

**Change in authorised footprint  
for proposed PV plant at Mogalakwena Mine in Limpopo**

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the Mogalakwena PV plant was issued in December 2021.

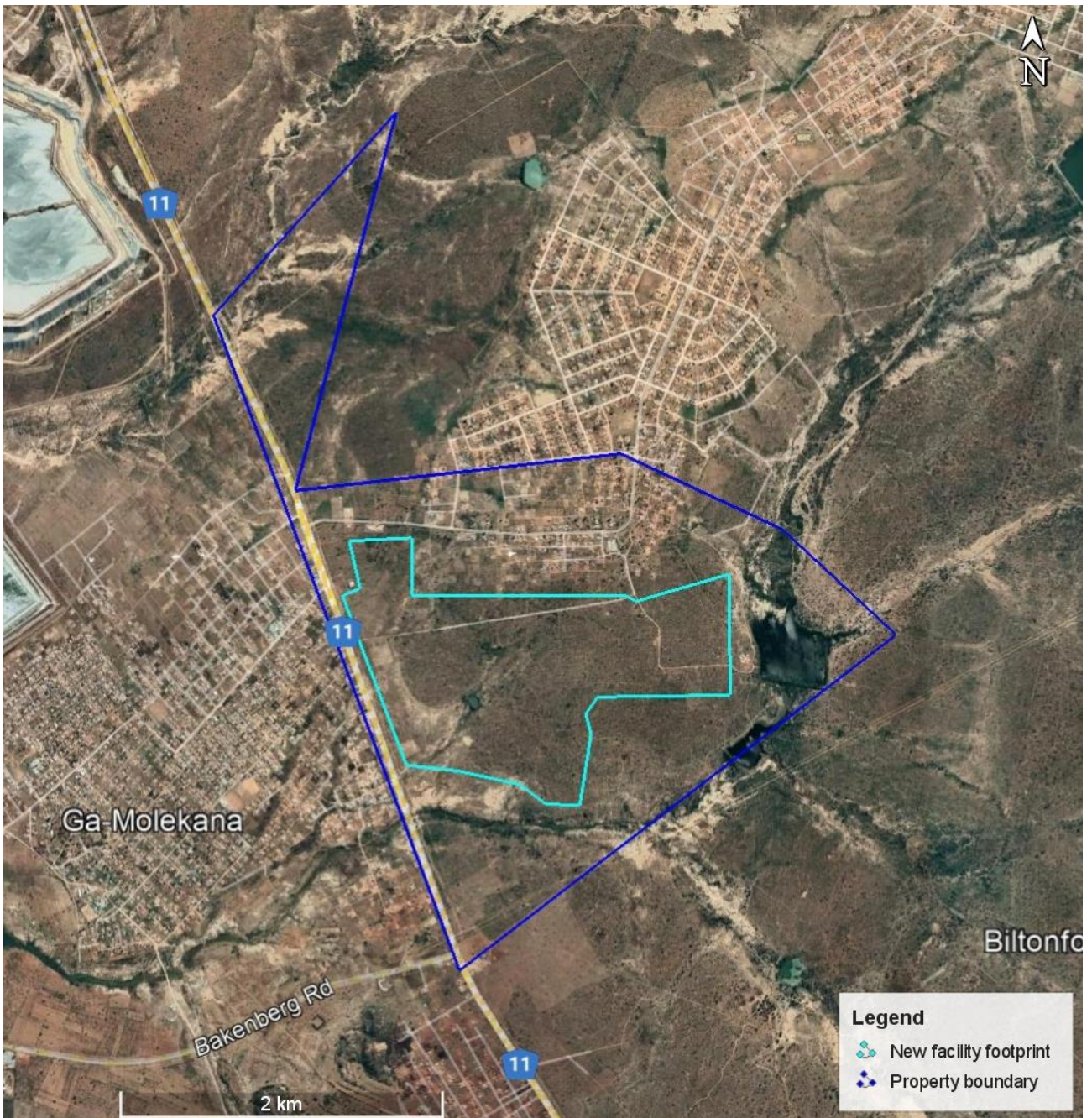
Since the appointment of the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractor, the final designs necessitated a larger footprint within which to place the PV panels to generate the required amount of electricity as per the contract. The applicant therefore wishes to apply for the following changes to the project:

1. An amendment of the facility footprint to what is indicated in Figure 1 below;
2. The originally assessed transmission lines to the mine fall away, to be replaced by a short tie-in from the substation to the Eskom lines along the western side of the site. The length of these lines is 140m. A single pylon will be required for these lines.

The objectives of this Specialist opinion are:

- to identify and assess any potential impacts of the proposed change in footprint on agricultural resources and agricultural production potential,
- to provide any changes or additions to the mitigation measures for agricultural impacts and consequent changes to the EMPr.

The original Agricultural Compliance Statement completed in June 2021 as part of the project's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, assessed the larger site area (see Figure 1) and found that the only possible agricultural impact is loss of agricultural potential by occupation of the land by the energy facility. The significance of this impact, in terms of its effect on agricultural production, was assessed as negligible. This is because the site is not currently used for agricultural production and due to its location in an area of expanding urban development and mining activity, is unlikely to ever be used for agricultural production, even in the absence of the proposed development.



**Figure 1.** Satellite image map of the proposed, amended facility footprint that is entirely within the property boundary that was assessed in its entirety in the original agricultural assessment.

Therefore, the proposed refinement of the facility footprint has zero agricultural impact. Likewise the change to the grid connection also has zero agricultural impact. The proposed amendment will not change the nature or significance of any of the impacts assessed in the original study. There are no agricultural advantages or disadvantages related to it. The amendment does not require any changes or additions to the mitigation measures for agricultural impacts that were recommended for the authorised development. Therefore, no changes to the EMP are required.

In summary, from an agricultural impact point of view, it is recommended that the amendment be

authorised.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Lanz', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Johann Lanz (Pr. Sci. Nat.)

16 June 2022



## environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### Appendix 2: Details of the specialist, declaration of interest and undertaking under oath

Application for authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended (the Regulations)

#### PROJECT TITLE

**Environmental Authorisation Amendment for proposed PV plant at Mogalakwena Mine in Limpopo**

#### Kindly note the following:

- This form must always be used for applications that must be subjected to Basic Assessment or Scoping & Environmental Impact Reporting where this Department is the Competent Authority.
- This form is current as of 01 September 2018. It is the responsibility of the Applicant / Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the form have been published or produced by the Competent Authority. The latest available Departmental templates are available at <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.
- A copy of this form containing original signatures must be appended to all Draft and Final Reports submitted to the department for consideration.
- All documentation delivered to the physical address contained in this form must be delivered during the official Departmental Officer Hours which is visible on the Departmental gate.
- All EIA related documents (includes application forms, reports or any EIA related submissions) that are faxed; emailed; delivered to Security or placed in the Departmental Tender Box will not be accepted, only hardcopy submissions are accepted.

#### Departmental Details

**Postal address:** Department of Environmental Affairs, Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations, Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001

**Physical address:** Department of Environmental Affairs, Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia

Queries must be directed to the Directorate: Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support at:  
Email: [EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za)

**1. SPECIALIST INFORMATION**

Specialist Company Name:	Johann Lanz – Soil Scientist		
B-BBEE	Contribution level (indicate 1 to 8 or non-compliant)	4	Percentage Procurement recognition
			100%
Specialist name:	Johann Lanz		
Specialist Qualifications:	M.Sc. (Environmental Geochemistry)		
Professional affiliation/registration:	Registered Professional Natural Scientist (Pr.Sci.Nat.) Reg. no. 400268/12		
	Member of the Soil Science Society of South Africa		
Physical address:	1a Wolfe Street, Wynberg, Cape Town, 7800		
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Telephone:	082 927 9018	Fax:	Who still uses a fax? I don't
E-mail:	johann@johannlanz.co.za		

**2. DECLARATION BY THE SPECIALIST**

I, **Johann Lanz**, declare that -

- I act as the independent specialist in this application;
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant;
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have expertise in conducting the specialist report relevant to this application, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;
- all the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct; and
- I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 48 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act.

Signature of the Specialist

Johann Lanz – Soil Scientist (sole proprietor)

Name of Company:

Date: 02/06/2022

**3. UNDERTAKING UNDER OATH/ AFFIRMATION**

I, **Johann Lanz**, swear under oath / affirm that all the information submitted or to be submitted for the purposes of this application is true and correct.

Signature of the Specialist

Johann Lanz – Soil Scientist (sole proprietor)

Name of Company

Date: 02/06/2022

Signature of the Commissioner of Oaths

Date

