleka CPA and all neighboring be notified of all further developments, decisions, and opportunities for participation in this matter.
6. A dedicated public meeting be arranged at the CPA farms, in addition to the planned open day, to ensure that all affected beneficiaries have a fair and meaningful opportunity to participate in the process. Facilitation and material translation be in Sepedi/ Northern Sotho.

Contact Information

All correspondence regarding these submissions should be directed to:

Mr. MR Matimolane

Member: Extended Executive Committee
Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)
Email: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com
Cell: 083 467 6947

We trust that Cape EAPrac and the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment will give these submissions the careful consideration they deserve and will engage constructively with the Chatleka CPA to address the concerns raised.

We remain committed to dialogue and to finding solutions that respect both renewable energy development and the rights of historically dispossessed communities.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. MR Matimolane

Member: Extended Executive Committee
Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Attachments:

1. Objection to Heritage Impact Assessment Report (10 November 2025)
2. Objection to Social Impact Assessment Report (10 November 2025)
3. Objection to Environmental Impact Report (10 November 2025)

On Sun, Nov 9, 2025 at 6:29 AM Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com> wrote:

Subject: Request for Clarity and Copy of Letter from Regional Land Commissioner

Dear Dale,

While combing through the stack of EIA documents on your website, I came across the attached letter, which raised some concerns in light of our ongoing efforts to engage meaningfully on the proposed project.

The letter suggests that Mulilo, the project proponents and EAPrac, the EAP, have been advised by the Regional Land Commissioner to *“not engage directly with the claimant at this stage.”*

Could you please share a copy of the correspondence or directive from the Regional Land Commissioner referenced in that statement? We would also appreciate your clarification on EAPrac’s current posture regarding this matter, particularly given our continued attempts to reach out for engagement — in a setting (our farms), language, and manner that would allow for meaningful and constructive discussions.

We look forward to your response and to finding a mutually respectful way forward.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane

On Fri, Nov 7, 2025 at 6:40 PM Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr Holder

Thank you for your detailed response and for the clarifications provided regarding access to the revised reports and the arrangements for the upcoming public engagement session.

While we appreciate the additional steps undertaken to improve inclusivity and transparency, we remain concerned that hosting the engagement session at the Vleifontein Community Hall will not adequately accommodate the affected members of the Chatleka CPA and neighbouring communities.

It is important to note that most beneficiaries of the neighbouring CPA do not reside in Ward 20, where the Vleifontein Community Hall is located. The majority of these members are based in Matoks and Indermark near Vivo, which makes it difficult and costly for them to attend the session

in Vleifontein. We therefore urge the EAP to better familiarise itself with the demographic profile and settlement patterns of the affected CPAs to appreciate the logistical and participation challenges this creates.

In addition, we wish to correct an assumption reflected in your communication — the dominant language spoken by the neighbouring CPA members is Setlokwa, a dialect of Northern Sotho, not Tshivenda. For meaningful engagement, it is essential that facilitation, translation, and communication materials reflect the actual linguistic context of the affected beneficiaries.

Finally, our earlier request for a public meeting on the CPA farms — rather than an open day — was not simply about venue preference. The intent is to create a platform for robust, structured, and collective engagement where members can openly raise issues, deliberate together, and interact with the EAP, Applicant, and specialists in a transparent, inclusive manner. The open-day format, with its one-on-one interactions, is not sufficient to address the complexity of the concerns at hand, particularly around land ownership, socio-economic impact, and mitigation responsibilities.

In light of the above, we respectfully reiterate our request that a dedicated public meeting be arranged at the CPA farms, in addition to the planned open day, to ensure that all affected beneficiaries have a fair and meaningful opportunity to participate in the process.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane

On Fri, 07 Nov 2025 at 18:14, Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Mr Matimolane

Thank you so much for your email below, the content of which is duly noted.

The digital copies of the revised reports and all associated specialist studies are available on the Cape EAPrac Website and via DropBox direct download at the links provided in the Notification Letters. Should you have any problems accessing the documents via these links please inform us without delay so that we can assist you otherwise.

Should you prefer another method to access the digital versions of the reports (i.e. Sharepoint, WeTransfer, SMASH etc), please let me know and we will provide these wherever reasonably possible.

Hard copies of the reports are available at:

1. Viva Bandelierkop – N1 Main Road Bandelierkop, and
2. Munzhedzi Post Office - Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt.

Members of your organisation/beneficiaries and other registered stakeholders are invited to review these documents in the event that there are any challenges in accessing the available digital platforms.

With regards to your query about the venue for the upcoming open house, we can confirm that the Vleifontein Community Hall was purposefully selected for the upcoming stakeholder engagement opportunity in conjunction with the local Ward Councillor for Ward 20 in which the application sites fall.

This municipal community hall is a public neutral venue that is accessible to all stakeholders, including members of any of the different CPAs, other interest groups as well as members of the general public. The Councillor assured us that the facility is often used for similar events where locals and community engagements take place.

The purpose of the open day event is to allow stakeholders and registered Interested & Affected Parties, such as yourselves, to engage on a one on one basis with members of the project team as a further opportunity to participate.

We do acknowledge that that not all members of the different CPAs, other interest groups or registered stakeholders, will be able to attend this engagement session for various reasons. We are hopeful however that the continued involvement of the CPA representatives at such an event, will ultimately help to relay comments/concerns from your members/beneficiaries to us, as well for representatives to give feedback to their members/beneficiaries via their existing internal communication channels.

It will be extremely beneficial and greatly appreciated if members of the CPA will avail themselves to attend this open day to engage with the EAP, Applicant and attending Specialist and we do hope that this opportunity for further engagement will add value to the outcome of the public participation process.

It must be noted that should there be any members of the CPA, other registered I&APs or members of the General Public, not able to attend the open day engagement session, they will still be able to meaningfully participate in the process via any of the other mechanisms available. Not attending this upcoming event does not exclude stakeholders from giving input and/or engaging with us about this application.

With regards to your generous offer of having the meeting at your farm, kindly note that we are mindful of the fact that having a public engagement session, on private land i.e. CPA farm, may deter members of the public and other registered stakeholders from attending. To ensure transparency it is therefore deemed best to have this session at a neutral venue such as the Vleifontein Community Hall.

We'd also like to use this opportunity to highlight a number of additional steps that have been initiated in this follow-up public participation period to ensure enhanced inclusivity, transparency, and improve on the overall quality of stakeholder engagement where previous shortfalls have been identified:

1. The DEIR has been updated and an additional 30-Day comment period provided as per the Regulations.
2. Considering the CPAs previous submission, a background information document has been compiled and apart from English, it is also been translated into Tshivenda and circulated to registered I&APs.
3. We have placed follow-up newspaper adverts in English and Tshivenda.
4. We put up additional site notices in English and Tshivenda.
5. In addition to the electronic platforms used to make the DEIR available, provision has been made for hard copies of reports at a number of local venues for any stakeholder who may not have access to the various digital platforms.
6. Facilitation of the open house event, within the ward of the application area, at a venue that is accessible and neutral in support of the ongoing public consultation.
7. We have taken care to ensure that a translator (for Tshivenda speaking individuals who may attend the open house) will be present, also to assist with capturing comments/inputs from people who may not be able to make their own submissions in writing.
8. Considering the specific concerns previously raised by the CPA with regards to community engagement and more specifically the CPAs land claim, the EAP, Heritage Specialist, Social Specialist and Applicant will be available at the public open day to ensure direct engagement with community members also and/or stakeholder who may be impacted/affected by the proposed activities.

We kindly request that the CPA informs its members/beneficiaries of the opportunity to engage with the project team members at the upcoming open day and we sincerely hope that such engagement will be of value.

During the course of next week, we will share a document that outlines the structure of the open day engagement session and introduction to the project team members who will be present.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 15:11

To: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane <Makgetsi.Matimolane@gmail.com>; Motshewa Matimolane <MotshewaMatimolane@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za

Subject: Re: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Francois,

Thank you for your email and for sharing the notice regarding the availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports and Environmental Management Programmes for the proposed Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV projects.

Kindly forward copies of the revised reports and associated specialist studies to us for review.

In addition, we would like to strongly recommend that Cape EAPrac consider arranging a dedicated public engagement meeting at our farms, rather than relying solely on the Public Open Day planned for Vleifontein. An invite should be extended to all other CPA's in the area including those neighbouring the affected farms.

Our concern is that Vleifontein is quite far for most members of the Chatleka community, and as a result, many affected or interested landholders may not be able to attend. A local engagement session held at our farms would make it possible for members to participate more meaningfully — in a setting, language, and manner that allows for robust and accessible discussion about the proposed developments and their implications.

We believe such a session would greatly enhance inclusivity, transparency, and the overall quality of stakeholder engagement.

We look forward to your response and the sharing of the revised documentation.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane

0834676947

On Thu, 06 Nov 2025 at 14:34, Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 431 • Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425, • Remainder of Farm 430 • Farm 431 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection:	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 465 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIR) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), with specialist reports, are available for an additional 30-day commenting period, extending from 07 November – 08 December 2025.

Cape EAPrac will host a Public Open Day on 25 November 2025 from 12:00 to 19:00 at the Vleifontein Community Hall located in Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt. This event is intended to provide community members who may have difficulty accessing or interpreting the reports with an opportunity to engage directly, ask questions, and share their comments on the proposed developments.

Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

[17 Progress Street, George](#)

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac

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

Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for any of our environmental projects, or submitting comment on the same, you automatically consent to the lawful processing, publishing and distribution of your personal information, as provided by yourself via submissions, for the purpose specific intent of participating in an environmental process, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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.

From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 431 • Remainder of Farm 466 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425, • Remainder of Farm 430 • Farm 431 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 465 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac

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

Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for any of our environmental projects, or submitting comment on the same, you automatically consent to the lawful processing, publishing and distribution of your personal information, as provided by yourself via submissions, for the purpose specific intent of participating in an environmental process, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm 431 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430 Farm 431 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425 Portion 1 of Farm 466 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avkf0c9o6ljnuy&st=5g

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

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CHATLEKA CPA

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Date: 10 November 2025

To: Mr. Holder

CC:

DFFE Reference Number	DFFE Case Officer	Email	Proponent
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14/12/16/3/3/2/2699	Mr Lunga Dlova	ldlova@dfpe.gov.za	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
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FORMAL OBJECTION TO THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) FOR THE DRAAILOOP SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITY (PART OF THE TABOR SOLAR CLUSTER PROJECTS)

1. Introduction and Context

I submit this letter in my personal capacity, as a member of the Extended Executive Committee (EXCO) of the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA) — one of the land claimants whose claim is currently under consideration by the Regional Land Claims Commission (RLCC) for properties directly affected by the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the broader Tabor Solar Cluster Projects in the Makhado Local Municipality, Limpopo.

This letter constitutes a formal objection to the contents, assumptions, and procedural handling of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) dated November 2025, prepared by Cape EAPrac (Pty) Ltd on behalf of Mulilo Renewable Energy (Pty) Ltd.

My submission addresses the following key themes:

1. Inadequate and contradictory treatment of land restitution and ownership;
2. Procedural and ethical failures in stakeholder engagement;
3. Inaccurate assumptions regarding social and economic benefits;
4. Overlooking of heritage, land use, and cultural rights; and
5. Misapplication of legal exemptions under the Strategic Integrated Projects (SIP) framework.

2. Restitution of Land Rights Act (1994) – Misrepresentation and Contradictions

2.1 Recognition of Active Claim but Improper Dismissal

Section 3.1.11 of the Draft EIR correctly identifies that the Draailoop Solar PV site falls on land subject to active restitution claims in terms of the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 1994 (Act No. 22 of 1994). The Chatleka CPA, along with the Dithakone and Matjuda communities, is listed among affected claimants.

However, the EIR subsequently states that:

“It is beyond the scope of the EIA process to assess and/or comment on the status of the land claims.”

While the EIA process may not adjudicate claim validity, it is legally obligated to assess the social, legal, and procedural implications of unresolved claims.

Under NEMA Section 24O(1)(b), the Competent Authority must consider “any feasible and reasonable alternatives” and the potential socio-economic impact of activities on communities and individuals — including land claimants.

Thus, the blanket exclusion of the land restitution dimension from the EIR's scope is not only procedurally inadequate, but it also renders the impact assessment incomplete and non-compliant with Section 2(4)(c) and (f) of NEMA, which require environmental management to serve the interests of affected communities equitably.

2.2 Contradictory Correspondence from the Land Claims Commission

The EIR cites three communications from the RLCC – Limpopo:

- 19 September 2024: Confirms restitution claims lodged prior to 1998 and mentions dismissal of one claim (RE/430).
- 9 October 2024: States there are *no land claims* against the affected properties and expresses *no objection* to the development.
- 10 June 2025: Reaffirms that *restitution claims were lodged prior to 1998*.

These contradictions reflect uncertainty within the Land Claims Commission and undermine the reliability of the information forming the basis of the EIR's conclusions. Yet, the EIR proceeds to rely primarily on the 9 October 2024 letter — the one stating *no claims exist* — to infer that the Commission has effectively cleared the project.

This approach amounts to selective interpretation of evidence. The EIR should have flagged these inconsistencies as a material risk to the project's legal feasibility and recommended resolution prior to any Environmental Authorisation.

Proceeding on such contradictory grounds exposes the process to legal challenge under PAJA (Section 6(2)(e)(iii)), as it constitutes a decision taken without properly considering relevant information.

2.3 Dismissal of Prior Consent Requirement – A Prejudicial Interpretation

The EIR's assertion that:

“Prior consent is not required from the Claimants, as the Commission has yet to finalize the decision on the land claim...”

is both legally incorrect and ethically indefensible.

While the formal transfer of title has not yet occurred, Section 6(2)(a) of the Restitution Act provides for the protection of claimant interests during the adjudication process. It prohibits acts that may “diminish or prejudice the rights of any claimant.”

Authorising a 25- to 30-year energy project on claimed land would irreversibly sterilise it, preventing the restitution beneficiaries from exercising full land use rights — including grazing, agriculture, and cultural practices — once the claim is finalised.

This action would pre-empt the outcome of the land claim and violate the principles established in *Bengwenyama Minerals (Pty) Ltd v Genorah Resources (2011)*, where the Constitutional Court ruled that procedural fairness and meaningful consultation are essential when development affects land subject to communal or traditional rights.

In short, proceeding without consent prejudices the integrity of the restitution process and undermines the constitutional promise of equitable redress.

2.4 Improper Acceptance of Instruction “Not to Engage with Claimants”

The EIR records that on 22 September 2025, Mulilo Renewable Energy contacted the RLCC to request engagement guidance and was verbally advised:

“...not to engage directly with the claimants at this stage... to avoid misunderstandings.”

This alleged instruction, not confirmed in writing, has been treated as a legitimate basis for excluding claimants from further consultation.

However, neither the RLCC nor any administrative body has the authority to suspend the public participation obligations enshrined in Regulation 41 of the 2014 EIA Regulations and NEMA Section 2(4)(f).

Accepting this instruction effectively denied the Chatleka CPA and its members meaningful participation. It also demonstrates that the EAP failed to implement a differentiated stakeholder engagement strategy, despite acknowledging that land claimants hold unique and direct legal interests in the project area.

This exclusion violates the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act (Section 3), NEMA's participatory principles, and the spirit of restorative justice embedded in the Restitution Act itself.

2.5 Misleading Claim: “Social Benefits Unaffected by Ownership Change”

The EIR states that:

“While ownership of the affected properties may change depending on the outcome of the land claims, the social benefits of the proposed development will not be affected by the change of ownership.”

This is a fundamentally flawed assumption.

If the land is successfully restored to the Chatleka CPA, the new owners will have the right to redefine land use, renegotiate or reject lease terms, and shape socio-economic arrangements consistent with community objectives.

The assertion that benefits “will not be affected” reflects a lack of understanding of restitution law, under which restored land must serve the social and economic upliftment of its rightful owners.

In practice, this statement implies that the project would continue irrespective of ownership, which constitutes a pre-emption of future administrative and ownership decisions — a serious procedural irregularity.

2.6 Weakness of Proposed Mitigation Condition

The EIR proposes the following condition:

“Should the Claimant be awarded a successful Land Claim... the Applicant will undertake to engage with the successful Claimant as a valid landowner and negotiate an option to lease.”

This “condition” is cosmetic and unenforceable. It merely promises “to engage” but sets no parameters for equitable negotiation, compensation, or dispute resolution.

It also creates a *fait accompli* — once infrastructure is built, the new landowners will inherit heavily altered land and an existing lease structure, effectively coercing them into compliance with a pre-determined development model.

This contradicts the intent of Section 25(7) of the Constitution, which mandates *equitable restitution*, and Section 2(4)(a)(viii) of NEMA, which promotes *justice in decision-making*.

No project condition can retrospectively restore community rights once the land is industrially transformed.

3. Social and Economic Impact Assessment – Overstated Benefits, Understated Costs

The Social Impact Assessment (Appendix E7) concludes that the project will yield positive employment and local business benefits. However, the same report acknowledges that:

- Employment opportunities are *temporary* and *skills-dependent*;
- Procurement benefits will likely accrue to *external contractors*; and
- Local economic participation in the Makhado area is constrained by *low diversification and education levels*.

Despite these admissions, the EIR extrapolates “positive social benefits” for the broader community without substantiating how these benefits will reach the claimant communities most directly impacted.

The report fails to propose any formal benefit-sharing, skills transfer, or co-ownership model with the CPA or local landholding entities. This omission reinforces concerns that the community will again be marginalised in economic activities occurring on its own land.

4. Land Use and Agricultural Impacts

The EIR identifies the reduction of natural grazing land as a negative but “manageable” impact. For the Chatleka CPA, this is a central concern.

Post-restitution land use plans for the area emphasise agriculture, livestock farming, and conservation-based enterprises. The development footprint — exceeding 300 hectares for the Draailoop facility and over 1,000 hectares across the cluster — will sterilise prime grazing and arable land for at least 25 years.

This is inconsistent with the Restitution of Land Rights Act's rehabilitative purpose, which seeks to restore both ownership and productive use.

Moreover, the EIR's mitigation proposals (e.g., fencing and controlled access) do not address cumulative landscape fragmentation, which will restrict the community's ability to use surrounding land sustainably.

5. Heritage and Cultural Landscape Impacts

The Heritage Impact Assessment (Appendix E4) identifies archaeological remains and culturally significant granite koppies within the proposed development area. While the report concludes that no significant impacts are anticipated *if koppies are excluded*, the EIR fails to:

1. Provide a verified layout map showing that all sensitive areas are excluded;
2. Document consultation with descendant or claimant communities regarding cultural value; and
3. Clarify whether the recommended Conservation Management Plan (CMP) has been drafted, adopted, or integrated as a binding condition.

The EIR's statement that "the area proposed for development has insufficient value to warrant formal protection" is unsubstantiated and dismissive of living heritage and intangible cultural links between the Chatleka community and the landscape.

This violates Section 38(3)(e) of the National Heritage Resources Act, which requires community consultation when heritage is potentially affected.

6. Misapplication of Strategic Integrated Project (SIP) Exemption

The EIR claims that:

“Landowner consent is not required for Strategic Integrated Projects as contemplated in the Infrastructure Development Act, 2014.”

This assertion is misleading and legally inaccurate. SIP designation expedites administrative coordination; it does not override constitutional rights, pending land claims, or NEMA’s participatory provisions.

There is no evidence that the SIP designation process included due consideration of unresolved land restitution cases. Using SIP classification as justification for bypassing landowner or claimant consent sets a dangerous precedent of development before justice.

I therefore request that Cape EAPrac disclose the Infrastructure SA letter confirming SIP status, along with the legal opinion on its applicability to land under restitution.

7. Procedural and Ethical Deficiencies

- **Public Participation:** Treating land claimants as ordinary Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) disregards their special legal status.
- **Access Barriers:** Documentation was largely distributed electronically, excluding rural claimants without internet access.
- **Time Constraints:** The 30-day comment period is insufficient for meaningful engagement among dispersed rural stakeholders.
- **Equity Principle:** The EAP did not facilitate translation, legal interpretation, or independent technical support for claimants.

These procedural shortcomings violate NEMA Section 2(4)(k), which requires that all people have the opportunity to develop understanding and participate in decisions that affect their environment.

8. Requests and Recommendations

Based on the above, I respectfully request that:

1. Cape EAPrac and Mulilo Renewable Energy suspend the EIA process until the status of the land claims is definitively resolved and confirmed in writing by the RLCC.
2. A differentiated engagement plan be developed to enable direct, structured consultation with the Chatleka CPA and other claimants, consistent with FPIC principles.
3. A Supplementary Social and Heritage Impact Assessment be commissioned, specifically addressing restitution, equity, and benefit-sharing.
4. The Competent Authority (DFFE) withhold any Environmental Authorisation until these procedural defects and equity concerns are remedied.
5. Should the project proceed, a binding community benefit-sharing framework and joint governance mechanism be negotiated with the Chatleka CPA before construction.

9. Closing Statement

As a member of the Chatleka CPA Extended Executive Committee, I reiterate our principled position:

“We do not oppose renewable energy or solar development in principle; we oppose development on our ancestral land in a manner that excludes us from participation, decision-making, and long-term benefit. True empowerment must not reproduce historical patterns of dispossession.”

The Restitution of Land Rights Act is not merely a bureaucratic mechanism — it is a constitutional instrument for restorative justice. Any project that ignores its implications risks perpetuating the very injustices it seeks to redress.

I therefore call upon Cape EAPrac to engage sincerely and constructively with the Chatleka CPA and other neighboring claimant communities to ensure that renewable energy development proceeds in a manner that is legally compliant, socially equitable, and ethically sound.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr MR Matimolane

Member: Extended Executive Committee

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

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FORMAL OBJECTION TO THE HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT (HIA) FOR THE DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV FACILITY (PART OF THE TABOR SOLAR CLUSTER PROJECTS)

1. Introduction and Interest

I submit this objection in my personal capacity as a member of the Extended Executive Committee (EXCO) of the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA), which is a recognized land claimant in terms of the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 1994 (Act No. 22 of 1994). The claim includes portions of the farms Portion 1 of 425, Remainder of 430, and Farm 431, which fall within the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility footprint, as outlined in the Heritage Impact Assessment (Appendix E4) prepared by CTS Heritage (2025).

As both a directly affected claimant and a member of the Chatleka CPA leadership, I have a vested interest in ensuring that our cultural, historical, and living heritage—as well as that

of neighboring claimant communities—is accurately identified, properly valued, and meaningfully protected within the environmental authorisation process.

This submission therefore focuses on substantive and procedural objections to the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the Tabor Solar cluster.

2. Overview of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA)

The HIA identifies the following heritage considerations:

- The study area is located within the Soutpansberg–Waterberg region, known for its archaeological, historical, and cultural significance.
- Granite koppies and rocky outcrops within the project area contain archaeological materials, including stone tools, ceramic fragments, and possible burial sites.
- The report classifies these features as significant but manageable, recommending that no development occur on or within the koppies and that a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) be developed.
- It concludes that, provided these mitigation measures are adopted, the overall impact on heritage resources is of low significance.

While these findings acknowledge the presence of heritage resources, the report's conclusions are superficial, incomplete, and procedurally deficient, particularly in relation to community consultation, cultural value assessment, and integration with land restitution context.

3. Key Grounds for Objection

3.1 Inadequate Community Consultation and Exclusion of Land Claimants

Section 38(3)(e) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) requires that any heritage assessment include consultation with communities whose heritage resources may be affected.

However, the HIA notes no direct engagement with the Chatleka CPA or other affected claimant communities, despite acknowledging that the project area falls within land currently subject to active restitution claims.

The failure to consult the communities that have historical, cultural, and spiritual ties to the land:

- Invalidates the representativeness of the heritage assessment;
- Violates the procedural fairness requirements of both the National Heritage Resources Act and NEMA Section 2(4)(f); and
- Undermines the legitimacy of the HIA's conclusions regarding the absence of “intangible” or “living” heritage.

The CPA has living oral histories, ancestral sites, and community graves in this area, yet no attempt was made to document or verify these narratives through engagement with local elders or traditional custodians.

3.2 Narrow Focus on Physical Archaeology and Exclusion of Living Heritage

The HIA focuses predominantly on archaeological artefacts (stone tools, ceramics, and rock shelters) but fails to assess the living cultural landscape—including sacred sites, ancestral connections, and intangible cultural values—associated with the area.

This omission directly contradicts the definition of “heritage resources” under Section 3(2)(b) of the National Heritage Resources Act, which explicitly includes:

“Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage.”

By disregarding this, the assessment presents an incomplete picture that privileges the archaeological record over living heritage. For claimant communities such as the Chatleka CPA, cultural continuity and land-based identity are as significant as physical artefacts.

This failure reduces our history to “objects” rather than ongoing relationships with land, which are central to both restitution and heritage protection.

3.3 Lack of Participatory Validation of Findings

The HIA makes categorical statements such as:

“The area proposed for development has insufficient value to warrant formal protection.”

This conclusion was reached without participatory validation. It assumes authority to determine cultural value without consulting the communities of origin. Such determinations are not scientifically or ethically valid without the participation of the people whose heritage is under consideration.

The absence of a participatory validation process violates the spirit of UNESCO’s 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, which South Africa has ratified, and which requires that communities identify and define their own heritage.

3.4 Absence of a Verified Map of Heritage Exclusion Zones

Although the HIA recommends that *“no development take place within or on the granite koppies,”* the EIR does not include a map confirming the exact exclusion zones.

Without such verification:

- It is impossible for the community or authorities to ensure that construction boundaries do not encroach upon sensitive heritage areas.
- Any claims of “low significance” are premature, as spatial uncertainty remains unresolved.

The lack of mapped exclusion zones undermines Regulation 38(3)(g) of the National Heritage Resources Act, which requires that the location and nature of heritage resources be clearly identified.

3.5 No Conservation Management Plan (CMP) Attached or Adopted

The HIA recommends the preparation of a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) but does not provide it, nor confirm that one has been prepared, adopted, or reviewed by SAHRA or LIHRA.

This means that a key mitigation measure—one that the HIA itself deems necessary—remains outstanding. Proceeding without a CMP:

- Contradicts the report's own recommendations;
- Fails to meet the precautionary principle under NEMA Section 2(4)(a)(vii); and
- Exposes both the developer and the authorities to non-compliance with heritage protection obligations.

Until a CMP is developed in consultation with affected communities, no credible heritage mitigation plan exists for this project.

3.6 Cumulative Heritage Impacts Across the Tabor Solar Cluster

The Draailoop facility is part of a larger 795 MW Tabor Solar Cluster, including the Bethel, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV Projects. Each of these facilities occupies land historically associated with indigenous communities and traditional settlements.

Yet the HIA treats the Draailoop site in isolation, without assessing the cumulative loss of heritage landscape integrity across the cluster.

This piecemeal approach violates NEMA's requirement (Section 24O(1)(b)(v)) that cumulative impacts be considered and fails to reflect the spatial continuity of cultural landscapes that extend beyond individual project boundaries.

3.7 Overlooking the Restitution Context in Heritage Assessment

The HIA makes no reference to the Restitution of Land Rights Act or the existence of active land claims, despite the EIR explicitly acknowledging these claims in Section 3.1.11.

This omission is critical: the Restitution Act and the National Heritage Resources Act intersect in protecting land that embodies historical dispossession.

Ignoring the restitution context reduces heritage to static artefacts and overlooks the cultural and historical continuity of dispossession, which is central to understanding the land's significance.

In short, the HIA decontextualises heritage from history. This is incompatible with post apartheid heritage ethics and the Constitutional mandate (Section 25(7)) for restorative justice.

4. Procedural and Ethical Concerns

- **Exclusion of Claimants:** The assessment process failed to notify or involve the Chatleka CPA in fieldwork or review of findings.
- **Transparency:** The full list of heritage sites identified has not been publicly shared with affected communities.
- **Timing:** The HIA was conducted prior to the completion of the revised land claim verification process, precluding integration of claim-based knowledge.
- **Access Barriers:** Rural claimants were not provided accessible copies or vernacular translations of the report.

These deficiencies amount to procedural injustice under PAJA Section 3, as they deny affected parties fair administrative participation in decisions affecting their heritage.

5. Requests and Remedies

In view of the above, I formally request the following:

1. Suspension of the heritage authorisation process until meaningful consultation has occurred with the Chatleka CPA and other claimant communities.
2. Preparation of a revised and participatory Heritage Impact Assessment, incorporating oral history, living heritage, and restitution context.
3. Mapping and disclosure of all identified heritage sites, including koppies, burial grounds, and archaeological features, to the affected communities.
4. Development of a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) in collaboration with the Chatleka CPA and approval by SAHRA prior to any construction activity.
5. Cumulative heritage assessment across all four Tabor Cluster projects to evaluate loss of landscape and cultural continuity.
6. Recognition of claimant communities as custodians of heritage resources within their ancestral land and inclusion of their representatives in all heritage monitoring and mitigation teams.

6. Conclusion

The Heritage Impact Assessment for the Draailoop Solar PV Facility is procedurally defective, substantively incomplete, and ethically deficient. It fails to meet the standards required under the National Heritage Resources Act, NEMA, and international heritage protection principles.

As land claimants and custodians of this land's cultural identity, the Chatleka CPA and its members cannot support the HIA's conclusions or recommendations in its current form.

I therefore call upon Cape EAPrac, CTS Heritage, and SAHRA to revisit the assessment through a transparent, participatory, and inclusive process that genuinely reflects the voices, histories, and rights of the communities most intimately connected to the land.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr MR Matimolane

Member: Extended Executive Committee

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FORMAL OBJECTION TO THE SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (SIA) FOR THE DRAAIILOOP SOLAR PV FACILITY (PART OF THE TABOR SOLAR CLUSTER PROJECTS)

1. Introduction and Context

I submit this objection in my personal capacity as a member of the Extended Executive Committee (EXCO) of the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA), one of the land claimants whose claim is currently under consideration by the Regional Land Claims Commission (RLCC) for the properties directly affected by the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility.

The Social Impact Assessment (SIA), prepared as Appendix E7 to the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (November 2025), forms a critical part of the decision-making process for this project.

As a representative of a community with a pending land claim and historical ties to the affected properties (Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430, and Farm 431), I have both a legal interest and a moral obligation to ensure that the social impact process is equitable, inclusive, and accurate in its reflection of the affected communities.

2. Overview of the Social Impact Assessment (SIA)

The SIA identifies a range of anticipated social impacts associated with the project, including:

- Temporary job creation during construction;
- Limited permanent employment opportunities during operation;
- Potential local procurement opportunities;
- Improved access to renewable energy infrastructure; and
- Land use transformation from grazing and agriculture to industrial-scale solar facilities.

While the SIA acknowledges that the project area is subject to active land claims, it explicitly states that:

“It is beyond the scope of the SIA to assess or comment on the status of the land claims.”

This position represents the fundamental weakness of the report: it treats land ownership, land rights, and restitution—the central social issue of this project—as irrelevant to the assessment of social impact.

As a result, the SIA fails to meet its core purpose under NEMA Section 24O(1)(b) — to identify, predict, and evaluate the social and economic impacts of the proposed activity on people, their rights, and their livelihoods.

3. Grounds for Objection

3.1 Exclusion of Land Claimants as Distinct Stakeholders

Although the SIA notes that the project area is “subject to land claims,” it treats the claimants as ordinary Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) rather than as primary social stakeholders with legally recognised interests in the land.

This oversight has several implications:

1. The unique social, economic, and cultural interests of the Chatleka CPA were not assessed.
2. The potential loss of future livelihoods and restitution benefits was ignored.
3. The psychological and historical impacts of another development imposed on land under claim were omitted.

The exclusion of claimants from a differentiated consultation process violates NEMA Section 2(4)(f), which requires special consideration of previously disadvantaged communities, and undermines the principles of restorative justice underpinning South Africa’s land reform framework.

3.2 Misrepresentation of Community Consent and Participation

The SIA references a comment from myself (Mr. Motshewa Matimolane) submitted during the Scoping Phase, in which we stated:

“Our communities do not oppose solar development in principle; we oppose the notion that it can be planned and implemented without our participation and prior consent. We resist the assumption that empowerment means leasing ancestral land to outside developers while remaining peripheral to the long-term benefits.”

The SIA and EIR, however, dismiss this position by stating that:

“Prior consent is not required from the Claimants, as the Commission has yet to finalize the decision on the land claim.”

This reasoning is legally and ethically untenable.

Even though the land claim is pending, the Restitution of Land Rights Act (Section 6(2)(a)) protects claimants from any action that may prejudice the outcome of the claim. Allowing a 25–30 year solar project to proceed without consent pre-empts the restitution process, effectively sterilising the land and denying claimants their full rights as future landowners.

The principle of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)—recognized by South Africa through its adoption of international human rights and environmental standards—requires that affected communities be consulted meaningfully and consent obtained prior to development on contested land. This was not done.

3.3 Narrow Definition of Social Benefits

The SIA lists job creation and local procurement as the main positive benefits but fails to contextualise these within local socio-economic realities.

The report itself concedes that:

- Local communities face low education and skill levels, limiting their employability.
- Most project benefits will accrue to external contractors and engineering companies.
- The local economy of the Makhado Local Municipality is poorly diversified, limiting the capacity of small enterprises to benefit.

Despite acknowledging these constraints, the SIA rates the social impact of employment as “*high positive*.” This is a contradiction.

There is no evidence that the project will generate sustainable employment, long-term skill development, or equitable benefit-sharing. The local communities, including Chatleka CPA members, are thus likely to remain marginal to the project’s economic benefits—a continuation of historic exclusion patterns.

3.4 Failure to Assess Impacts of Land Use Transformation

The SIA recognises that the development will lead to:

“*The reduction of land with natural vegetation for livestock grazing.*”

For the Chatleka CPA, whose land restitution vision centres on agriculture, grazing, and sustainable rural livelihoods, this impact is profound. The transformation of over 300 hectares of potential grazing and agricultural land into industrial solar infrastructure directly undermines the community’s post-restitution land use options.

This represents a loss of opportunity, which is a measurable negative social impact—yet the SIA dismisses it as negligible.

No mitigation measures or compensation mechanisms are proposed for claimants who may lose the ability to pursue agricultural or conservation-based economic activities on their restored land.

3.5 Absence of Benefit-Sharing or Equity Mechanisms

The SIA makes no reference to any benefit-sharing arrangement, community trust, or equity participation structure that would ensure long-term benefits to local or claimant communities.

This omission is critical. Under international and national social performance standards (e.g., IFC Performance Standard 7, NEMA Section 2(4)(c), and the DFFE’s Just Transition Framework), projects on communal or restitution land must demonstrate community-level benefit.

Without such arrangements, the SIA’s assertion that the project will have a “positive social outcome” is baseless.

3.6 Overlooking Cumulative and Intergenerational Impacts

The Draailoop facility is part of a larger Tabor Cluster (Bethel, Klipput, Makoppa, and Draailoop) with a combined footprint exceeding 1,000 hectares.

The SIA fails to assess cumulative social impacts across the cluster, including:

- Combined land transformation;
- Long-term displacement of local agricultural economies;
- Pressure on social infrastructure; and

- The perception of loss of ancestral landscapes among claimant communities.

Moreover, the SIA does not address intergenerational impacts—how the project will affect future generations of land claimants who will inherit the land after restitution is finalised.

This omission contradicts NEMA Section 2(4)(a)(vii), which requires that environmental and social management consider the rights of future generations.

3.7 Procedural Deficiencies in Consultation

The SIA and EIR both rely on the claim that all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) were given equal opportunity to participate. However, “equal opportunity” is not the same as equitable access.

Specific procedural concerns include:

- Public notices and documents were distributed primarily online, excluding rural communities with limited internet access.
- No vernacular translations or simplified summaries were made available.
- No dedicated community consultation workshops were held with claimant communities.
- The applicant accepted a verbal instruction from the RLCC “not to engage directly with claimants”, which effectively blocked meaningful participation.

These procedural defects violate the principles of administrative fairness (PAJA Section 3) and meaningful participation (NEMA Section 2(4)(f)).

4. Requests and Remedies

Given these substantive and procedural deficiencies, I formally request the following:

1. Suspension of approval of the SIA pending a full revision that includes a claimant-specific assessment.
2. Direct consultation between Cape EAPrac, the social specialists, and the Chatleka CPA (and other affected CPAs) to gather accurate community perspectives.

3. Inclusion of a Restitution Impact Assessment component, explicitly analysing how the project affects restitution outcomes, livelihoods, and land use rights.
4. Preparation of a Community Benefit-Sharing and Local Development Plan, detailing commitments to:
 - o Employment quotas for local and claimant members;
 - o Equity participation or revenue-sharing options;
 - o Skills development and enterprise support programmes; and
 - o Reinvestment of socio-economic development (SED) funds in the claimant community.
5. A Cumulative Social Impact Assessment for the full Tabor Cluster, assessing long-term, intergenerational, and landscape-scale social consequences.
6. Extension of the public participation period by at least 60 days to allow for proper consultation with rural claimants.

5. Conclusion

The Social Impact Assessment for the Draailoop Solar PV Facility fails to meet the standards of rigour, inclusivity, and fairness required under South African environmental law and international best practice.

By ignoring the implications of unresolved land claims, overlooking the loss of agricultural land, and overstating local benefits, the SIA presents an incomplete and misleading picture of the project's true social consequences.

As a member of the Chatleka CPA Extended Executive Committee, I reaffirm our position: *“We do not oppose solar development in principle; we oppose development that proceeds without our participation, consent, and equitable share in the benefits arising from our land.”*

Until these deficiencies are addressed through genuine engagement and equitable redesign of social mitigation measures, the Chatleka CPA cannot support the SIA or the conclusions it advances.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr MR Matimolane

Member: Extended Executive Committee

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Email Address: motshewamatimolane@gmail.com

Cell No.: 083 467 6947

CHATLEKA CPA

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Registration No: KRP 693

Address: P.O. Box 536, Dwarsriver, 0812

Tel: 071 121 3905 | Email: chatlekacpa@gmail.com

To:

Mr. Dale Holder

Senior Environmental Practitioner

Cape EAPrac

Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Tel: 044 874 0365

Date: 10 November 2025

To: Mr. Holder

CC:

DFFE Reference Number	DFFE Case Officer	Email	Proponent
14/12/16/3/3/2/2698	Ms Zamalanga Langa	zlanga@dfpe.gov.za	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2699	Mr Lunga Dlova	ldlova@dfpe.gov.za	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2700	Ms Makhosazane Yeni	MYeni@dfpe.gov.za	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2701	Ms Thulisile Nyalunga	Tnyalunga@dfpe.gov.za	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd

FORMAL OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED DRAAIILOOP SOLAR PV FACILITY AND THE WIDER TABOR SOLAR PV CLUSTER – FAILURE TO RECOGNISE LAND CLAIM RIGHTS, INADEQUATE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND PROCEDURAL DEFICIENCIES UNDER NEMA

1. Introduction

The Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA), representing the land claimants under the Restitution of Land Rights Act, 1994 (Act No. 22 of 1994), submits this formal objection to the proposed Draailoop Solar PV Facility, forming part of the broader Tabor Solar PV Cluster (comprising the Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa facilities).

The proposed developments are located on ancestral land that is subject to an unresolved land restitution claim by the Chatleka community and other CPA's, on farms near Bandelierkop in the Makhado Local Municipality, Limpopo Province, namely:

- Remainder of the farm Draailoop 430 LS
- Portion 0 of the farm Bethel 431 LS
- Portion 1 of farm Kaffernek 465 LS
- Remainder and Portion 1 of the farm Makoppa 466 LS
- Portion 1 of the farm Klipput 425 LS

This objection is based on the following grounds:

- Violation of the Restitution of Land Rights Act and the principles of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC);
- Procedural defects in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process;
- Exclusion of affected claimant communities from **meaningful participation**; and
- Inadequate consideration of social, heritage, and cumulative impacts across the Tabor Cluster.

2. Core Objection: Land Claim Status and Consent

The Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) acknowledges that the project area is subject to land claims. Yet, the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) asserts that:

"Prior consent is not required from the Claimants, as the Commission has yet to finalize the decision on the land claim..." (EIR, p.51)

This position is legally unsound and contrary to the purpose of the Restitution of Land Rights Act, which explicitly seeks to restore ownership and use rights to dispossessed communities.

Approving or proceeding with a 25–30-year solar development effectively sterilises the land, undermining restitution objectives and prejudicing the eventual rights of claimants to determine land use after restoration.

The Chatleka CPA's position remains clear and consistent:

"Our communities do not oppose solar development in principle; we oppose the notion that it can be planned and implemented without our participation and prior consent. We resist

*the assumption that empowerment means leasing ancestral land to outside developers while remaining peripheral to the long-term benefits.**

We therefore object to the project's continuation without the formal inclusion, meaningful participation, and consent of the Chatleka CPA and other affected claimants.

3. Contradictory Communications from the Land Claims Commission

Section 3.1.11 of the EIR records contradictory information from the Regional Land Claims Commissioner (RLCC):

- 19 September 2024: Confirms restitution claims lodged prior to 1998.
- 9 October 2024: States there are no land claims and no objection to development.
- 10 June 2025: Again confirms restitution claims lodged prior to 1998.

Despite these inconsistencies, the EAP relies on the most permissive interpretation, creating legal uncertainty and administrative bias.

Proceeding under such conditions violates Section 2(4)(a)(vii) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), which mandates precaution and due diligence where uncertainty exists.

We therefore request:

1. Written confirmation from the RLCC clarifying the official and current status of all land claims affecting the Tabor Cluster area; and
2. Disclosure of all correspondence, including the alleged "instruction not to engage with claimants," as cited by the EAP.

4. Procedural Deficiency: Exclusion from Consultation

The EIR admits that the developer (Mulilo Renewable Energy) was "advised not to engage directly with the claimants at this stage" (EIR, p.50).

This action has no basis in law and contradicts:

- Regulation 41(2)(e) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, which requires direct engagement with all persons whose rights may be affected;
- NEMA Section 2(4)(f), mandating inclusive public participation; and
- The Promotion of Administrative Justice Act (PAJA), which guarantees fair administrative processes.

As a result, the Chatleka CPA and neighboring claimant CPAs were excluded from direct consultation, and their rights reduced to those of ordinary Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), despite being potential legal landowners.

We regard this as a fatal procedural defect warranting suspension of the EIA process.

5. Inadequate Assessment of Land Restitution and Socio-Economic Impacts

The Social Impact Assessment (SIA) explicitly states:

"It is beyond the scope of the SIA to assess or comment on the status of the land claims."

This disclaimer eliminates consideration of a key social and legal factor. The SIA further acknowledges:

- Local economic benefits will be limited;
- Most contracts will be awarded to external companies; and
- Low education and skills levels will restrict local employment.

These findings confirm that the purported benefits will largely bypass affected communities. For the Chatleka CPA, this means bearing the social and environmental costs while receiving no direct socio-economic return, contrary to NEMA's environmental justice principle (Section 2(4)(c)).

6. Impact on Land Use and Agricultural Potential

The EIR identifies the "reduction of land with natural vegetation for livestock grazing" as a negative impact (Table 60, p. 167).

This is a critical concern for our CPA, whose land use vision post-restitution includes both traditional and commercial agriculture.

Loss of grazing land directly undermines the potential to realise those objectives once restitution is complete.

We therefore object to the long-term sterilisation of agricultural land without consultation with the future landowners — the claimant communities.

7. Heritage and Cultural Rights

The Heritage Impact Assessment (CTS Heritage, 2025) identifies archaeological remains and burial grounds associated with granite koppies within the project area, but provides no evidence that:

- The final project footprint avoids these sensitive sites; or
- Local communities were consulted about cultural and spiritual significance.

This contravenes Section 38(3)(e) and (g) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA, Act 25 of 1999), which require consultation with affected communities and the consideration of their heritage interests.

We request:

1. Identification of all burial sites and other heritage sites in consultation with the Chatleka CPA and other neighbouring CPA's in the area.
2. A detailed map confirming that all burial sites and other heritage sites are excluded from development; and
3. A binding commitment to develop and implement a Conservation Management Plan, in consultation with the Chatleka CPA and neighboring claimants.

8. Misuse of Strategic Integrated Project (SIP) Status

The EIR asserts that "landowner consent is not required for Strategic Integrated Projects" due to Regulation 39(2)(c).

This interpretation is misleading. SIP status under the Infrastructure Development Act, 2014, does not override rights under the Constitution, NEMA, or the Restitution of Land Rights Act.

SIP classification cannot be used to avoid meaningful community consultation or to legitimize exclusion of claimant communities.

We request a written legal justification for applying this exemption to land under active claim.

9. Cumulative and Environmental Justice Implications

The Tabor Cluster (Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV projects) collectively represents approximately 795 MW of development, covering over 1,000 hectares of land.

Cumulative impacts include:

- Permanent transformation of grazing land;
- Soil compaction and erosion;
- Loss of biodiversity and visual impacts; and
- Cultural landscape alteration.

If authorisation proceeds, claimant communities would inherit land that is environmentally and economically compromised, defeating the purpose of restitution. This raises clear environmental justice concerns, as per Section 2(4)(c) and (d) of NEMA.

10. Request for Meaningful Engagement and Inclusive Process

We formally request that Cape EAPrac and Mulilo Renewable Energy convene structured and inclusive engagement with:

- The Chatleka CPA and ;
- The neighboring claimant CPAs and communities within the Tabor Cluster footprint;

This engagement must:

- Be held **within affected communities**, using appropriate languages and formats;
- Include presentation of all maps, specialist findings, and project alternatives;
- Facilitate independent technical and legal support for the claimants; and

- Be conducted prior to submission of the Final EIR to DFFE.

11. Specific requests:

The Chatleka CPA requests the following immediate actions:

1. Suspend the EIA process until the status of the land claims is formally clarified in writing by the RLCC.
2. Withdraw and revise Section 3.1.11 of the Draft EIR to accurately reflect the existence and implications of active land claims.
3. Conduct a Supplementary Social and Heritage Impact Addendum, assessing:
 - o Land restitution implications;
 - o Economic justice and benefit-sharing models; and
 - o Living cultural heritage of affected communities.
4. Disclose all correspondence between the EAP, Mulilo, and the RLCC relating to engagement restrictions.
5. Extend the public comment period to allow for proper consultation and independent review.
6. Ensure that no Environmental Authorisation is granted until Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) is obtained from claimant communities.

12. Conclusion

The Draaioop Solar PV and the wider Tabor Solar Cluster developments are being advanced on disputed land, under conditions of contradictory official communication, exclusionary consultation, and uncertain legal standing.

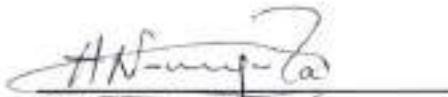
The process as currently designed violates the principles of procedural fairness, environmental justice, and constitutional protection of restitution rights.

The Chatleka CPA does not oppose renewable energy — we oppose development that disregards our rights and voice on our ancestral land.

We therefore call upon Cape EAPrac, Mulilo Renewable Energy, and the Competent Authority (DFFE) to:

- Halt the authorisation process;
- Initiate transparent and inclusive engagement; and
- Redesign the project approach to ensure genuine community participation, shared benefits, and legal compliance.

Yours faithfully,



Mr N.A. Maphala
Acting Chairperson,

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)
Email Address: jalinetworking682@gmail.com
Cell No.: 071 121 3905

Francois Byleveld

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 10 November 2025 17:50
To: Dale Holder; Francois Byleveld; Kilton Dipodumo; Makgetsi Matimolane; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; RICHARD MALEFO; zlanga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: FORMAL OBJECTION : Draailoop Solar PV Facility and the entire Tabor Solar PV Cluster
Attachments: Letter of objection from Chatleka CPA Chairperson 10 November 2025.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Mr. Holder,

Please find attached the formal letter of objection submitted by **Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)**, dated 10 November 2025.

This objection specifically targets the proposed **Draailoop Solar PV Facility** (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699).

Crucially, the Chatleka CPA requests that the objections, legal arguments, and procedural deficiencies raised in the attached letter be formally applied and considered for all other projects that constitute the Tabor Solar PV Cluster, including:

- Bethel Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2698)
- Klipput Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2700)
- Makoppa Solar PV Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/2701)

The grounds for objection relate primarily to the failure to recognize active land claim rights, inadequate community engagement, and procedural defects under NEMA.

We expect a formal acknowledgement of receipt for both this email and the attached objection. We look forward to your prompt response regarding the requested suspension of the EIA process and the initiation of meaningful engagement (in the form and manner we have requested).

Sincerely,

Motshewa Matimolane on behalf of:

Mr. N.A. Maphala

Acting Chairperson Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 071 121 3905

Email: jalinetworking682@gmail.com

Francois Byleveld

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, 09 November 2025 15:07
To: Francois Byleveld; Dale Holder
Cc: Motz Ntimo; Kilton Dipodumo; RICHARD MALEFO; Makgetsi Matimolane
Subject: Re: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Good day Francois / Dale,

Further to my earlier email,

Please note that we are in the process of drafting our initial formal response to mainly the EIR, SIA and HIA. We should be able to share it tomorrow.

Kind Regards
Motshewa

On Thu, Nov 6, 2025 at 2:34 PM Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Farm 431Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Remainder of Farm 466Portion 1 of Farm 466Portion 1 of Farm 425	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425, • Remainder of Farm 430 • Farm 431 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klippot Solar PV	Klippot Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 473 	
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 465 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remainder of Farm 466 Portion 1 of Farm 466 Portion 1 of Farm 425 Portion 2 of Farm 425 Remainder of Farm 424 Portion 2 of Farm 470 Farm 1211 Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 Farm 1209 Portion 1 of Farm 473 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIR) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), with specialist reports, are available for an additional 30-day commenting period, extending from 07 November – 08 December 2025.

Cape EAPrac will host a Public Open Day on 25 November 2025 from 12:00 to 19:00 at the Vleifontein Community Hall located in Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt. This event is intended to provide community members who may have difficulty accessing or interpreting the reports with an opportunity to engage directly, ask questions, and share their comments on the proposed developments.

Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530



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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 431 • Remainder of Farm 466 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425, • Remainder of Farm 430 • Farm 431 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 465 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530



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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Farm 431Remainder of Farm 466	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Portion 1 of Farm 425,	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remainder of Farm 430 Farm 431 	infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425 Portion 1 of Farm 466 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljinuy&st=5gs9tr

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530



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Francois Byleveld

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, 09 November 2025 06:30
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Motz Ntimo; Francois Byleveld; Sylvia Mdaka; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane; zlanga@dfef.gov.za; Idlova@dfef.gov.za; MYeni@dfef.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dfef.gov.za
Subject: Re: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klippot Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province
Attachments: 27. App G1e_Confirmation of Telephonic Conversation with Land Claims Commissioner.pdf

Subject: Request for Clarity and Copy of Letter from Regional Land Commissioner

Dear Dale,

While combing through the stack of EIA documents on your website, I came across the attached letter, which raised some concerns in light of our ongoing efforts to engage meaningfully on the proposed project.

The letter suggests that Mulilo, the project proponents and EAPrac, the EAP, have been advised by the Regional Land Commissioner to *“not engage directly with the claimant at this stage.”*

Could you please share a copy of the correspondence or directive from the Regional Land Commissioner referenced in that statement? We would also appreciate your clarification on EAPrac’s current posture regarding this matter, particularly given our continued attempts to reach out for engagement — in a setting (our farms), language, and manner that would allow for meaningful and constructive discussions.

We look forward to your response and to finding a mutually respectful way forward.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane

On Fri, Nov 7, 2025 at 6:40 PM Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr Holder

Thank you for your detailed response and for the clarifications provided regarding access to the revised reports and the arrangements for the upcoming public engagement session.

While we appreciate the additional steps undertaken to improve inclusivity and transparency, we remain concerned that hosting the engagement session at the Vleifontein Community Hall will not

adequately accommodate the affected members of the Chatleka CPA and neighbouring communities.

It is important to note that most beneficiaries of the neighbouring CPA do not reside in Ward 20, where the Vleifontein Community Hall is located. The majority of these members are based in Matoks and Indermark near Vivo, which makes it difficult and costly for them to attend the session in Vleifontein. We therefore urge the EAP to better familiarise itself with the demographic profile and settlement patterns of the affected CPAs to appreciate the logistical and participation challenges this creates.

In addition, we wish to correct an assumption reflected in your communication — the dominant language spoken by the neighbouring CPA members is Setlokwa, a dialect of Northern Sotho, not Tshivenda. For meaningful engagement, it is essential that facilitation, translation, and communication materials reflect the actual linguistic context of the affected beneficiaries.

Finally, our earlier request for a public meeting on the CPA farms — rather than an open day — was not simply about venue preference. The intent is to create a platform for robust, structured, and collective engagement where members can openly raise issues, deliberate together, and interact with the EAP, Applicant, and specialists in a transparent, inclusive manner. The open-day format, with its one-on-one interactions, is not sufficient to address the complexity of the concerns at hand, particularly around land ownership, socio-economic impact, and mitigation responsibilities.

In light of the above, we respectfully reiterate our request that a dedicated public meeting be arranged at the CPA farms, in addition to the planned open day, to ensure that all affected beneficiaries have a fair and meaningful opportunity to participate in the process.

Kind regards,

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On Fri, 07 Nov 2025 at 18:14, Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Mr Matimolane

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The digital copies of the revised reports and all associated specialist studies are available on the Cape EAPrac Website and via DropBox direct download at the links provided in the Notification Letters. Should you have any problems accessing the documents via these links please inform us without delay so that we can assist you otherwise.

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2. Munzhedzi Post Office - Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt.

Members of your organisation/beneficiaries and other registered stakeholders are invited to review these documents in the event that there are any challenges in accessing the available digital platforms.

With regards to your query about the venue for the upcoming open house, we can confirm that the Vleifontein Community Hall was purposefully selected for the upcoming stakeholder engagement opportunity in conjunction with the local Ward Councillor for Ward 20 in which the application sites fall.

This municipal community hall is a public neutral venue that is accessible to all stakeholders, including members of any of the different CPAs, other interest groups as well as members of the general public. The Councillor assured us that the facility is often used for similar events where locals and community engagements take place.

The purpose of the open day event is to allow stakeholders and registered Interested & Affected Parties, such as yourselves, to engage on a one on one basis with members of the project team as a further opportunity to participate.

We do acknowledge that that not all members of the different CPAs, other interest groups or registered stakeholders, will be able to attend this engagement session for various reasons. We are

hopeful however that the continued involvement of the CPA representatives at such an event, will ultimately help to relay comments/concerns from your members/beneficiaries to us, as well for representatives to give feedback to their members/beneficiaries via their existing internal communication channels.

It will be extremely beneficial and greatly appreciated if members of the CPA will avail themselves to attend this open day to engage with the EAP, Applicant and attending Specialist and we do hope that this opportunity for further engagement will add value to the outcome of the public participation process.

It must be noted that should there be any members of the CPA, other registered I&APs or members of the General Public, not able to attend the open day engagement session, they will still be able to meaningfully participate in the process via any of the other mechanisms available. Not attending this upcoming event does not exclude stakeholders from giving input and/or engaging with us about this application.

With regards to your generous offer of having the meeting at your farm, kindly note that we are mindful of the fact that having a public engagement session, on private land i.e. CPA farm, may deter members of the public and other registered stakeholders from attending. To ensure transparency it is therefore deemed best to have this session at a neutral venue such as the Vleifontein Community Hall.

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6. Facilitation of the open house event, within the ward of the application area, at a venue that is accessible and neutral in support of the ongoing public consultation.
7. We have taken care to ensure that a translator (for Tshivenda speaking individuals who may attend the open house) will be present, also to assist with capturing comments/inputs from people who may not be able to make their own submissions in writing.

8. Considering the specific concerns previously raised by the CPA with regards to community engagement and more specifically the CPAs land claim, the EAP, Heritage Specialist, Social Specialist and Applicant will be available at the public open day to ensure direct engagement with community members also and/or stakeholder who may be impacted/affected by the proposed activities.

We kindly request that the CPA informs its members/beneficiaries of the opportunity to engage with the project team members at the upcoming open day and we sincerely hope that such engagement will be of value.

During the course of next week, we will share a document that outlines the structure of the open day engagement session and introduction to the project team members who will be present.

Kind Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 15:11

To: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane <Makgetsi.Matimolane@gmail.com>; Motshewa Matimolane <MotshewaMatimolane@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za

Subject: Re: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Francois,

Thank you for your email and for sharing the notice regarding the availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports and Environmental Management Programmes for the proposed Bethel, Draailoop, Klipput, and Makoppa Solar PV projects.

Kindly forward copies of the revised reports and associated specialist studies to us for review.

In addition, we would like to strongly recommend that Cape EAPrac consider arranging a dedicated public engagement meeting at our farms, rather than relying solely on the Public Open Day planned for Vleifontein. An invite should be extended to all other CPA's in the area including those neighbouring the affected farms.

Our concern is that Vleifontein is quite far for most members of the Chatleka community, and as a result, many affected or interested landholders may not be able to attend. A local engagement session held at our farms would make it possible for members to participate more meaningfully — in a setting, language, and manner that allows for robust and accessible discussion about the proposed developments and their implications.

We believe such a session would greatly enhance inclusivity, transparency, and the overall quality of stakeholder engagement.

We look forward to your response and the sharing of the revised documentation.

Kind regards,

Motshewa Matimolane

0834676947

On Thu, 06 Nov 2025 at 14:34, Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND

MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<p>PV:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 431 • Remainder of Farm 466 <p>Grid Connection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<p>PV:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425, • Remainder of Farm 430 • Farm 431 <p>Grid Connection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 473 PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 465 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIR) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), with specialist reports, are available for an additional 30-day commenting period, extending from 07 November – 08 December 2025.

Cape EAPrac will host a Public Open Day on 25 November 2025 from 12:00 to 19:00 at the Vleifontein Community Hall located in Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt. This event is intended to provide community members who may have difficulty accessing or interpreting the reports with an opportunity to engage directly, ask questions, and share their comments on the proposed developments.

Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac

The logo for Cape EAPrac is a vertical rectangular bar on the right side of the page. It features a gradient of colors: purple at the top, transitioning through blue and green to a dark green at the bottom.

Reduce Reuse Recycle

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

Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for any of our environmental projects, or submitting comment on the same, you automatically consent to the lawful processing, publishing and distribution of your personal information, as provided by yourself via submissions, for the purpose specific intent of participating in an environmental process, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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.

From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILoop SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Farm 431Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Portion 1 of Farm 425,Remainder of Farm 430	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm 431 	
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425 Portion 1 of Farm 466 Remainder of Farm 466 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 465 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm 431 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430 Farm 431 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425 Portion 1 of Farm 466 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljnuy&st=5gs

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

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Francois Byleveld

From: Motshewa Matimolane <motshewamatimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 07 November 2025 18:41
To: Dale Holder
Cc: Motz Ntimo; Francois Byleveld; Sylvia Mdaka; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za
Subject: Re: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

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SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

From: Motz Ntimo <motzntimo@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 15:11

To: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Cc: Sylvia Mdaka <sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com>; kiltonm12@gmail.com; RICHARD MALEFO <Malefotrans@gmail.com>; jalinetworking682@gmail.com; Makgetsi Matimolane <Makgetsi.Matimolane@gmail.com>; Motshewa Matimolane <MotshewaMatimolane@gmail.com>; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za

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Motshewa Matimolane

0834676947

On Thu, 06 Nov 2025 at 14:34, Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za> wrote:

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<p>PV:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farm 431• Remainder of Farm 466 <p>Grid Connection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remainder of Farm 466• Portion 1 of Farm 466• Portion 1 of Farm 425• Portion 2 of Farm 425• Remainder of Farm 424• Portion 2 of Farm 470• Farm 1211• Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472• Farm 1209	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425, • Remainder of Farm 430 • Farm 431 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klippot Solar PV	Klippot Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 473 	
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 465 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remainder of Farm 466 Portion 1 of Farm 466 Portion 1 of Farm 425 Portion 2 of Farm 425 Remainder of Farm 424 Portion 2 of Farm 470 Farm 1211 Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 Farm 1209 Portion 1 of Farm 473 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIR) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), with specialist reports, are available for an additional 30-day commenting period, extending from 07 November – 08 December 2025.

Cape EAPrac will host a Public Open Day on 25 November 2025 from 12:00 to 19:00 at the Vleifontein Community Hall located in Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt. This event is intended to provide community members who may have difficulty accessing or interpreting the reports with an opportunity to engage directly, ask questions, and share their comments on the proposed developments.

Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



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

Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for any of our environmental projects, or submitting comment on the same, you automatically consent to the lawful processing, publishing and distribution of your personal information, as provided by yourself via submissions, for the purpose specific intent of participating in an environmental process, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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.

From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farm 431• Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 425,• Remainder of Farm 430• Farm 431	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 425• Portion 1 of Farm 466• Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 465	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

[17 Progress Street, George](#)

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac

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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA

SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm 431 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430 Farm 431 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425 Portion 1 of Farm 466 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljnuy&st=5gs9

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

[17 Progress Street, George](#)

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac

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Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2698

Enquiries: Portia Makitla / Nompumelelo Lekalakala

Tel : 012 399 9411 Email : pmakitla@dffe.gov.za

Attn: Mr. Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Dear Mr. Holder,

**COMMENTS ON THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT
BETHEL SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON FARM 431 AND THE
REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the report. The ecological assessment found that the proposed SEF is located within an area of medium to low ecological sensitivity, affecting the Makhado Sweet Bushveld (classified as Least Concern).

In accordance with the Limpopo Conservation Plan, the POAI is situated within an area which is classified as Other Natural Area and falling outside of formally protected areas and Critical Biodiversity Areas. No sensitive ecological features requiring major design changes were identified.

Consequently, all activities must maintain ecological integrity, biodiversity value, and ecosystem services to avoid impact on extremely sensitive areas altogether.

The POAI hosts potential habitat for alien invasive species such as *Cylindropuntia imbricata* (Tree Cholla.) This is a category 1b species as per the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 2004 (No 10 of 2004) (NEM:BA) regulations. Alien invasive plants can increase the flammability of an area, creating a fire hazard for solar facilities. Develop a formal Invasive Alien Plant Management Program to monitor and clear new invasive plants and to prevent further spread of this species within and beyond the site.

Vultures were observed several times during both field surveys, as well as VulPro indicating that vultures have been observed roosting in the nearby facility of the project area on powerline infrastructure. These factors indicate that there is a risk of electrocutions and collisions to the vultures. As such, some appropriate mitigation measures are required. Construction of solar farms (both photovoltaic (PV) and concentrated solar power (CSP)) requires clearing large areas of vegetation, destroying essential foraging, roosting, and nesting grounds. This can displace vultures from their natural habitats and disrupt their established flight paths.

The final EIA report must therefore fully comply with the requirements of the Best Practice Guidelines for Birds and Solar Energy for the assessment and monitoring of avian impacts associated with solar energy developments in Southern Africa as well as DFFE Guideline on Biodiversity for Renewable Energy Projects (2015).

The Directorate supports the preferred site alternative 3, which avoids water courses and minimises new disturbance, avoids critical habitats, and aligns with biodiversity conservation objectives. In



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**COMMENTS ON THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT
BETHEL SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON FARM 431 AND THE
REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

In addition, the following conditions must be incorporated into the final report to ensure no further loss to biodiversity:

- Activities must be restricted to already transformed or disturbed areas to limit further habitat loss.
- Vegetation clearing must be minimised, and topsoil should be stripped, stored, and reused during site rehabilitation.
- Clearly demarcate no-go areas on site before construction begins, especially around natural features such as drainage lines and any habitat supporting SCCs.
- A pre-construction faunal walkdown should be conducted by a qualified zoologist to confirm SCC presence and recommend appropriate relocation or avoidance measures.
- A site rehabilitation plan must be included in the EMP, detailing post-construction restoration of disturbed areas using indigenous and locally occurring plant species.
- Appropriate stormwater management measures must be implemented to prevent erosion, siltation, and sediment runoff into any watercourse.
- A minimum 32-metre buffer must be maintained from the edge of all wetland features, unless otherwise approved through a Water Use Authorisation process.
- Avoid placing facilities in high-sensitivity areas for avifauna SCC i.e., vultures, such as within 50 km of known colonies or major roosting sites.
- Appropriate avifaunal mitigation measures be implemented, including the incorporation of bird-friendly infrastructure designs, installation of line diverters and anti-perch devices
- In addition, a post-construction monitoring program should be developed and implemented for at least the first two years of operation to assess vulture and other Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) interactions with project infrastructure, identify emerging risks, and adapt mitigation measures accordingly.

Noting, the site overlaps with the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve, please obtain comments from the DFFE Directorate: Multilateral Program (PAMP): Mr. Vongani Maringa vmaringa@dfre.gov.za.

In conclusion, the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email; BCAdmin@dfre.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.

Yours faithfully



Mr Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment
Date: 02/12/2025



Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2699

Enquiries: Portia Makitla / Nompumelelo Lekalakala

Tel : 012 399 9411 **Email :** pmakitla@dffe.gov.za

Attn: Mr. Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Dear Mr. Holder,

COMMENTS ON THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 430 AND FARM 431 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and assessed the submitted report. The ecological assessment indicates that the proposed SEF is situated within an area of medium to low ecological sensitivity, occurring within the Makhado Sweet Bushveld, which is classified as Least Concern. The overall sensitivity for this vegetation type was determined to be of medium sensitivity according to the screening tool report.

In accordance with the Limpopo Conservation Plan the site lies outside formally Protected Areas and Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs), with only a small portion intersecting an Ecological Support Area (ESA 1). No sensitive ecological features were identified that would necessitate significant alterations to the project design the POAI is situated within an area which is classified as Other Natural Area (ONA). All activities must maintain ecological integrity, biodiversity value, and ecosystem services to avoid impact on extremely sensitive areas altogether.

The POAI hosts potential habitat for alien invasive species such as *Cylindropuntia imbricata* (Tree Cholla.) This is a category 1b species as per the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 2004 (No 10 of 2004) (NEM:BA) regulations. Alien invasive plants can increase the flammability of an area, creating a fire hazard for solar facilities. Develop a formal Invasive Alien Plant Management Program to monitor and clear new invasive plants and to prevent further spread of this species within and beyond the site.

Vultures were observed several times during both field surveys, as well as VulPro indicating that vultures have been observed roosting in the nearby facility of the project area on powerline infrastructure. These factors indicate that there is a risk of electrocutions and collisions to the vultures. Construction of solar farms (both photovoltaic (PV) and concentrated solar power (CSP)) requires clearing large areas of vegetation, destroying essential foraging, roosting, and nesting grounds. This can displace vultures from their natural habitats and disrupt their established flight paths. The final EIA report must therefore fully comply with the requirements of the Best Practice Guidelines for Birds and Solar Energy for the assessment and monitoring of avian impacts associated with solar energy developments in Southern Africa as well as DFFE Guideline on Biodiversity for Renewable Energy Projects (2015).

The Directorate supports the preferred site alternative 3, which avoids water courses and minimises new disturbance, avoids critical habitats, and aligns with biodiversity conservation objectives. In addition, the following conditions must be incorporated into the final report to ensure no further loss to biodiversity:



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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act; any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and/or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

COMMENTS ON THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, REMAINDER OF FARM 430 AND FARM 431 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

- Activities must be restricted to already transformed or disturbed areas to limit further habitat loss.
- Vegetation clearing must be minimised, and topsoil should be stripped, stored, and reused during site rehabilitation.
- Clearly demarcate no-go areas on site before construction begins, especially around natural features such as rocky outcrops, drainage lines and any habitat supporting SCCs.
- A pre-construction faunal walkdown should be conducted by a qualified zoologist to confirm SCC presence and recommend appropriate relocation or avoidance measures.
- A site rehabilitation plan must be included in the EMP, detailing post-construction restoration of disturbed areas using indigenous and locally occurring plant species.
- Appropriate stormwater management measures must be implemented to prevent erosion, siltation, and sediment runoff into any watercourse.
- A minimum 32-metre buffer must be maintained from the edge of all wetland features, unless otherwise approved through a Water Use Authorisation process.
- Avoid placing facilities in high-sensitivity areas for avifauna SCC i.e., vultures, such as within 50 km of known colonies or major roosting sites.
- Appropriate avifaunal mitigation measures be implemented, including the incorporation of bird-friendly infrastructure designs, installation of line diverters and anti-perch devices.
- In addition, a post-construction monitoring program should be developed and implemented for at least the first two years of operation to assess vulture and other Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) interactions with project infrastructure, identify emerging risks, and adapt mitigation measures accordingly.

Noting, the site overlaps with the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve, please obtain comments from the DFFE Directorate: Multilateral Program (PAMP): Mr. Vongani Maringa vmaringa@dfre.gov.za.

In conclusion, the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@dfre.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.

Yours faithfully



Mr Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment
Date: 02/12/2025



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

Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2700

Enquiries: Portia Makitla / Nompumelelo Lekalakala
Tel : 012 399 9411 Email : pmakitla@dfre.gov.za

Attn: Mr. Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Dear Mr. Holder,

COMMENTS ON THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT KLIPPUT SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 1 OF FARM 425, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the report. The ecological assessment found that the proposed SEF is located within an area of medium to low ecological sensitivity, affecting the Makhado Sweet Bushveld (classified as Least Concern).

In accordance with the Limpopo Conservation Plan, the POAI is situated within an area which is classified as Other Natural Area and falls outside of formally protected areas and Critical Biodiversity Areas. No sensitive ecological features requiring major design changes were identified.

Consequently, all activities must maintain ecological integrity, biodiversity value, and ecosystem services to avoid impact on extremely sensitive areas altogether.

The POAI hosts potential habitat for alien invasive species such as *Cylindropuntia imbricata* (Tree Cholla.) This is a category 1b species as per the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 2004 (No 10 of 2004) (NEM:BA) regulations. Alien invasive plants can increase the flammability of an area, creating a fire hazard for solar facilities. Develop a formal Invasive Alien Plant Management Program to monitor and clear new invasive plants and to prevent further spread of this species within and beyond the site.

Vultures were observed several times during both field surveys, as well as VulPro indicating that vultures have been observed roosting in the nearby facility of the project area on powerline infrastructure. These factors indicate that there is a risk of electrocutions and collisions to the vultures. As such, some appropriate mitigation measures are required. Construction of solar farms (both photovoltaic (PV) and concentrated solar power (CSP)) requires clearing large areas of vegetation, destroying essential foraging, roosting, and nesting grounds. This can displace vultures from their natural habitats and disrupt their established flight paths.

The final EIA report must therefore fully comply with the requirements of the Best Practice Guidelines for Birds and Solar Energy for the assessment and monitoring of avian impacts associated with solar energy developments in Southern Africa as well as DFFE Guideline on Biodiversity for Renewable Energy Projects (2015).



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**COMMENTS ON THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT
KLIPPUT SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 1 OF
FARM 425, PORTION 1 OF FARM 466 AND THE REMAINDER OF FARM 466 LOCATED SOUTH
OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT,
LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

The Directorate supports the preferred site alternative 3, which avoids water courses and minimises new disturbance, avoids critical habitats, and aligns with biodiversity conservation objectives. In addition, the following conditions must be incorporated into the final report to ensure no further loss to biodiversity:

- Activities must be restricted to already transformed or disturbed areas to limit further habitat loss.
- Vegetation clearing must be minimised, and topsoil should be stripped, stored, and reused during site rehabilitation.
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- Avoid placing facilities in high-sensitivity areas for avifauna SCC i.e., vultures, such as within 50 km of known colonies or major roosting sites.
- Appropriate avifaunal mitigation measures be implemented, including the incorporation of bird-friendly infrastructure designs, installation of line diverters and anti-perch devices
- In addition, a post-construction monitoring program should be developed and implemented for at least the first two years of operation to assess vulture and other Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) interactions with project infrastructure, identify emerging risks, and adapt mitigation measures accordingly.

Noting, the site overlaps with the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve, please obtain comments from the DFFE Directorate: Multilateral Program (PAMP): Mr. Vongani Maringa vmaringa@dfre.gov.za.

In conclusion, the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email; BCAdmin@dfre.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.

Yours faithfully



Mr Seoka Lekota
CBO Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment
Date: 02/12/2025



Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Enquiries: Portia Makitla / Nompumelelo Lekalakala

Tel : 012 399 9411 Email : pmakitla@dfpe.gov.za

Attn: Mr. Dale Holder
Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners
Email Address: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Dear Mr. Holder

**COMMENTS ON THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT
MAKOPPA SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 1 OF FARM
465 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY,
VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the report. The ecological assessment found that the proposed SEF is located within an area of medium to low ecological sensitivity, affecting the Makhado Sweet Bushveld (classified as Least Concern).

In accordance with the Limpopo Conservation Plan, the POAI is situated within an area which is classified as Other Natural Area and falls outside of formally Protected Areas and Critical Biodiversity Areas. No sensitive ecological features requiring major design changes were identified.

The POAI hosts potential habitat for alien invasive species such as *Cylindropuntia imbricata* (Tree Cholla.) This is a category 1b species as per the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 2004 (No 10 of 2004) (NEM:BA) regulations. Alien invasive plants can increase the flammability of an area, creating a fire hazard for solar facilities. Develop a formal Invasive Alien Plant Management Program to monitor and clear new invasive plants and to prevent further spread of this species within and beyond the site.

Vultures were observed several times during both field surveys, as well as VulPro indicating that vultures have been observed roosting in the nearby facility of the project area on powerline infrastructure. These factors indicate that there is a risk of electrocutions and collisions to the vultures. As such, some appropriate mitigation measures are required. Construction of solar farms (both photovoltaic (PV) and concentrated solar power (CSP)) requires clearing large areas of vegetation, destroying essential foraging, roosting, and nesting grounds. This can displace vultures from their natural habitats and disrupt their established flight paths. The final EIA report must therefore fully comply with the requirements of the Best Practice Guidelines for Birds and Solar Energy for the assessment and monitoring of avian impacts associated with solar energy developments in Southern Africa as well as DFFE Guideline on Biodiversity for Renewable Energy Projects (2015).

The Directorate supports the preferred site alternative 3, which avoids water courses and minimises new disturbance, avoids critical habitats, and aligns with biodiversity conservation objectives. In addition, the following conditions must be incorporated into the final report to ensure no further loss to biodiversity:

- Activities must be restricted to already transformed or disturbed areas to limit further habitat loss.



Batho pele – putting people first.

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**COMMENTS ON THE REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT
MAKOPPA SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 1 OF FARM
465 LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY,
VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

- Vegetation clearing must be minimised, and topsoil should be stripped, stored, and reused during site rehabilitation.
- Clearly demarcate no-go areas on site before construction begins, especially around natural features such as drainage lines and any habitat supporting SCCs.
- A pre-construction faunal walkdown should be conducted by a qualified zoologist to confirm SCC presence and recommend appropriate relocation or avoidance measures.
- A site rehabilitation plan must be included in the EMPr, detailing post-construction restoration of disturbed areas using indigenous and locally occurring plant species.
- Appropriate stormwater management measures must be implemented to prevent erosion, siltation, and sediment runoff into any watercourse.
- A minimum 32-metre buffer must be maintained from the edge of all wetland features, unless otherwise approved through a Water Use Authorisation process.
- Avoid placing facilities in high-sensitivity areas for avifauna SCC i.e., vultures, such as within 50 km of known colonies or major roosting sites.
- Appropriate avifaunal mitigation measures be implemented, including the incorporation of bird-friendly infrastructure designs, installation of line diverters and anti-perch devices
- In addition, a post-construction monitoring program should be developed and implemented for at least the first two years of operation to assess vulture and other Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) interactions with project infrastructure, identify emerging risks, and adapt mitigation measures accordingly.

Noting, the site overlaps with the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve, please obtain comments from the DFFE Directorate: Multilateral Program (PAMP): Mr. Vongani Maringa vmaringa@dfpe.gov.za.

In conclusion, the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email; BCAdmin@dfpe.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.

Yours faithfully



Mr Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment
Date:02/12/2025

Francois Byleveld

From: Orefemetse Ramantsi <ORamantsi@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Wednesday, 03 December 2025 12:18
To: Francois Byleveld
Cc: Dale Holder
Subject: Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klippot Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Attachments: Revised DEIR Comments for Bethel Solar PV.pdf; Revised DEIR Comments for Makoppa Solar PV.pdf; Revised DEIR Comments for Klippot Solar PV.pdf; Revised DEIR Comments for Draailoop Solar PV.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Good day,

Kindly find comments from the D:Biodiversity and Conservation for the aforementioned project.

Best regards,

Orefemetse Ramantsi

Branch: Biodiversity and Conservation

Directorate : Biodiversity Conservation

Chief Directorate: Biodiversity Management and Permitting

Sub Directorate: Policy Development and EIA Mainstreaming

Cell: 076 425 4021

Email: oramantsi@dffe.gov.za

Environment House | 473 Steve Biko Road | Arcadia | Pretoria | 0083



From: Nompumelelo Lekalakala <NLekalakala@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 12 September 2025 11:47
To: Portia Makitla <PMakitla@dffe.gov.za>; Nompumelelo Lekalakala <NLekalakala@dffe.gov.za>; Orefemetse Ramantsi <ORamantsi@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: FW: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klippot Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Sir/Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation on the 22nd of August 2025 to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that

the project has been allocated to Mrs P Makitla and Ms Nompumelelo Lekalakala (Copied on this email).

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.


Nompumelelo Lekalakala

B&C: Biodiversity Mainstreaming & EIA

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Environment House

473 Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Streets

Pretoria

Cell: 012 339 9411 | Email: nlekalakala@dffe.gov.za



From: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Farm 431 - Remainder of Farm 466	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
			infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425, - Remainder of Farm 430 - Farm 431 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klippot Solar PV	Klippot Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljinuy&st=5gs9tnq

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530



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Francois Byleveld

From: Nompumelelo Lekalakala <NLekalakala@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 November 2025 08:59
To: Portia Makitla; Nompumelelo Lekalakala; Orefemetse Ramantsi
Cc: Francois Byleveld
Subject: Fw: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province
Attachments: VHE853 Notification and BID (Tshivenda).pdf; VHE853 Notification and BID (English).pdf

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Dear Sir/Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation on the 06th of November 2025 to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs P Makitla and Ms Nompumelelo Lekalakala (Copied on this email).

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.


Nompumelelo Lekalakala

B&C: Biodiversity Mainstreaming & EIA

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Environment House

473 Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Streets

Pretoria

C ell: 012 339 9411 | Email: nlekalakala@dffe.gov.za



From: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 14:34

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

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Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farm 431• Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remainder of Farm 466• Portion 1 of Farm 466• Portion 1 of Farm 425• Portion 2 of Farm 425• Remainder of Farm 424• Portion 2 of Farm 470• Farm 1211• Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472• Farm 1209• Portion 1 of Farm 473	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 1 of Farm 425,• Remainder of Farm 430• Farm 431 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remainder of Farm 466• Portion 1 of Farm 466• Portion 1 of Farm 425• Portion 2 of Farm 425	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	
Klippot Solar PV	Klippot Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<p>PV:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 <p>Grid Connection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<p>PV:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 465 <p>Grid Connection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 2 of Farm 425 • Remainder of Farm 424 • Portion 2 of Farm 470 • Farm 1211 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 • Farm 1209 • Portion 1 of Farm 473 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIR) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), with specialist reports, are available for an additional 30-day commenting period, extending from 07 November – 08 December 2025.

Cape EAPrac will host a Public Open Day on 25 November 2025 from 12:00 to 19:00 at the Vleifontein Community Hall located in Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt. This event is intended to provide community members who may have difficulty accessing or interpreting the reports with an opportunity to engage directly, ask questions, and share their comments on the proposed developments.

Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld
Candidate EAP
MSc Geology (UFS)
Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365
17 Progress Street, George
PO Box 2070, George 6530



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From: Francois Byleveld
Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29
To: Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
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Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm 431 • Remainder of Farm 466 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425, • Remainder of Farm 430 • Farm 431 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 425 • Portion 1 of Farm 466 • Remainder of Farm 466 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm 465 	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED

SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm 431 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430 Farm 431 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 425 Portion 1 of Farm 466 Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/AI0M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfkf0c9o6ljinuy&st=5g

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530



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Please Note: When registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for any of our environmental projects, or submitting comment on the same, you automatically consent to the lawful processing, publishing and distribution of your personal information, as provided by yourself via submissions, for the purpose specific intent of participating in an environmental process, as described by the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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From: Mr Dipodumo K. Mailula

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Registration No: KRP 693

Address: P.O. Box 536, Dwarsriver, 0812

Tel: 072 620 6504 | Email: chatlekacpa@gmail.com

Kiltonm12@gmail.com

To:

Mr. Dale Holder

Senior Environmental Practitioner

Cape EAPrac

Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Tel: 044 874 0365

Date: 24 November 2025

CC:

DFFE Reference Number	DFFE Case Officer	Email	Proponent
14/12/16/3/3/2/2698	Ms Zamalanga Langa	zlanga@dfpe.gov.za	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2699	Mr Lunga Dlova	ldlova@dfpe.gov.za	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2700	Ms Makhosazane Yeni	MYeni@dfpe.gov.za	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd
14/12/16/3/3/2/2701	Ms Thulisile Nyalunga	Tnyalunga@dfpe.gov.za	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd

Tele Maphoto, Regional Land Claims Commission: Limpopo, tele.maphoto@dalrrd.gov.za

OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED TABOR SOLAR PV CLUSTER (DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, MAKOPPA SOLAR PV, KLIPPOT SOLAR PV, BETHEL SOLAR PV, AND GRID INFRASTRUCTURE)

Dear Mr Holder,

1. PREAMBLE

1.1 My name is Dipodumo Mailula. I serve as the Treasurer of the Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA). I write this objection not merely as an administrator of our community's assets, nor solely in my capacity as a member of the Executive Committee. I hereby make this submission to you most importantly as am a direct descendent of the Originally Dispossessed Individuals, who were forcefully removed from Draailoop farm sometime after the 19th of June 1913. I am a custodian of my people's future, and a financial officer who refuses to see the most valuable asset of the Chatleka people—our ancestral land—devalued and sterilized before it is even returned to our hands.

1.2 While I possess a legal background, I am not writing this objection as the hired legal representative of the CPA, but as a leader who understands both the statutes that govern this land and the tears that have watered it. The Chatleka people, along with other neighbouring CPAs, stand on the precipice of a historic victory: the restitution of the lands taken from our forebears.

1.3 However, we now face a new threat. It does not come in the form of forced removals or apartheid police vans, but in the glossy pages of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the silent encroachment of multinational energy consortiums. The proposed Tabor Solar PV Cluster represents a fundamental conflict between the *Constitutional promise of Restitution* and the *administrative machinery of Development*.

1.4 This document serves as the Chatleka CPA's formal, unequivocal **OBJECTION** to the granting of Environmental Authorisation (EA) for these projects. We assert that the process followed to date is legally defective, economically prejudicial, and socially insensitive.

2. LOCUS STANDI: THE MYTH OF THE "INTERESTED PARTY"

2.1 The Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) has categorized the Chatleka CPA (and other affected neighbouring CPA's) merely as an "Interested and Affected Party" (I&AP), placing us in the same administrative basket as a distant neighbour concerned about dust or traffic. This categorization is a fundamental error in law.

2.2 The lands in question—including the Remaining Extent of Farm 431, Portion 1 of Farm 425, and others—are legally **Gazetted** under Section 11(1) of the *Restitution of Land Rights Act 22 of 1994* ("the Restitution Act").

2.3 Once that Gazette notice was published, the legal character of the land changed. It ceased to be private farmland in the traditional sense. It became

res litigiosa—property subject to a legal dispute involving the State. The Chatleka CPA is therefore not a "neighbour"; we are the **Inchoate Owner**. We are the owners-in-waiting. Our rights to this land are not hypothetical; they are statutory rights currently being processed by the Commission.

2.4 Any administrative decision taken by the DFFE that ignores this status, or that treats our rights as secondary to the commercial interests of the Developer (Mulilo Renewable energies – majority owned by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners), constitutes a reviewable irregularity under the *Promotion of Administrative Justice Act (PAJA)*. You cannot grant a license to alter property without the substantive concurrence of the entity standing in line to receive that property.

3. GROUND ONE: THE STATUTORY BLOCKADE (SECTION 11(7))

3.1 As a person trained in law, I must direct the Competent Authority's attention to the supreme applicability of the Restitution Act. Section 11(7) of the Act is legally binding, not merely suggestive.

3.2 Section 11(7)(a) and (Aa) respectively stipulates that –

(a) "no person may in an improper manner obstruct the passage of the claim;"

(Aa) "Once a notice has been published in respect of any land: "No person may... sell, exchange, donate, lease, subdivide, rezone or develop the land in question

without having given the Regional Land Claims Commissioner one month's written notice of his or her intention to do so..."

3.3 In contravention of Section 11(7)(a) mentioned above, yourself in person, your entity and all juristic persons, including natural persons involved in the solar project in question herein, are improperly obstructing the passage of our land rights claim.

3.4 Considering Section 11(7)(Aa), the concept of "develop" in this section is broad. It encompasses any activity that changes the nature or value of the land. Applying for an Environmental Authorisation to cover hundreds of hectares with photovoltaic infrastructure is, by definition, a development step. Furthermore, the signing of long-term lease options between the current landowners and the Developer constitutes a "lease" and an "encumbrance" prohibited by the Act without Commissioner consent.

3.5 **Our Challenge:** We challenge the EAP and the Developer to produce, for the public record, the proof of compliance with Section 11(7). Where is the written notice to the Regional Land Claims Commissioner (RLCC)? More importantly, where is the RLCC's response?

3.6 Unless the Developer can produce a "Letter of No Objection" from the RLCC, this entire EIA process is fruit from a poisonous tree. It is proceeding in violation of a statutory embargo. The DFFE cannot validly grant an environmental authorization for an activity that is statutorily prohibited by a parallel Act of Parliament. The Restitution Act serves a Constitutional

purpose (Redress) which sits higher on the normative hierarchy than the NEMA principles of commercial development.

4. GROUND TWO: ECONOMIC STERILIZATION AND ASSET VALUE

4.1 As the Treasurer of the CPA, my primary fiduciary duty is to protect the value of the community's assets. The restitution process is not just about returning soil; it is about transferring an economic base to a dispossessed people.

4.2 The proposed solar development represents the **sterilization** of this economic base.

- **Duration:** These projects have a lifespan of 20 to 25 years, often with extension options.
- **Physical Reality:** The project involves driving thousands of pylons into the ground, pouring concrete for inverters and battery storage systems (BESS), and erecting high-security fencing.
- **Exclusion:** Once built, the land is inaccessible. Human habitation is illegal within the footprint due to health and safety regulations. Livestock grazing is either prohibited or severely restricted to "sheep only" management by the operator, not the landowner.

4.3 If the Chatleka CPA receives the title deed in two years' time, but the land is covered in glass panels under a lease signed by the previous owner, what exactly have we "won"? We have won a title deed, but we have lost the use of the land. We cannot farm it. We cannot build homes on it. We cannot visit

the graves of our ancestors without signing in at a security gate run by a private company.

4.4 This constitutes a *de facto* expropriation of our restitution award. It turns the Chatleka community into passive rent-collectors on our own land, dependent on a lease agreement we did not negotiate, at rates we did not set. This is not economic empowerment; it is economic paternalism.

4.5 The Developer will argue that the solar farm increases the land's value. I dispute this. It increases the land's *yield* for the shareholder of the solar company. For the CPA, it locks the asset into a single-use state for a generation. It removes the "Option Value" of the land. As Treasurer, I cannot advise my community to accept a situation where our primary asset is frozen in time until the year 2050.

5. GROUND THREE: THE DEFECTIVE SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (SIA)

5.1 I have reviewed the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and the Heritage Impact Assessment reports prepared for the Draailoop, Bethel, Makoppa and Klipput projects. To be blunt, I find them insulting to the intelligence and history of the Chatleka people.

5.2 The SIA characterizes the social impact of the project as "Low Negative" or "Neutral." This conclusion is reached by focusing entirely on "jobs created"

versus "loss of agricultural land." It fails to account for the specific, traumatic context of Restitution.

5.3 For a community that was forcibly removed, the act of seeing their ancestral land turned into an industrial zone just as we are about to reclaim it is a High Negative impact. It is a psychological blow. It sends the message that the land is valuable for electricity for the national grid, but not valuable for the settlement of Black people.

5.4 The SIA methodology is flawed because it fails to assess the **Opportunity Cost** to the Claimants.

- The report asks: *What is the impact on the current white farmer?* (Answer: He gets rich from the lease).
- The report asks: *What is the impact on the national grid?* (Answer: More power).
- The report **fails** to ask: *What is the lost economic opportunity for the Chatleka CPA and other affected CPA's if they are prevented from developing their own high-intensity agriculture or mixed-use housing on this land?*

5.5 By ignoring the "Inchoate Owner," the SIA is legally defective. It violates NEMA's requirement to assess the "social and economic impact" on *all* affected parties. You cannot assess the impact on the owner if you fail to identify who the future owner is.

6. GROUND FOUR: PROCEDURAL DEFECTS - THE REGULATION 39 CONSENT

6.1 I wish to raise a strict procedural objection in terms of Regulation 39(1) of the EIA Regulations (2014). This regulation requires the applicant to obtain the written consent of the "landowner."

6.2 The Developer has provided consent forms signed by the current title deed holders. I submit that this is legally insufficient.

- In the context of land reform, ownership is a composite concept. The "bundle of rights" is split between the Title Holder and the State (via the Commission acting for the Claimants).
- Because the land is Gazetted, the Title Holder does not have full dominion. He cannot act unilaterally.
- Therefore, "Landowner Consent" in this context requires a **tripartite consensus**: The Title Holder, the Regional Land Claims Commissioner, and the Claimant Community.

6.3 Without the written concurrence of the RLCC, the Regulation 39 consent is only 50% complete. The EAP cannot legally submit the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) to the Department based on partial consent. We demand that the DFFE rejects the application on this technicality alone.

7. GROUND FIVE: NEED AND DESIRABILITY - THE MISPLACEMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE

7.1 Section 24O of NEMA mandates the consideration of "Need and Desirability." The Developer relies heavily on the Integrated Resource Plan

(IRP) to prove the "Need" for electricity. We do not dispute that South Africa needs power.

7.2 However, we vehemently dispute the **Desirability** of placing this infrastructure on *Restitution Land*.

- South Africa is vast. There are millions of hectares of land in the Northern Cape and Limpopo that are not subject to active, gazetted land claims.
- It is bad planning policy to situate permanent, heavy infrastructure on land that is currently the subject of a sensitive socio-political transfer process.
- Approving this project guarantees conflict. It ensures that the moment the land transfer occurs, the CPA and the Solar Operator will be at loggerheads regarding access, rental rates, and benefit sharing.

7.3 Is it "desirable" to saddle a newly restored community with a 25-year legal battle against an energy giant? Is it "desirable" to use land earmarked for historical redress as a battery park? The answer, from a socio-economic justice perspective, is clearly No.

8. **GROUND SIX: CUMULATIVE IMPACT AND THE "WALL OF GLASS"**

8.1 We are alarmed by the scale of the "Tabor Cluster." We are looking at Draailoop, Makoppa, Klipput, Bethel, and potentially others.

8.2 When viewed individually, the EAP argues the impact is manageable. But as a community leader, I look at the map of our claim, and I see a "Cumulative Impact" that is devastating.

8.3 If all these projects are approved, the cumulative effect is the total saturation of the Moeketsi agricultural belt. There will be no arable land left for the CPA to farm. We will receive a patchwork of title deeds for land that is effectively inaccessible.

8.4 The EIA fails to adequately assess this cumulative "crowding out" of restitution. It creates a "Wall of Glass" that effectively barricades the Chatleka people and other affected communities out of their own inheritance.

9. THE DUAL RIGHTS DILEMMA: A WARNING ON FPIC

9.1 While South African law is still catching up to international standards on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), the direction of our jurisprudence—specifically the *Xolobeni* (Baleni) judgment and the *IPILRA* framework—is clear. You cannot radically alter the nature of land use without the consent of the community that holds informal or customary rights to that land.

9.2 The Chatleka CPA asserts its customary and statutory rights to this land. We are not passive observers. We explicitly **withhold our consent** for this development in its current form.

9.3 The Developer is attempting to bypass this "Dual Rights Dilemma" by rushing the EA through while the title deed is still in the hands of the white farmers. This is a cynical strategy. It attempts to present the CPA with a *fait accompli*—a done deal. We warn the DFFE that such a strategy invites urgent interdictory relief from the Land Claims Court.

10. STRATEGIC DEMANDS AND REMEDY SOUGHT

In light of the serious legal and economic prejudices outlined above, the Chatleka CPA makes the following formal demands:

a) Immediate Suspension of the EIA Process

We request that the DFFE suspends the adjudication of the Tabor Solar PV Cluster applications immediately. The process cannot proceed until the Section 11(7) RLRA non-compliance is rectified. We require a formal ruling from the Regional Land Claims Commissioner on whether this development constitutes an "improper obstruction" of our claim.

b) A New, Specialized "Restitution Impact Assessment"

We reject the current Social Impact Assessment and Heritage Impact Assessment studies. We demand that the Scope of Work be expanded to

include a specialized "Restitution Impact Assessment" conducted by an independent specialist agreed upon by the CPA. This study must:

- Quantify the financial "Opportunity Cost" to the CPA.
- Assess the compatibility of the solar farm with the CPA's specific future land-use plans (agriculture/housing).
- Analyze the lease or rental agreements currently in place.

c) Financial Transparency and Escrow

We demand full disclosure of the lease option agreements signed between the Developer and the current landowners. If the current landowners are receiving "Option Fees" or "Signature Bonuses" for encumbering land that rightfully belongs to us, this constitutes the dissipation of the asset. We demand that any revenue generated from these leases be paid into neutral and trusted account pending the finalization of the land claim.

d) Rejection of the Application

If the Developer refuses to engage with the CPA as a substantial Equity Partner (not merely a CSI beneficiary) and as the Landowner-in-Waiting, we submit that the "Social Impact" is fatally negative. In such a case, the DFFE is legally obliged to REFUSE the Environmental Authorisation in terms of Section 24 of NEMA, as the project violates the principles of environmental justice and equitable access to resources.

11.CONCLUSION

- i. The Chatleka CPA is not anti-development. We understand the energy crisis facing our country. We are ready to be players in the green economy. But we will be **owners**, not spectators. We will be **partners**, not victims.
- ii. The days where developers could sign deals with commercial farmers in smoke-filled rooms, ignoring the black communities waiting at the gate, are over. The Gazette notice is our gate. You cannot pass it without us.
- iii. We put the Department and the Developer on terms: Engage with the Chatleka CPA as the de facto owner of this land, or face a protracted legal challenge that will keep these projects in litigation for years. The choice between a sustainable partnership and a fatal flaw lies with you.
- iv. We await your written confirmation that this Objection has been noted, responded to and included in the Final Environmental Impact Report.

Yours faithfully,

MR. DIPODUMO K. MAILULA

Treasurer & Executive Committee Member

Chatleka Communal Property Association

Email: kiltonm12@gmail.com

Cell: 072 620 6504

Francois Byleveld

From: Kilton Dipodumo <kiltonm12@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 24 November 2025 13:26
To: Dale Holder
Cc: zlanga@dffe.gov.za; ldlova@dffe.gov.za; myeni@dffe.gov.za;
tele.maphoto@dalrrd.gov.za; sylvia.mdaka@gmail.com; Motshewa Matimolane
Subject: OBJECTION TO DRAA LOOP SOLAR PROJECT
Attachments: Draailoop Solar Project - Objection by Mr Dipodumo K. Mailula.pdf

Good day,

The above-matter refers.

Herewith attached kindly find the Objection.

Kind regards,
Mr Dipodumo K. Mailula
Chatleka CPA (Treasurer)

Francois Byleveld

From: Shaun Taylor <Shaun.Taylor@mainstreamrp.com>
Sent: Friday, 07 November 2025 08:30
To: Dale Holder; Francois Byleveld
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Some people who received this message don't often get email from shaun.taylor@mainstreamrp.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Noted, thank you.

Regards



Shaun Taylor (He/His/Him)

Development Executive

Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa

m: +27 (0) 60 537 8355

e: shaun.taylor@mainstreamrp.com

w: www.mainstreamrp.com

a: 4th Floor Mariendahl House, Newlands on Main,
Corner Main & Campground Roads, Claremont, 7800,
Cape Town, South Africa



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

Sent: Friday, 07 November 2025 08:22

To: Shaun Taylor <Shaun.Taylor@mainstreamrp.com>; Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

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Good Day Shaun

The links to the digital copies of the reports (Cape EAPrac Website or DropBox direct download) are in the notification letter.

If you require an alternative means to access the Information, please let us know.

Regards,

Dale Holder

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER

Cape EAPrac

NDip Nat.Con

EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Shaun Taylor <Shaun.Taylor@mainstreamrp.com>

Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 15:45

To: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>; Dale Holder <dale@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Good Day

Thank you for the notification.

Please advise where we can access the documents for review.

Regards



Shaun Taylor (He/His/Him)

Development Executive

Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa

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Corner Main & Campground Roads, Claremont, 7800,
Cape Town, South Africa



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From: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>

Sent: Thursday, 06 November 2025 14:34

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Availability of Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

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Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farm 431 - Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	AFFECTED PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425, - Remainder of Farm 430 - Farm 431 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klippot Solar PV	Klippot Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Remainder of Farm 466 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	PV: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 465 Grid Connection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remainder of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 2 of Farm 425 - Remainder of Farm 424 - Portion 2 of Farm 470 - Farm 1211 - Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm 472 - Farm 1209 - Portion 1 of Farm 473 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports (DEIR) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), with specialist reports, are available for an additional 30-day commenting period, extending from 07 November – 08 December 2025.

Cape EAPrac will host a Public Open Day on 25 November 2025 from 12:00 to 19:00 at the Vleifontein Community Hall located in Chris Hani Street, Vleifontein, Louis Trichardt. This event is intended to provide community members who may have difficulty accessing or interpreting the reports with an opportunity to engage directly, ask questions, and share their comments on the proposed developments.

Should you have any comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 08 December 2025.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530

Cape EAPrac



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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Monday, 06 October 2025 14:29

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

Subject: RE: Notification of Submission of Final Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear registered, interested and affected party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly note the following Final Environmental Impact Reports have been submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment for decision making.

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	DFFE Reference Number
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Farm 431 - Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2698
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Portion 1 of Farm 425, - Remainder of Farm 430 - Farm 431	14/12/16/3/3/2/2699
Klipput Solar PV	Klipput Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Remainder of Farm 466	14/12/16/3/3/2/2700
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	- Portion 1 of Farm 465	14/12/16/3/3/2/2701

Copies of the Final EIR and Comments and Responses reports can be provided on written request from any I&AP.

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530



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From: Francois Byleveld

Sent: Friday, 22 August 2025 11:22

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

Subject: Notification of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the proposed Bethel Solar PV, Draailoop Solar PV, Klipput Solar PV and Makoppa Solar PV - Limpopo Province

Dear Registered and Potential Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS FOR THE PROPOSED BETHEL SOLAR PV, DRAAILOOP SOLAR PV, KLIPPUT SOLAR PV AND MAKOPPA SOLAR PV LOCATED

SOUTH OF LOUIS TRICHARDT IN THE MAKHADO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, VHEMBE DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

Kindly find the attached notification regarding the Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for the following projects:

PROJECT	APPLICANT	PROPERTIES	SCOPE OF APPLICATION
Bethel Solar PV	Bethel Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farm 431 - Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Draailoop Solar PV	Draailoop Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425, - Remainder of Farm 430 - Farm 431 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Klippot Solar PV	Klippot Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 425 - Portion 1 of Farm 466 - Remainder of Farm 466 	240 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.
Makoppa Solar PV	Makoppa Solar PV (Pty) Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion 1 of Farm 465 	75 Megawatt (MW) Solar PV Development and associated infrastructure, including grid connection infrastructure.

Should you have any comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Reports for these projects, kindly provide these in writing to Cape EAPrac by no later than 22 September 2025.

Digital copies of the documents are available at the following locations:

Cape EAPrac website	www.cape-eaprac.co.za
Dropbox Link	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0p6kfamqzspw3awdwb27w/A10M8MYvLW782svS1zUeKhM?rlkey=tmkz7wcic6avfk0c9o6ljnuy&st=5gs9tnq

Kind regards/Vriendelike groete

Francois Byleveld

Candidate EAP

MSc Geology (UFS)

Candidate EAP Reg # 2023/6770

T: 044 874 0365

17 Progress Street, George

PO Box 2070, George 6530



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Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013). Kindly view our [Privacy Statement](#) for more information (www.cape-eaprac.co.za).

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Mr Makgetsi Matimolane

Cell: 082 511 3062

Email: makgetsimatimolane@gmail.com

To:

Mr. Dale Holder

Senior Environmental Practitioner

Cape EAPrac

Email: dale@cape-eaprac.co.za

Tel: 044 874 0365

CC:

Mr Nicholas Willtshire

Director, CTS Heritage

Email: info@ctsheritage

CC: info@sahra.org.za

Date: 22 November 2025

OBJECTION TO THE HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDIES FOR THE TABOR PV CLUSTER ON THE ANCESTRAL LAND THE CHATLEKA CPA AND OTHER AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

This letter of objection is presented in the form of a detailed narrative critique, addressing the methodology, approach, and critical gaps in the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) conducted by CTS Heritage for the Tabor Solar PV cluster of projects, near Bandelierkop, Limpopo, on land claimed by the Chatleka CPA and other affected communities.

A Narrative of Silence and Erasure: A Critique of the Tabor Solar PV cluster Heritage Impact Assessments

Introduction: The Dispossession Embedded in the Report

The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) prepared by CTS Heritage for the proposed a cluster of Tabor Solar PV Energy Facilities presents itself as a routine compliance document, satisfying the technical demands of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA). Yet, to the people of the Batlokwa ba Chatleka, and the broader community represented by the Chatleka CPA and other claimants, this report is not merely a procedural document; it is a profound narrative of erasure, a continuation of a colonial methodology that renders the Black presence on this land archaeological rather than living.

The land under assessment—Portion 1 of Farm 425, Remainder of Farm 430, and Farm 431 —is not merely a canvas for solar arrays, but a theatre of forced removals, historical memory, and ongoing land claims. The core of this critique is that the HIA, led by a team of specialists whose expertise is predominantly anchored in archaeology (Jenna Lavin, archaeologist), has committed a cardinal failure: it has systematically privatised academic material culture over public, living social heritage. The exclusive reliance on archaeological and built heritage remnants, to the near total exclusion of the claimants' oral history and associative values, invalidates the assessment as a legitimate reflection of the heritage landscape. The decision to proceed *without the meaningful involvement of the claimants* is not merely a gap; it is a political and ethical failure that undermines the very spirit of South Africa's heritage and land restitution legislation.

Part I: Questioning the Foundational Approach—The Gaze of the Specialist

The Archaeology Trap: Equating Heritage with Excavation

The HIA's approach is trapped in an archaeology-centric paradigm. This is evident in the "Summary of Steps Followed," which explicitly states that "An archaeologist conducted an assessment of archaeological resources". Heritage, for the purposes of this HIA, appears to be defined primarily as

that which is old, quantifiable, and *pre-contact* or *pre-colonial*, neglecting the continuous, post-colonial history of the Batlokwa.

The report's primary findings focus on:

1. Iron Age Sites and Moloko type pottery, potentially dating to the 15th century.
2. Later Stone Age (LSA) rock art and grindstones.
3. Burial Grounds.

While these material remnants are undeniably important, the framework for assessing them is flawed. The report, in its reliance on physical evidence, essentially tells the Batlokwa: "Your heritage is only valid if it is demonstrably old, and if it can be studied and catalogued by a specialist using Western scientific methods." This approach ignores the intangible cultural heritage (ICH) that defines the community's relationship with the land—the very basis of the land claim itself.

The Colonial Residue of Methodology

The selection of specialists and the resultant methodology carries a distinct colonial residue. In the context of a land claim by historically dispossessed Black communities (CPAs), a white-led team relying on an archaeological-materialist framework, without dedicated social heritage expertise, inevitably imposes an external, and thus, alien, standard of significance.

The report's dismissal of contemporary Black structures as "No Conservation Worthy" (NCW)—for example, "Modern homesteads linked to small modern stock kraals"—is symptomatic of this systemic bias. These structures, far from being irrelevant, form part of the living memory of the community, representing post-apartheid land use, ancestral connections, and the tangible, ongoing struggle for a sense of belonging. An approach that renders the history of the last 100 years as "modern" and therefore insignificant, is one that deliberately silences the narrative of survival and contemporary identity.

Part II: Flaws in Methodology—The Silence of the Stakeholders

The Cardinal Sin: Exclusion of Claimants and CPAs

The single most egregious failure of the Draailoop HIA is the non-involvement of the Chatleka CPA and other rightful claimants. Heritage legislation (NHRA) and its associated regulations mandate that heritage assessment must be a consultative process. The principle is not merely to *inform* stakeholders, but to ensure their heritage values are *incorporated* into the assessment methodology and findings.

The report's brief 4-day fieldwork period (24 to 27 July 2024), focused overwhelmingly on archaeological survey, could not possibly have accommodated a genuine, participatory social heritage process. True consultation involves:

1. Pre-Assessment Engagement: Consulting with CPAs and traditional structures to draft the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the HIA, ensuring their definition of "heritage" is used.
2. Joint Fieldwork: Walking the land with elders, ritual practitioners, and oral historians to identify sacred sites, ancestral paths, battlegrounds, and places of memory that leave *no archaeological trace*.
3. Validation: Allowing the community to validate the findings and significance ratings.

By relying on existing desktop studies and a purely technical field assessment, the HIA effectively bypassed the legitimate, living custodians of the heritage. The consequence is an HIA that may be compliant in form, but is illegitimate in substance—it is a study *about* the land's heritage, conducted *without* the people to whom that heritage belongs. The section on "RESULTS OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION" (Section 6, in the Table of Contents) is, therefore, a critical point of scrutiny, as its content must prove an involvement that the user's assertion directly contradicts.

The Limited Scope of "Heritage": Invisible Landscapes

The methodology fails to recognise the **holistic nature of the cultural landscape** as understood by indigenous communities, particularly the Batlokwa. For us, a cultural landscape is not a collection of discreet, catalogue-able points (a pile of pottery, a grave, a grindstone). It is an interconnected system defined by intangible values, which the HIA misses entirely:

1. Spiritual and Associative Value

The HIA identifies significant archaeological materials associated with granite koppies. It recommends that "no development take place within or on the koppies" , but this mitigation is based on *archaeological* sensitivity (potential for buried sites/rock art), not spiritual significance. For the Batlokwa, these koppies are often:

- Rain-making sites.
- Initiation sites.
- Places of ancestral appeasement (Badimo).
- Burial sites not marked by formal headstones.

By failing to consult, the HIA reduces a sacred space to a scientific buffer zone, thereby failing to protect the site's true, profound heritage value as defined in Section 3 of the NHRA (associative value, spiritual importance).

2. Traditional Place Names and Toponymy

The HIA relies on the current farm names (Draailoop, Bethel, Klipput) and colonial descriptors. The erasure of traditional Tlokwa place names, which encapsulate history, resource use, and territorial claims, is a crucial failure. Where are the Batlokwa names for the streams, the granite outcrops, the pastures, and the burial grounds? These names are themselves a form of heritage resource that, if properly recorded, would have challenged the current land tenure assumptions that underlie the development.

Part III: Identification of Gaps and Deficiencies

The deficiencies in the Tabor Solar PV HIA studies can be systematically categorized as follows:

Gap 1: Absence of a Dedicated Social Heritage Impact Assessment (SHIA)

The HIA is missing the core component of a modern, decolonised heritage study: the Social Heritage Impact Assessment (SHIA). The report's methodology is entirely structural and material (archaeology, built environment, palaeontology).

- **Deficiency:** There is no evidence of a dedicated Oral History component, a survey of cultural practitioners, or ethnographical work.
- **Consequence:** Critical sites related to post-1900 Batlokwa history—sites of forced removal, political resistance, farmworker settlements, and unmarked burials (where formal headstones may have been removed or never existed)—remain invisible. The graves identified, such as the Mathedimosa Motatanye grave (1871-1959), are assessed in isolation. Without an SHIA, this individual grave's relationship to a broader lineage, a lost village (werf), or a specific moment of Batlokwa history cannot be contextualised.

Gap 2: Superficial Assessment of the Cultural Landscape

The report's interpretation of the **Cultural Landscape** (Section 5.1.1) is thin, framed through the lens of agriculture and game farming ("cattle ranches and game farms").

- **Deficiency:** The HIA views the landscape as an economic space (tourism, hunting, agriculture), rather than a claimed heritage space. It mentions the "pattern of settlement within this landscape reflects" agricultural activities. This fails to ask *why* the land is currently dedicated to commercial agriculture and game farming, thus erasing the history of dispossession that cleared the land for these very activities.
- **Consequence:** The **cumulative impact** assessment (Section 5.5) considers the visual impact of solar facilities on the current landscape but fails to consider the **cumulative historical and social impact** of continually prioritising development over the cultural right to restitution and recognition of the CPA claimants.

Gap 3: Failure to Acknowledge or Integrate the Land Claim Status

The existence of the Chatleka CPA implies a formally lodged land claim, which places a profound statutory and ethical obligation on the HIA process.

- **Deficiency:** The HIA makes no explicit reference to the land claim or the existence of the Chatleka CPA in its public-facing executive summary or methodology (based on available snippets). The land claim itself constitutes a high-level heritage resource: the heritage of dispossession and restitution.
- **Consequence:** Any development approved on claimed land without claimant consent risks pre-empting or permanently sterilising the land's potential for future restitution and settlement. The HIA should have assessed the development's impact on the future heritage of the community—their right to re-establish a cultural landscape that was violently removed. The land cannot simply be assessed based on its *current* use by game farmers or its *ancient* use by Iron Age people; it must be assessed based on the claimed and pending future use by the Batlokwa ba Chatleka.

Part IV: Corrective Measures and Proposed Way Forward

To rectify the severe methodological, ethical, and legal shortcomings of the Tabor Solar PV cluster HIA studies, an immediate and fundamental restructuring of the assessment process is required. The following steps must be taken, transforming the process from one of compliance to one of heritage justice and reconciliation.

1. Mandatory Process Reset and Collaborative Governance

The current HIA must be rejected by all relevant regulatory bodies (SAHRA/PHRA) on the grounds of inadequate stakeholder engagement and an exclusionary methodology that fails to comply with the spirit and intention of the NHRA.

- Action: A new Terms of Reference (ToR) must be drafted, with the Chatleka CPA and all affected CPAs as mandatory, non-negotiable signatories and co-authors. The claimants must define the *scope* of the heritage that is to be investigated, not merely be *consulted* on the developer's terms.
- Action: Establish a Joint Heritage Steering Committee composed of CPA representatives, traditional authorities, and the new team of heritage specialists, ensuring continuous communication and transparency.

2. Integration of Indigenous Expertise

The next phase of the HIA must move beyond purely archaeological fieldwork to a truly multidisciplinary approach.

- Action: Appoint a Black Social Heritage Specialist/Oral Historian from the Limpopo Province, ideally from the Batlokwa or a related Northern Sotho community, as a lead author, with clear authority over the definition of cultural significance.
- Action: The fieldwork must include a mandatory Oral History Survey and Cultural Site Identification conducted with community elders and ritual specialists. The duration of fieldwork must be extended significantly beyond four days to allow for deep community immersion and verification. This will identify intangible heritage resources like sacred pathways, ritual performance spaces, and unrecorded battle sites, giving them legal status under the NHRA.

3. Redefinition of Significance and Mitigation

The methodology for significance assessment must be broadened beyond archaeological metrics (e.g., density of artefacts) to incorporate social, spiritual, and associative values.

- Action: All resources, especially the granite koppies and any identified burial sites (e.g., the Mathedimosa Motatanye grave), must be re-evaluated under the Social and Spiritual Significance criteria of the NHRA. Their high IIIA grade for graves must be leveraged to mandate long-term, claimant-led protection, not just technical buffering.

- Action: Mitigation for the solar development must include a Heritage and Restitution Offset Strategy. This means mitigation should not stop at buffering archaeological sites; it must include legally binding agreements for:
 - Co-Management: Establishing a trust (co-managed by the CPA and the developer) to oversee the long-term conservation of the *entire* cultural landscape, including the buffer zones.
 - Resource Allocation: Dedicating a portion of the project's Community Trust funding specifically for the oral history, documentation, and preservation of the Batlokwa ba Chatleka's heritage on the land, fulfilling the ethical debt incurred by the initial exclusionary process.

Conclusion: From Compliance to Conscience

The Tabor Solar PV cluster HIA studies, in their current form, is a testament to the persistence of a technical-rational, exclusionary approach to heritage management. It attempts to address a complex, politically charged land with a limited archaeological toolkit, thereby marginalising the legitimate heritage narrative of the Chatleka CPA and other affected communities.

The proposed solar development, while crucial for South Africa's energy security, cannot be built on a foundation of historical injustice and cultural erasure. The way forward is not found in more archaeology, but in dialogue, recognition, and empowerment. The Batlokwa ba Chatleka are not

merely the historical backdrop to the solar project; they are the living heritage of the land. Their voices, their memories, and their claims must become the central, governing text of a revised, legitimate, and ethical Heritage Impact Assessment. This is not just a regulatory necessity; it is a moral imperative for nation-building.

Mr. Makgetsi Matimolane

Ordinary Member

Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)

Cell: 082 511 3062

Email: makgetsimatimolane@gmail.com

Francois Byleveld

From: Makgetsi Matimolane <makgetsi.matimolane@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, 22 November 2025 17:52
To: Dale Holder; Francois Byleveld
Cc: info@sahra.org.za; zlanga@dffe.gov.za; Idlova@dffe.gov.za; MYeni@dffe.gov.za; Tnyalunga@dffe.gov.za; info@ctsheritage.com
Subject: OBJECTION TO THE HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDIES FOR THE TABOR PV CLUSTER ON THE ANCESTRAL LAND THE CHATLEKA CPA AND OTHER AFFECTED COMMUNITIES
Attachments: Chatleka CPA - Objection by Makgetsi to HIA.docx
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mr Holder,

Please find attached my objection to the Heritage Impact Assessment for the Tabor PV Cluster. Kindly acknowledge receipt and confirm that the document will be included in the project's official record.

Regards
Mr. Makgetsi Matimolane
Ordinary Member
Chatleka Communal Property Association (CPA)
Cell: 082 511 3062
Email: makgetsimatimolane@gmail.com

Francois Byleveld

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 27 October 2025 16:23
To: vnmalivha@gmail.com
Cc: Francois Byleveld
Subject: RE: Proposed Tabor Solar Project - Public Open Day.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Councillor Malivha.

Thank you very much for the call and for your assistance in this regard.

As suggested, we will host the open day/information sharing session at the Vleifontein community hall as follows:

Venue: Vleifontein Community Hall, Chris Hani Street, HA-TSHIKOTA-A, Louis Trichardt.

Date: 25 November 2025

Time: 12:00 – 19:00

Thank you for confirming that you will book the community hall for this Open Day/ Info Sharing Session. If there are any costs to hire the Community Hall for this session, please let us know and we will cover these.

The format of the open day is that we will have information posters and project information available. Members of the community can come in at any time during this period and ask questions and/or raise any concerns that they may have.

The Social Specialist, Heritage Specialist, Project Developer and us will be available to answer any questions and capture any concerns from any community members.

We would definitely like to have a few people available who can assist with Translation between English and TshiVenda so that any communications between members of the public and the specialists or developer can be effectively handled. Would you be able to assist in putting us into contact with members of the Local Community who can assist with translations during the course of the day.

Thank you once again for your assistance thus far, and we will keep you updated with the project as we go along.

Kind Regards,

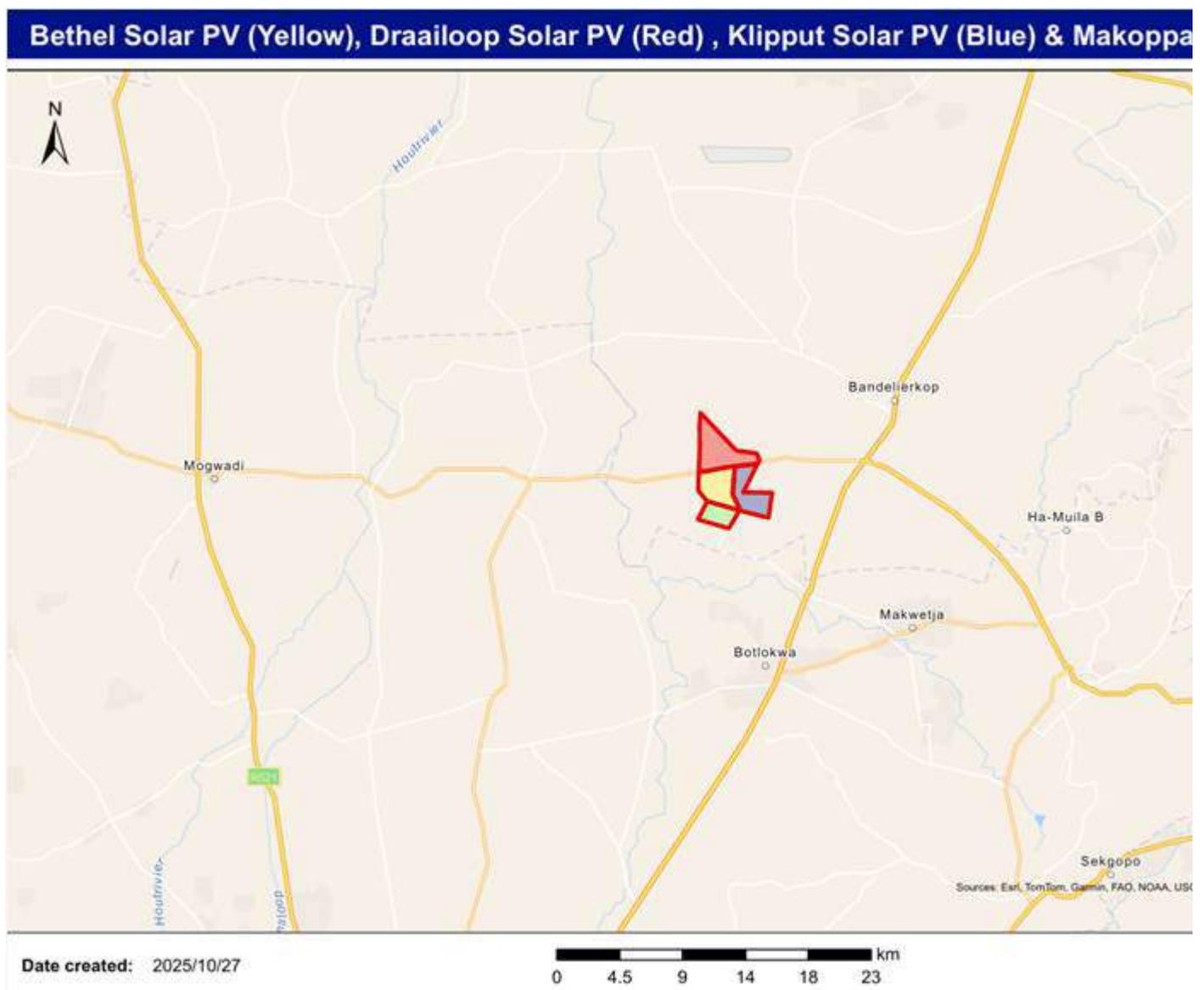
Dale Holder
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER
Cape EAPrac
NDip Nat.Con
EAPASA Reg. 2019/301

From: Dale Holder
Sent: Monday, 27 October 2025 13:59
To: 'vnmalivha@gmail.com' <vnmalivha@gmail.com>
Cc: Francois Byleveld <francois@cape-eaprac.co.za>
Subject: Proposed Tabor Solar Project - Public Open Day.

Dear Councillor Malivha

Thank you very much for responding to my WhatsApp communication and confirming your email address. I look forward to being able to discuss the project with you when you have an opportunity to take my call.

As mentioned via WhatsApp, Cape EAPrac is in the process of facilitating an Environmental Assessment Process for a solar farm development in Ward 20 of the Makhado Municipality. The proposed project is near Bandelierkop as shown in the map below.



As part of the stakeholder engagement process, we would like to host a public open day / information sharing session on Tuesday the 25th of November 2025 between 12:00 and 19:00.

We are looking at various options for a venue for this open day / information sharing session, and it would seem that the Vleifontein Community Hall may be the best location for this open day. I would like to discuss whether this would be an acceptable venue, or whether you would prefer an alternative venue within your ward.

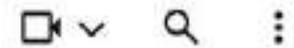
I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards,

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



Councillor Malivha
last seen today at 14:55



Messages and calls are end-to-end encrypted. Only people in this chat can read, listen to, or share them. Click to learn more.

Good Afternoon Councillor Malivha. My name is Dale Holder from Cape EAPRac, and we are facilitating an Environmental Application for a Solar Farm near Bandelierkop within your Ward (Ward 20). As part of this Environmental Application, we would like to host a public open day, where members of the community can obtain information about the project. I was hoping that you could assist with a recommendation on where this meeting could be held. I am looking for a venue that will be accessible to as many people within the ward as possible. Also, I would appreciate it if you could provide us with an email address, as we would like to register you as a key stakeholder and provide you with the relevant information. I am looking forward to discussing with you further.

12:13 ✓

Vnmalivha@gmail.com 13:10

Dear Councillor Malivha. Thanks you very much for confirming your email address - I have sent an email to you. We are wanting to host a public information sharing session on the 25th of November, so that members of the Public (especially those in Ward 20) can be provided with information about the project. We were hoping to host the meeting in the Vleifontein community hall, but I first wanted to hear from you whether or not this is an appropriate venue for the meeting. Please let me know when you have a few minutes available to take my call. Kind Regards, Dale.

14:03 ✓

Call me 14:54

Dear Councilor. Thank you very much for the call. As discussed, I confirm that we will host the open day / information sharing session on the 25th of November between 12:00 and 19:00 in the Vleifontein Community Hall. Thank you very much for confirming that you will book the hall for this day.

15:00 ✓

+ 🗨️ Type a message

