



**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS
FOR THE SOLAFRICA PROPOSED CSPs PLANTS**

MINUTES OF THE STAKEHOLDER MEETING IN UPINGTON

**30 MARCH 2016
10H00
AT
UPINGTON PROTEA HOTELS**

Attendees	Company	Telephone	Email
Malcolm Roods	Royal HaskoningDHV	011 798 6000	malcolm.roods@rhdhv.com
Johan Blignaut	Royal HaskoningDHV	011 798 6000	johan.blignaut@rhdhv.com
Nasi Rwigema	Solafrica	011 268 4074	nasi@solafrica.co.za

List of attendees is attached (refer to **Appendix A**)

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
1.	<p>OPENING AND INTRODUCTION:</p> <p>Mr. Johan Blignaut welcomed everybody to the meeting and thanked them for making time to attend. Mr Blignaut outlined the purpose of the meeting and detailed the agenda.</p> <p>A presentation detailing the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment was given by Mr Blignaut (please refer to attached presentation).</p> <p>Once this presentation was concluded the meeting was opened to questions from the floor.</p>
2.	<p>Discussions During Presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Rwigema indicated that each proposed project would likely be built at different phases. He also mentioned that the construction camps and laydown areas were planned in such a way that the same areas would be used for each project. • Ms Mans enquired which project is planned to be developed first. • Mr Rwigema indicated that the Central Receiver plant is more likely to be developed first. • Ms Mans brought to the attention of Mr Rwigema that the DAFF application process might change and will have timeframe implications. It is just to be kept in mind for the future. • Mr Rwigema indicated that challenges were identified during the construction of the Bokpoort site. Especially regarding the access roads that were used to and from site. He further indicated that Solafrica is looking to follow a process that will evaluate the most effective, appropriate, and feasible solutions that are supported by a broader stakeholder group. • Ms Mans also suggested that the Ebony tree be searched for when a count is being undertaken of the number of trees that will be affected by the proposed projects. This should be included in the DAFF permit application. • Ms Mans wanted to know if there was currently any mitigation to prevent birds from flying into the path of the concentrated rays and being affected by solar flux. She indicated that she had read an article where the Spanish were in the process of creating

a kind of alarm system that will scare birds away.

- Mr Rwigema indicated that it is really difficult. He indicated that any effective solutions that are feasible for the projects will be investigated and considered.
- Ms Mans also wanted to know what the impact of the projects would be on the insect populations. She indicated that entomologist study may be able to provide some insight during the operational phase of the projects to investigate if there is any impact.
- Mr Roods indicated that the EAP will make a point of it to obtain comments on this situation from the Biodiversity specialists.
- Ms Mans queried whether the glare will have any impacts on humans. She indicated that the current glare from Abengoa is very bad and might have major impacts on the eye sight of humans.
- Mr Rwigema indicated that he will note this and follow up on this with a relevant engineering company.
- Mr Rwigema indicated that the plan was to use the already disturbed abstraction point that the farmer is using to minimise the impact on fauna, flora and aquatics.
- Mr Blignaut indicated that a 200m corridor was applied for in which the ancillary infrastructure will be developed. This gives the contractors enough space to manoeuvre around protected trees and affected areas.
- Ms Mans indicated that not all the trees need to be counted in the 200m corridor. She recommended that only those that will need to be removed need to be counted.
- Mr Rwigema mentioned that he will create a diagram indicating all the trees that might be affected by the pipelines and roads.
- Mr Rwigema indicated that the hiring of locals has been a challenge for a previous project of similar scope in the region as alcohol and drug abuse is a major challenge during construction.
- Mr Roods queried if a type of roof or cover could not be implemented on the tower to prevent glare from affecting people. Ms Mans indicated that she can sometimes see the tower and glare from up to 100km away when driving from other towns.
- Ms Mans indicated that she came across an interesting article where it was claimed that Central Receiver technology was banned in America due to the high number of negative impacts it has on the environment.
- Mr Rwigema indicated that he had no knowledge of such an article.
- Ms Mans wanted to know if any dune areas would be affected. She indicated that dunes are very sensitive in these areas.
- Mr Blignaut indicated that none of the plants was foreseen to affect or fall within an area that has dunes.
- Ms Mans wanted to know what the vegetation types were found on site and what counts of trees were found. She indicated that it must be investigated, during the site visit for

	<p>the DAFF permit application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Mans indicated that, depending on the number and species of trees that will need to be removed, it may be necessary for the project to implement an offset. She described that such an offset would need to be decided and agreed upon between the Developer, DAFF and NCDENC. • Mr Blignaut indicated that the vegetation types were indicated in the specialist report. He also mentioned that the preferred sites will be visited and inspected after the authorisation was granted. Counts of trees that will be affected will then be done and will be used when applying for the DAFF permit. • Mr Roods confirmed that the tree inspection and count would only be needed to be done for the authorised sites and where the corridors will be. There is no need to investigate the entire Sand Draai farm. Ms Mans agreed to this. Mr Roods indicated that this investigation will be placed as a condition in the EMPr. • Mr Rwigema and Ms Mans agreed that, in developing the necessary budgets for the projects, DAFF will be consulted to establish whether any offset may be required.
3.	<p>WAY FORWARD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes of this meeting will be distributed to all attendees. • The draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be finalised with the comments from I&APs and the final will be submitted to the DEA
4.	<p>CLOSURE:</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 12h00.</p>

APPENDIX A