

10 November 2023

Dear Interested and/or Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF THE SUBMISSION OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT TO THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY (I.E. THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT (DFFE)) FOR DECISION-MAKING FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE GENESIS DBF SOUTH SEF (DFFE REF.: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2317) AND ITS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

Notice is hereby given that in line with Regulation 23(1)(a) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), the Final EIA Report for the above-mentioned proposed project has been submitted to the DFFE for decision-making, in line with Regulation 24 of the 2014 National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended), on 18 September 2023, and the DFFE has acknowledged receipt via email.

As previously communicated, the Project Applicant, DBF South Solar Farm (Pty) Ltd, is proposing the construction and operation of a Solar Energy Facility (SEFs) and its associated infrastructure, that is located within the Beaufort West Local Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality. The proposed project is referred to as "Genesis DBF South SEF". The proposed project forms part of a larger development consisting of three clusters and a total of nine Renewable Energy Facilities (REFs) (7 x Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs) and 2 x SEFs).

The proposed DBF SEF project will comprise various infrastructure, such as a solar field, building infrastructure, an on-site substation complex, 132 kV power line, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), as well as associated infrastructure (e.g., laydown area; internal roads; fencing; storm water channels; and on-site internal cables). A detailed project description is provided in Chapter 2 of the Final EIA Report.

The need for the Scoping and EIA is triggered by, amongst others, the inclusion of Activity 1 listed in GN R325 (Listing Notice 2):

"The development of a facility or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more, excluding where such development of facility or infrastructure is for photovoltaic installations and occurs (a) within an urban area; or (b) on existing infrastructure".

Chapter 4 of the Final EIA Reports details the listed activities, which require authorisation and thus form part of these Scoping and EIA Processes.

The Draft Scoping Report for the proposed DBF South SEF was made available to all potential and registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), Organs of State and relevant stakeholders for a 30-day review period that extended from 4 March 2023 to 3 April 2023, excluding public holidays. All comments and issues raised as part of the commenting period were captured in the Comments and Responses Report and addressed, where applicable, in the Final Scoping Report. The Final Scoping Report was submitted to the DFFE on 18 April 2023 in line with Regulation 21(1) and 22 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). The CSIR received the DFFE's written acceptance of the Final Scoping Report in on 5 June 2023.

Thereafter, the Draft EIA Report was compiled and released to all registered I&APs, Organs of State and key relevant stakeholders for a 30-day review period, which extended from 11 August 2023 to 11 September 2023,

excluding public holidays. Copies of all comments received from I&APs and stakeholders during the review of the Draft Scoping Report and Draft EIA Report have been addressed in the Final EIA Report and collated into Comments and Response Reports that are included as an appendix to the Final EIA Report, inclusive of relevant responses to the comments. Refer to Appendix E Part 2 and Part 4 of the Final EIA Report for the Scoping-phase and EIA-phase Comments and Responses Reports, respectively. We would like to take this opportunity to thank those stakeholders and I&APs that have submitted comments during this Scoping and EIA Process.

For your record and information purposes, the Final EIA Report with all supporting appendices can be downloaded from the following link on Google Drive: <https://bit.ly/GenesisSolar>

As a registered I&AP on the projects, you will be duly informed of the outcome of the DFFE's decision on the Final EIA Report.

In accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act (Act 4 of 2013), CSIR will conduct itself responsibly when collecting, processing, storing and sharing any personal information collected for the purposes of public participation processes in terms of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). Note that by registering as an I&AP and by submitting information and comments to the CSIR as part of these Scoping and EIA Processes, you consent to the collection, collation, processing, and storing of such information and the use and disclosure of such information for the aforementioned purpose (<https://www.csir.co.za/csir-privacy-notice>). If you would like to opt out of communications on this project, please do so by responding to this correspondence via email.

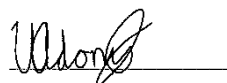
We thank you for your participation in this Scoping and EIA Process. Should you have any queries or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned using the contact details provided below:

- Attention: Paul Lochner / Willan Adonis
- P. O. Box 320, Stellenbosch, 7599
- Mobile: 084 442 3646 / 076 278 1796
- Email: ems@csir.co.za

Sincerely,



Paul Lochner *Registered EAP*
Project Leader and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services



Willan Adonis
Project Manager
CSIR Environmental Management Services