

17 November 2022

Dear Stakeholder

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION OF THE MOGALAKWENA PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY FOR THE MOGALAKWENA MINE WITHIN THE MOGALAKWENA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

Mogalakwena Mine Solar Power (Pty) Ltd was granted an Environmental Authorisation (EA) to construct a photovoltaic (PV) solar energy facility and associated transmission lines to supply power to the mine. The EA was granted on 9 December 2021 (ref. no. 12/1/9/2/-W89).

Due to project changes, the scope of the EA will now have to be amended.

Zutari (Pty) Ltd was appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner to undertake a Substantive (Part 2) Amendment for the proposed change in EA scope, in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Government Notice (GN) R982 of 2014.

Mogalakwena Mine Solar Power appointed Pele Green Energy (PGE) and EDF Renewables, a consortium known as PGE-EDFR as the Independent Power Producer to develop the proposed project. PGE provided a design for the project, but the approved footprint proved insufficient. The only available area for expansion on the site is a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) east of the authorised layout. The proposed expansion area is approximately 24.9 ha, of which approximately 16 ha is within an area designated as a CBA 1 in the Limpopo Conservation Plan (C-Plan).

Condition 4 of the existing EA excludes the CBA from the development footprint. Therefore, an amendment to the EA is required from the competent authority, the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET) to authorise development in this proposed area of expansion.

This application is for the authorisation of expansion of the approved footprint, which includes the solar farm, inverters, internal access roads for servicing and maintenance of the site; stormwater management infrastructure; and temporary equipment laydown areas/construction camps. This will allow up to 120 MW of total generation capacity of the plant as authorised by the existing EA.

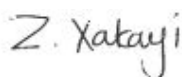
Other components of the project that have already been authorised remain unchanged. This includes electricity generation of up to 120 MW, connection and control buildings, a guard cabin; weather stations; perimeter fencing; and a substation and/or switchyard to convert power for transmission to Mogalakwena Mine.

Attached, please find a Background Information Document (BID) that contains more information on the proposed project. The Draft Part 2 Amendment report is now available for comment for a period of thirty days (30) starting on **Thursday, 17 November 2022 and Monday, 9 January 2023.**

Should you wish to register as an Interested & Affected Party (I&AP), access and/or comment on the Draft Report, please contact the Public Participation Office via the following methods or use the web link provided:

- ▶ Tel: +27 12 427 2072
- ▶ Email: ppp@zutari.com
- ▶ Webpage: <https://zutari/mogalakwena-pv/>

Yours faithfully,



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