



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

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DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2716/AM1

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PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Venn

REGULATION 27(4) CORRECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 10 JULY 2023 FOR THE ILANGA EMOYENI GRID CONNECTION FOR THE SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY ON THE REMAINDER OF FARM 3 (SCHIETKUIL) IN THE BEAUFORT WEST MUNICIPALITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 10 July 2023, and the letter received by the Department on 25 July 2023, requesting the correction of administrative errors included in the EA through the amendment to the EA dated 10 July 2023, refer.

In terms of Regulation 27(4) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended this Department has decided to amend the abovementioned decision to correct administrative errors included in the EA through the Amendment to the EA dated 10 July 2023, as follows:

Amendment 1: Description of the grid connection infrastructure, page 5 of the EA

From:

The grid connection infrastructure will consist of the following:

- PV1 Switching station (≤ 0.25 ha): A ≤ 0.25 ha electrical yard within the IPP substation containing switchgear and control room;
- PV2 Switching station (≤ 0.25 ha): A ≤ 0.25 ha electrical yard containing switchgear and control room; and
- PV3 Switching station (≤ 0.25 ha): A ≤ 0.25 ha electrical yard containing switchgear and control room.

To:

Powerlines (8.6ha): The Gridline will comprise four powerline sections, one connecting each Independent Power Producer (IPP) substation to the Collector Substation and one connecting the collector station with the existing Eskom Gamma Main Transmission Substation (MTS). All powerlines are ≤ 132 kV capacity and will use the standard suite of free-standing monopole pylons ≤ 32 m tall and acceptable to Eskom. Anchored pylons or other variations may be required where the powerlines change direction or for any long spans (i.e. spanning

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valleys or ridge slopes). Pylons are typically spaced at 200m–250m intervals in a straightaway, on level ground but could be greater or lesser depending on alignment and topography. Each powerline will have a 31m (15.5m on each side) servitude.

The following powerline sections are required:

- a) PV1 powerline ($\leq 1.93\text{km}$): A $\leq 1.93\text{km}$ long powerline connecting the IPP substation to the collector station. Requiring ≤ 15 pylons with a disturbance footprint of 0.03ha . This may require up to 2.2km of $\leq 3\text{m}$ wide (0.66ha) construction and maintenance cross-country track running mostly beneath the powerline or connecting with existing tracks on site.
- b) PV2 powerline ($\leq 8.9\text{km}$): A $\leq 8.9\text{km}$ long powerline connecting the IPP substation to the collector substation. Requiring ≤ 55 pylons with a disturbance footprint of 0.12ha . This may require up to 10.7km of $\leq 3\text{m}$ wide (3.3ha) construction and maintenance cross-country track running mostly beneath the powerline or connecting with existing tracks on site.
- c) PV3 powerline ($\leq 9.2\text{km}$): A $\leq 9.2\text{km}$ long powerline connecting the IPP substation to the collector station. Requiring ≤ 55 pylons with a disturbance footprint of 0.11ha . This may require up to 11km of $\leq 3\text{m}$ wide (3.3ha) construction and maintenance cross-country track running mostly beneath the powerline or connecting with existing tracks on site.
- d) Collector station powerline ($\leq 2.27\text{km}$): A $\leq 2.27\text{km}$ long powerline connecting the collector station to the Gamma Main Transmission Station. Requiring ≤ 15 pylons with a disturbance footprint of 0.3ha . This may require up to 2.72km of $\leq 3\text{m}$ wide (0.82ha) construction and maintenance cross-country track running mostly beneath the powerline or connecting with existing tracks on site.

Switching stations ($\leq 0.75\text{ha}$): A switching station located at each IPP substation will allow Eskom to isolate a de-energise each section of the powerline for maintenance and repair purposes. The switching stations are co-located with the IPP substations. Three switching stations will be required, detailed as follows:

- a) PV1 Switching station ($\leq 0.25\text{ha}$): A $\leq 0.25\text{ha}$ electrical yard, co-located with the PV1 IPP substation, containing switchgear and a control room.
- b) PV2 Switching station ($\leq 0.25\text{ha}$): A $\leq 0.25\text{ha}$ electrical yard, co-located with the PV2 IPP substation, containing switchgear and a control room.
- c) PV3 Switching station ($\leq 0.25\text{ha}$): A $\leq 0.25\text{ha}$ electrical yard, co-located with the PV3 IPP substation, containing switchgear and a control room.

Collector station ($\leq 4.58\text{ha}$): Power generated by up to three solar facilities will be conveyed to the collector station where it will be combined into a single 132kV powerline connected to Eskom's Gamma MTS. This facility will contain a control room and various busbars and switchgear necessary for the isolation of the various powerlines in the operations and maintenance phase.

Construction yards ($\leq 2\text{ha}$): Temporary laydown areas required for the construction of the gridline will be situated inside the collector station.

Amendment 2: Specialist details table, page 15

From:

Brian Colloety

To:

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Amendment 3: Section 12, page 7

From:

A final site layout plan for the grid connection infrastructure and associated infrastructure within the 500m assessed corridor, as determined by the detailed engineering phase and micro-siting, and all mitigation measures as dictated by the final site layout plan, must be submitted to the Department for approval prior to construction.

To:

A final site layout plan for the grid connection infrastructure and associated infrastructure within the proposed corridor, as determined by the detailed engineering phase and micro-siting, and all mitigation measures as dictated by the final site layout plan, must be submitted to the Department for approval prior to construction.

Please note that this correction letter must be read in conjunction with the Environmental Authorisation dated 10 July 2023, as amended.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 17/08/2023

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