

To: Mapela Tribal Council

12 January 2023

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**

LEDET Reference number: 12/1/9/2-W89

Invitation to Meeting

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 25 hectares.

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 this proposed 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.

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.

Public Participation Process

- ▶ The Public Participation Process (PPP) was conducted over a 30-day comment period between **Thursday, 17 November 2022 to Monday, 9 January 2023.**
- ▶ Meetings planned to be held during this period had to be postponed due to security risks around Mogalakwena Mine.
- ▶ Feedback obtained during the planned meetings (and other feedback obtained during the comment period), will be captured in a Comment and Response Report (CRR), which will accompany the Final



Part 2 Amendment Report so that the decision-making authority can see that stakeholders were consulted and given the opportunity to comment.

The purpose of these meetings will be to:

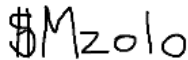
- ▶ obtain comments regarding stakeholders' perceptions, concerns and expectations regarding the proposed project;
- ▶ identify potential impacts of the proposed project; and
- ▶ help identify mitigation measures to avoid or reduce negative impacts, and to enhance the positive impacts of the project.

Notification of meetings

Zutari cordially invites the Mapela Tribal Council to a meeting as outlined above. Details of the meeting are as follows:

- ▶ **Venue:** Mapela Traditional Authority (Magope Village)
- ▶ **Date:** 19 January 2023
- ▶ **Time:** 08:00 – 10:00

Yours faithfully



Siphamandla Mzolo

Environmental Consultant



Reuben Heydenrych

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Please acknowledge receipt of this invitation by completing and signing below:

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Name and surname of representative:

Date:

Signature: