



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1126/1

Enquiries: Herman Alberts

Telephone: (012) 399 9371 **E-mail:** HAlberts@dffe.gov.za

Ms Mercia Grimbeek
Dysselsdorp Re-Power (Pty) Ltd
Suite 104, Albion Springs
183 Main Road
Rondebosch
CAPE TOWN
7701

Telephone Number: (021) 207 2185
Email Address: Mercia.Grimbeek@enertrag.com

PER EMAIL

Dear Ms Grimbeek

APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 75MW DYSELSDORP RE-POWER PHOTOVOLTAIC PLANT AND INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCER (IPP) PORTION OF THE ON-SITE SUBSTATION NEAR OUDTSHOORN, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 22 January 2020, your application for amendment of the EA received on 14 December 2021, the acknowledgement letter dated 18 January 2022 and the additional information received on 31 October 2022, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5, Regulation 27(2)(a) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended, has decided to amend the EA dated 22 January 2020 by issuing a new EA.

The attached EA will replace the EA dated 22 January 2020 as amended. All further amendments must be lodged on the attached EA.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) which stipulates that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuses or compromises your personal information in any way.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within fourteen (14) days of the date of the decision, of the Department's decision as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribe the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 (twenty) days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dffe.gov.za

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road
Arcadia
PRETORIA
0083 or

By post: Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Ms Millicent Solomons
Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 29/11/2022.

cc	Adri La Meyer	WC DEADP	Email: Adri.lameyer@westerncape.gov.za
	Ambrose Carelse	Oudtshoorn Municipality	Email: ambrose@oudtmun.gov.za
	Karin Bedingfield	Legacy Environmental Management Consulting	Email: info@legacyemc.co.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 27(2)(a) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 75MW DYSELSDORP RE-POWER PHOTOVOLTAIC PLANT AND INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCER (IPP) PORTION OF THE ON-SITE SUBSTATION NEAR OUDTSHOORN, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Garden Route District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	14/12/16/3/3/2/1126/1
Last amended:	<i>Splitting and Re-Issue</i> <i>First Issue: 22 January 2020</i>
Holder of authorisation:	<i>Dysselsdorp Re-Power (Pty) Ltd</i>
Location of activity:	<i>Portion 37 of the Farm van Wykskraal No. 117;</i> <i>Portion 39 of the Farm van Wykskraal No. 117;</i> <i>Portion 101 of the Farm van Wykskraal No. 117;</i> <i>Remaining Extent of Farm van Wykskraal No. 117;</i> <i>Portion 10 of Farm Schuinspad No. 83;</i> <i>Oudtshoorn Local Municipality</i> <i>Garden Route District Municipality</i> <i>Western Cape Province</i>

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

16.

Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this Environmental Authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Department hereby authorises –

DYSSELSDORP RE-POWER (PTY) LTD

(hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details –

Ms Mercia Grimbeek
Suite 104, Albion Springs
183 Main Road, Rondebosch

CAPE TOWN

7701

Telephone Number: (021) 207 2185

Email Address: Mercia.Grimbeek@enertrag.com

To undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as “the activity”) indicated in Listing Notice 1 and Listing Notice 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended:

Listed activities	Activity/Project description
<p><u>GN R. 983 – Listing Notice 1: Activity 11</u></p> <p><i>“The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity:</i></p> <p><i>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts.”</i></p>	<p>Solar PV generated current will be inverted from DC to AC by means of inverters placed within the allocated PV Plant area. The AC current will enter the IPP portion of the step-up substation, from where the power will be distributed via a 132kV cable, with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275kV, to the grid operator portion of the substation.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 983 – Listing Notice 1: Activity 27</u></p> <p><i>“The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation.”</i></p>	<p>The area where the solar panels will be installed will not be cleared. The vegetation will only be trimmed to a height of 50mm above ground and the panels will be installed on steel supports well above this level. The rows between the PV panels will act as roads and here vegetation will be cleared. These areas, together with the laydown and operations area, substation footprint, water and sewerage storage areas, will amount to ±8.5ha, which will trigger this activity.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 983 – Listing Notice 1: Activity 28</u></p> <p><i>“Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes, or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development:</i></p> <p><i>(ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed PV plant development is expected to occupy ±155 hectares of land.</p>



Listed activities	Activity/Project description
<p><u>GN R. 984 – Listing Notice 2: Activity 1</u></p> <p><i>“The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed PV Plant is expected to generate ± 75MW of electricity.</p>

as described in the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAr) dated October 2019 and the additional information for an amendment received on 31 October 2022 at:

Preferred Site:

Farm names and numbers:	Portion 37 of the Farm van Wykskraal No. 117
	Portion 39 of the Farm van Wykskraal No. 117
	Portion 101 of the Farm van Wykskraal No. 117
	Remaining Extent of Farm van Wykskraal No. 117
	Portion 10 of Farm Schuinspad No. 83

21 Digit Surveyor General Codes:

C	0	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7	0	0	0	3	7
C	0	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7	0	0	0	3	9
C	0	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7	0	0	1	0	1
C	0	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7	0	0	0	0	0
C	0	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	3	0	0	0	1	0

Proposed PV Plant Site Co-ordinates:

Points	X Co-ordinate	Y Co-ordinate
A	22°21'44.59"	-33°33'28.67"
B	22°22'35.55"	-33°33'17.13"
C	22°22'40.78"	-33°33'19.55"
D	22°22'42.81"	-33°33'12.85"
E	22°23'50.71"	-33°33'12.74"
F	22°23'23.25"	-33°33'37.65"
G	22°21'55.07"	-33°33'44.50"

IPP portion of the on-site substation Co-ordinates:

Points	X Co-ordinate	Y Co-ordinate
A	22°23'19.28"	-33°33'35.69"
B	22°23'21.06"	-33°33'35.76"
C	22°23'21.26"	-33°33'37.70"
D	22°23'19.19"	-33°33'37.63"

- for the development of the 75MW Dysselsdorp Re-Power Photovoltaic Plant and Independent Power Producer (IPP) Portion of the On-Site Substation near Oudtshoorn in the Western Cape Province, hereafter referred to as "the properties".

Infrastructure and services associated with the proposed project will include the following:

Component	Description/ Dimensions
Area of PV array	499 226m ² .
Number of inverters required	22 + 1 with an electrical rating of up to 4 000kW
Area occupied by inverter/transformer stations/substations	Substation: 2 985m ² Inverters: 180m ²
Capacity of on-site substation	A step-up substation (22/132kV) will be constructed.
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	The laydown area for the construction period will be ±400m ² in extent and will be situated within the ±155ha development footprint. During the operational period, the laydown area will be ±200m ² in extent.
Areas occupied by buildings	The operational area will be ±400m ² ; the water and sewage storage area will be 100m ² ; the substation will be 2 985m ² ; and the laydown area will be 400m ² in extent.
Length of internal roads	±25 840m (77 522m ² x 3m).
Width of internal roads	3m.
Proximity to grid connection	The IPP portion of the on-site substation is adjacent to the grid operator portion of the substation which will tie into the existing 132kV power line that transects the application site.
Type of technology	Multi-crystalline photovoltaic solar panels

Surface area to be covered (including associated infrastructure such as roads)	155ha
Structure orientation	The panels will be positioned at an angle of approximately 30° from the horizontal and a minimum of 0.82m from the ground. The PV panels will be mounted on a horizontal single axis tracker frame, which will enable the panels to track the apparent motion of the sun through the day.
Height of fencing	At least 3m high (as there are game animals on the adjacent properties).
Laydown area dimensions	The laydown area for the construction period will be 400m ² in extent, and will be situated within the 155ha development footprint. During the operational period, the laydown area will be 200m ² in extent.
Generation capacity	75MW DC
Generation capacity of the facility as a whole at delivery points	66MW AC
Type of fencing	Electrified wire mesh/ ClearVu type fencing

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The development of the 75MW Dysseisdorp Re-Power Photovoltaic Plant and Independent Power Producer (IPP) Portion of the On-Site Substation near Oudtshoorn in the Western Cape Province is approved as per the geographic coordinates cited in the table above.
2. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation, which form part of the Environmental Authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
3. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
4. The activities authorised must only be carried out at the property as described above.

5. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this Environmental Authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further Environmental Authorisation in terms of the regulations.
6. The holder of an Environmental Authorisation must apply for an amendment of the Environmental Authorisation with the Competent Authority for any alienation, transfer or change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.
7. This activity must commence on or before 27 January 2030. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses.
8. Construction must be completed within five (05) years of the commencement of the activity on site.
9. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this Environmental Authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

10. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this Environmental Authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
11. The notification referred to must –
 - 11.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 11.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014;
 - 11.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 11.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

Commencement of the activity

12. The authorised activity must not commence until the period for the submission of appeals has lapsed as per the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, and no appeal has been lodged against the decision. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended will suspend the Environmental Authorisation or any provision or condition

attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.

Management of the activity

13. The final site layout map submitted as part of the EIAr is not approved. A copy of the final site layout map must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this Environmental Authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final development layout map must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity with the amended EMPr. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g., roads. The layout map must indicate the following:
 - 13.1. Solar panels;
 - 13.2. Steel arrays and racks on concrete foundations
 - 13.3. Inverters stations; and
 - 13.4. Internal roads
 - 13.5. All associated infrastructures; and
 - 13.6. All “no-go” and buffer areas

Frequency and process of updating the EMPr

14. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the EIAr is not approved and must be amended to include the provisions of this Environmental Authorisation. The EMPr must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this Environmental Authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final EMPr must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. Once approved the EMPr must be implemented and adhered to.
15. The amended EMPr must also include the following:
 - 15.1. The final site layout map;
 - 15.2. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIAr and the additional information for an amendment received on 31 October 2022;
 - 15.3. All mitigation measures as listed in the specialist reports within the EIAr and the additional information for an amendment received on 31 October 2022; and

- 15.4. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
16. The final amended EMPr (once approved) must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It shall be seen as a dynamic document and shall be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.
17. Changes to the approved EMPr must be submitted in accordance to the EIA Regulations applicable at the time.
18. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the EIA be discovered.

Frequency and process of updating the EMPr

19. The EMPr must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 26 below, indicate insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity, or insufficient levels of compliance with the Environmental Authorisation or EMPr.
20. The updated EMPr must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
21. The updated EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report, as per Regulation 34 of GN R. 982. The updated EMPr must have been subjected to a public participation process, which process has been agreed to by the Department, prior to submission of the updated EMPr to the Department for approval.
22. In assessing whether to grant approval of an EMPr which has been updated as a result of an audit, the Department will consider the processes prescribed in Regulation 35 of GN R.982. Prior to approving an amended EMPr, the Department may request such amendments to the EMPr as it deems appropriate to ensure that the EMPr sufficiently provides for avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity.
23. The holder of the authorisation may apply for an amendment of an EMPr, if such amendment is required before an audit is required. The amendment process is prescribed in Regulation 37 of GN R.982. The holder of the authorisation must request comments on the proposed amendments to the impact management outcomes of the EMPr or amendments to the closure objectives of the closure plan from potentially interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, by using any of the methods provided for in the Act for a period of at least 30 days.

Monitoring

24. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the construction phase of the development that will have the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation/rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in this Environmental Authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.
- 24.1. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
- 24.2. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
- 24.3. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
- 24.4. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.

Recording and reporting to the Department

25. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this Environmental Authorisation, must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department at Directorcompliance@dffe.gov.za.
26. The holder of the Environmental Authorisation must, for the period during which the Environmental Authorisation and EMPr remain valid, ensure that project compliance with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and the EMPr are audited, and that the audit reports are submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department at Directorcompliance@dffe.gov.za.
27. The frequency of auditing and of submission of the environmental audit reports must be as per the frequency indicated in the EMPr, taking into account the processes for such auditing as prescribed in Regulation 34 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amended.
28. The holder of the authorisation must, in addition, submit an environmental audit reports to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and a final environmental audit report within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
29. The environmental audit reports must be compiled in accordance with Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, and must indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit in terms of compliance with the Environmental Authorisation conditions as well as the requirements of the approved EMPr.

30. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and Competent Authority in respect of this development.

Notification to authorities

31. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence, as well as a reference number.

Operation of the activity

32. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

33. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of the authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and Competent Authority at that time.

Specific conditions

34. The footprint of the development must be limited to the area required for the actual construction works and operational activities.
35. Areas of disturbed soil must be reclaimed using only indigenous grass and shrubs.
36. Any vegetation clearing that needs to take place as part of maintenance activities, must be done in an environmentally friendly manner, including avoiding the use of herbicides and using manual clearing methods wherever possible.
37. Foundations and trenches must be backfilled with originally excavated materials.
38. Excess excavation materials must be disposed of only in approved areas or, if suitable, stockpiled for use in reclamation activities.
39. In the event that excavations and earthmoving activities expose significant archaeological or heritage resources, such activities must stop and Heritage Western Cape (HWC) must be notified immediately.



40. In the event of exposing human remains during construction, the matter will fall into the domain of the South African Heritage Resources Agency or Heritage Western Cape (HWC) and will require a professional archaeologist to undertake mitigation if needed.
41. The washing of panels during maintenance must be done with biodegradable soaps to avoid soil contamination and poisoning of small animals.
42. Any electrocution and collision events that occur during operation must be recorded and records must be kept available for monitoring purpose, including the species affected, the date and further mitigation and avoidance measures that must be implemented.
43. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate reduction, recycling and re-use options where appropriate. Where solid waste is disposed of, such disposal shall only occur at a landfill licensed in terms of section 20(b) of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008).

General

44. The recommendations of the EAP in the EIAR dated 22 January 2020, the specialist studies attached and the additional information for an amendment received on 31 October 2022 must be adhered to. In the event of any conflicting mitigation measures and conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the specific condition of this Environmental Authorisation will take preference.
45. A copy of this Environmental Authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMPr, must be made available for inspection and copying-
 - 45.1. at the site of the authorised activity;
 - 45.2. to anyone on request; and
 - 45.3. where the holder of the Environmental Authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.
46. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the authorisation with the conditions of authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of authorisation.

Date of Environmental Authorisation: 29 | 11 | 2022.



Ms Milicent Solomons

**Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the application form received on 05 April 2019.
- b) The information contained in the final EIAr dated October 2019 and the additional information for an amendment received on 31 October 2022.
- c) The comments received from interested and affected parties as included in the final EIAr dated October 2019 and the additional information for an amendment received on 31 October 2022.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the final EIAr and the EMPr dated October 2019 and the additional information for an amendment received on 31 October 2022.
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the final EIAr dated October 2019 and the additional information for an amendment received on 31 October 2022.

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- b) The need for the proposed project stems from the provision of electricity to the national grid.
- c) The final EIAr dated October 2019 identified all legislations and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the EIAr.
- d) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the final EIAr dated October 2019 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- e) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended for public involvement.



3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the EIAr dated October 2019 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- d) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the EIAr and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction phase.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the Environmental Authorisation, the authorised activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the authorised activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The Environmental Authorisation is accordingly granted.



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, Arcadia- PRETORIA
Tel(+ 27 12) 399 9000

Enquiries: Devinagie Bendeman Telephone: 012 399 9337 E-mail: vbendeman@dfre.gov.za

Ms. Milicent Solomons
Director: Prioritised Infrastructure Projects

Dear Ms. Solomons

**APPOINTMENT AS ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS
FOR THE PERIOD 01 NOVEMBER 2022 – 16 DECEMBER 2022**

I hereby inform you that I have decided to appoint you as Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations, for the period of 01 November 2022 – 16 December 2022 whilst Mr Sabelo Malaza is fulfilling his temporary reassignment function at the Forestry Branch.

All the correspondence and other documents that are usually signed by the Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations must be signed under Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations during the above-mentioned period.

Your appointment in the above acting position remains subject to the provisions of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation No. 103 of 1994), as amended, the Government Employees Pension Fund Act, 1996 (Proclamation No. 21 of 1996), the regulations promulgated under these Acts and relevant circulars.

In the execution of your duties and the exercising of the powers delegated to you, you will furthermore be subjected to the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, compliance with the Promotion of Access to Information Act, Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, the Minimum Information Security Standard, Departmental Policies and other applicable legislations with the Republic of South Africa. You are therefore advised to make yourself familiar with the provisions of these legislations and policies and the amendments thereof. (Copies of Departmental policies can be obtained from the Human Resource Office).

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for all your assistance on behalf of the department.

Yours sincerely

Ms. Devinagie Bendeman
Deputy Director-General: RCSM (Regulatory Compliance and
Sector Monitoring)

Date: 31 October 2022

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I ACCEPT / ~~DO NOT ACCEPT~~
appointment as Acting Chief
Director: Integrated Environmental
Authorisations

Signed:

Date: 31/10/2022.