



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447- PRETORIA - 0001- Environment House - 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, - PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1606

Enquiries: Herman Alberts

Telephone: (012) 399 9371 E-mail: HAlberts@environment.gov.za

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Signed at PRETORIA on

2023 -01- 30


Commissioner of Oaths

Mr Nico Gewers
Sibanye Gold (Pty) Ltd
Private Bag X5
WESTONARIA
1780

Telephone Number: (011) 278 9749
Email Address: nico.gewers@sibanyegold.co.za

PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Gewers

JOHN KLEINTJES
COMMISSIONER OF OATHS EX OFFICIO
RIVERWALK OFFICE PARK
41 MATROOSBERG ROAD
ASHLEA GARDENS, EXTENSION 6
PRETORIA, 0081
ATTORNEY, SOUTH AFRICA

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998: GN R. 982/983/985 FOR THE PROPOSED 132 KILOVOLT TRANSMISSION POWERLINES TO CONNECT THE 200 MEGAWATT SIBANYE GOLD PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY FACILITY FOR SIBANYE GOLD LIMITED, GAUTENG PROVINCE

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The Environmental Authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (the Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's decision in respect of your application as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of Government Notice No. R.993, which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

Mr Z Hassam, Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appealsdirector@environment.gov.za;

MS

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria,
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria,
0001;

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Please note that in terms of section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appealsdirector@environment.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs
Date: 10/01/2023

cc:	Mr Reuben Heydenrych	Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Email: Reuben.heydenrych@aurecongroup.com
	Ms Rosemary Mbassa-Sigabi	GDARD	Email: kosana.giyose@gauteng.gov.za
	Mr Thabo Ndlovu	Westonaria Local Municipality	Email: mm@westonaria.gov.za
	Mr George Seitsho	Merafong City Local Municipality	Email: mmsecretary@merafong.gov.za

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COMMISSIONER OF OATHS EX OFFICIO
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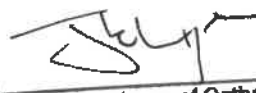


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Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 25 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014

The construction of 132 kilovolt transmission powerlines to connect the 200 MW Sibanye Gold Photovoltaic Energy Facility for Sibanye Gold Limited, Gauteng Province

West Rand District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	14/12/16/3/3/1/1606
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation:	Sibanye Gold (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	Portions 0, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 11 of Farm Uilval 280 Portion 0 of Farm 283 Portions 0, 2, 4, 5, 8, 11, 22, 24 and 25 of Farm Driefontein 355 Portions 3, 11, 12, 21 and 77 of Farm Leeuwpoort 356 Portions 0, 2, 5, 12, 13, 14, 15, 41, 73 and 74 of Farm Rietfontein 349 Portions 2, 4, 19, 20, 23 and 31 of Farm Doornkloof 350 Portion 0 of Farm 348 Portions 10 and 28 of Farm 347 Westonaria Local Municipality West Rand District Municipality Gauteng Province

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This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this environmental authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this environmental authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and the EIA regulations.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No.107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 the Department hereby authorises –

SIBANYE GOLD (PTY) LTD

(hereafter referred to as the holder of the authorisation)

with the following contact details –

Mr Nico Gewers
Libanon Business Park
1 Hospital Street, Libanon
WESTONARIA
1780

Telephone Number: (011) 278 9749
Fax Number: (086) 295 5752
Cell phone Number: (073) 105 5159
Email Address: nico.gewers@sibanyegold.co.za

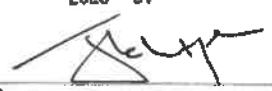
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to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in Listing Notice 1 (GN R. 983) and Listing Notice 3 (GN R. 985):

Activity number	Activity description
<u>GN R. 983 Activity 11:</u> <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity-</i> <i>(i) Outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts"</i> Certified as a true copy of the original document. Signed at PRETORIA on 2023 -01- 30 	The construction of a number of 132 kilovolt (kV) transmission lines inside three 200 m wide assessed corridors. The proposed transmission lines would connect from the proposed Sibanye Gold PV Facility to a combination of existing Eskom distribution substations and Sibanye Gold substations or PODs, which are Sibanye Gold's internal distribution substations. The proposed transmission line corridors are located outside of the urban edge.
<u>GN R. 983: Activity 12:</u> <i>"The development of-</i> <i>(x) buildings exceeding 100 square metres in size; or</i> <i>(xii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs-</i> <i>(a) within a watercourse;</i> <i>(c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse"</i>	Wetlands and drainage lines are scattered along the proposed transmission line corridors, particularly transmission corridor options 2 and 3. One or more structures or associated infrastructure would need to cross these areas. However, it is not proposed to place any transmission pylons within wetlands or watercourses.
<u>GN R. 983: Activity 19:</u> <i>"The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from-</i> <i>(i) a watercourse;"</i>	It is possible that one or more of the transmission line pylon bases and/or access roads would cross a watercourse and or drainage line where cumulatively more than 5 cubic meters of soil would be deposited or removed.

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as described in the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated September 2016 at:

Powerline Corridor 1	Latitude	Longitude
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	26° 21'14.50"S	27° 35'52.68"E
	26°20'48.54"S	27°36'51.00"E
	26°21'52.79"S	27°35'18.93"E

Powerline Corridor 2 	Latitude	Longitude
	26°22'42.62"S	27°30'49.77"E
	26°22'51.28"S	27°30'47.83"E
	26°22'55.06"S	27°30'26.92"E
	26°23'14.10"S	27°30'19.54"E

Powerline Corridor 3	Latitude	Longitude
JOHN KLEINTJES COMMISSIONER OF OATHS EX OFFICIO RIVERWALK OFFICE PARK 41 MATROOSBERG ROAD ASHLEA GARDENS, EXTENSION 6 PRETORIA, 0081 ATTORNEY, SOUTH AFRICA	26°24'11.76"S	27°35'46.61"E
	26°24'16.83"S	27°35'44.67"E
	26°24'36.32"S	27°36'38.84"E
	26°25'5.86"S	27°35'54.11"E
	26°25'52.24"S	27°37'24.82"E
	26°21'54.46"S	27°34'55.82"E
	26°23'14.85"S	27°35'18.43"E
	26°24'16.83"S	27°35'44.67"E

- for the construction of 132 kilovolt transmission powerlines to connect the 200 MW Sibanye Gold Photovoltaic Energy Facility for Sibanye Gold Limited in the Gauteng Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

Technical details of the proposed facility:

Component	Description/ Dimensions
Location of the site	Approximately 8km southwest of Westonaria near the Sibanye Gold Driefontein and Kloof mining operations.

Length	Approximately 13.34km
SG Codes	T0IQ00000000028000006 T0IQ00000000028000000 T0IQ00000000028000007 T0IQ00000000028300000 T0IQ00000000028000006 T0IQ00000000028000009 T0IQ00000000028000004 T0IQ00000000035500022 T0IQ00000000035500004 T0IQ00000000035500011 T0IQ00000000035500024 T0IQ00000000035500002 T0IQ00000000035500008 T0IQ00000000035500025 T0IQ00000000035500000 T0IQ00000000035500005 T0IQ00000000035600012 T0IQ00000000035600003 T0IQ00000000035600021 T0IQ00000000035600011 T0IQ00000000035600077 T0IQ00000000028000006 T0IQ00000000028000009 T0IQ00000000028000011 T0IQ00000000034900002 T0IQ00000000034900000 T0IQ00000000035000023 T0IQ00000000035000002 T0IQ00000000035000031 T0IQ00000000034900012 T0IQ00000000034900013 T0IQ00000000034900014 T0IQ00000000034900015

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PRETORIA, 0081
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Preferred Site access	Access would be mostly from existing roads and, where this is not possible, the corridors would be accessed via 4x4 vehicles through the veld and/or agricultural land by means of informal single vehicle farm tracks.
Export capacity	132kV
Proposed technology	Standard Eskom monopole, steel structures have been selected as the preferred alternative for the transmission towers.
High of poles	24m
Width and length of required servitude	200m

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The construction of 132 kilovolt transmission powerlines to connect the 200 MW Sibanye Gold Photovoltaic Energy Facility for Sibanye Gold Limited in the Gauteng Province as described above is hereby approved.
2. Construction of this project may only commence once the 200 MW Sibanye Gold Limited Photovoltaic Energy Facility (14/12/16/3/3/2/919) has been authorised and has commenced with the construction phase.
3. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation, which form part of the environmental authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
4. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited

to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.

5. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
6. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this environmental authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further environmental authorisation in terms of the regulations.
7. The holder of an environmental authorisation must apply for an amendment of the environmental authorisation with the competent authority for any alienation, transfer or change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.
8. This activity must commence within a period of five (05) years from the date of issue of this environmental authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
9. Construction must be completed within five (05) years of the commencement of the activity on site.
10. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this environmental authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.

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Notification of authorisation and right to appeal


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11. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this environmental authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
12. The notification referred to must –
 - 12.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 12.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014;
 - 12.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 12.4. give the reasons of the competent authority for the decision.
13. The holder of the authorisation must publish a notice –
 - 13.1. informing interested and affected parties of the decision;
 - 13.2. informing interested and affected parties where the decision

JOHN KLEINTJES
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RIVERWALK OFFICE PARK
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ASHLEA GARDENS, EXTENSION 6
PRETORIA, 0081
SOUTH AFRICA

- 13.3. drawing the attention of interested and affected parties to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against this decision in terms of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014. Signed at PRETORIA on

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Commencement of the activity

14. The authorised activity shall not commence until the period for the submission of appeals has elapsed as per the National Appeal Regulations, 2014. In terms of section 43(7), an appeal under section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.

Management of the activity

15. A copy of the final development layout map must be made available for comments by registered interested and Affected Parties and the applicant must consider such comments. Once amended, the final development layout map must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout map must indicate the following:
- 15.1. Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;
 - 15.2. Location of bird flappers to be installed;
 - 15.3. Internal roads indicating width;
 - 15.4. Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, stream and water crossing of roads and cables;
 - 15.5. All sensitive features e.g. heritage sites, wetlands, pans and drainage channels that will be affected by the facility and associated infrastructure;
 - 15.6. All existing infrastructure on the site, especially roads; and,
 - 15.7. All "no-go" and buffer areas.
16. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the BAR is not approved and must be amended to include measures as dictated by the final site lay-out map and micro-siting; and the provisions of this environmental authorisation. The EMPr must be made available for comments by registered interested and Affected Parties and the applicant must consider such comments. Once amended, the final EMPr must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. Once approved the EMPr must be implemented and adhered to.

JOHN L. ...
COMMISSIONER OF OATHS EX OFFICIO
RIVERWALK OFFICE PARK
41 MATROOSBERG ROAD
ASHLEA GARDENS, EXTENSION 6
PRETORIA, 0081
ATTORNEY, SOUTH AFRICA

17. The EMPr is amendable and must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It shall be seen as a dynamic document and shall be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.
18. Changes to the EMPr, which are environmentally defensible, shall be submitted to this Department for acceptance before such changes could be effected.
19. The Department reserves the right to amend the EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the BAR be discovered.
20. The provisions of the approved EMPr including recommendations and mitigation measures in the BAR and specialist studies shall be an extension of the conditions of this EA and therefore noncompliance with them would constitute noncompliance with the EA.
21. The EMPr must include the following:
 - 21.1. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the BAR and specialist studies.
 - 21.2. The requirements and conditions of this authorisation.
 - 21.3. The final site layout map.

Frequency and process of updating the EMPr

22. The EMPr must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 29 below, indicate insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity, or insufficient levels of compliance with the environmental authorisation or EMPr.
23. The updated EMPr must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
24. The updated EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report, as per Regulation 34 of GN R. 982. The updated EMPr must have been subjected to a public participation process, which process has been agreed to by the Department, prior to submission of the updated EMPr to the Department for approval.
25. In assessing whether to grant approval of an EMPr which has been updated as a result of an audit, the Department will consider the processes prescribed in Regulation 35 of GN R.982. Prior to approving an amended EMPr, the Department may request such amendments to the EMPr as it deems appropriate to ensure that the EMPr sufficiently provides for avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity.
26. The holder of the authorisation may apply for an amendment of an EMPr, if such amendment is required before an audit is required. The holder must notify the Department of its intention to amend the EMPr at least 60 days prior to submitting such amendments to the EMPr to the Department for approval. In

JOHN KLEINTJES
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RIVERWALK OFFICE PARK
41 MATROOSBERG ROAD
ASHLEA GARDENS, EXTENSION 6
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assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department will consider the processes and requirements prescribed in Regulation 37 of GN R. 982.

JOHN KLEINTJES
COMMISSIONER OF OATHS EX OFFICIO
RIVERWALK OFFICE PARK
41 MATROOSBERG ROAD
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PRETORIA, 0081

Monitoring

27. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an experienced independent Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the construction phase of the development that will have the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation/rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.
- 27.1. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
- 27.2. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
- 27.3. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
- 27.4. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.

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Recording and reporting to the Department

28. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
29. The holder of the environmental authorisation must, for the period during which the environmental authorisation and EMPr remain valid, ensure that project compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation and the EMPr are audited, and that the audit reports are submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
30. The frequency of auditing and of submission of the environmental audit reports must be as per the frequency indicated in the EMPr, taking into account the processes for such auditing as prescribed in Regulation 34 of GN R. 982.
31. The holder of the authorisation must, in addition, submit environmental audit reports to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and a final environmental audit report within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
32. The environmental audit reports must be compiled in accordance with Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 and must indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit in terms

of compliance with the environmental authorisation conditions as well as the requirements of the approved EMPr.

33. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

Notification to authorities

34. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence, as well as a reference number.

Operation of the activity

35. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

36. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of the authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.

Specific conditions

37. The holder of the Environmental Authorisation shall ensure that the final EMPr (with all mitigations and monitoring measures) is submitted to this Department for approval after the pre-construction walkdown assessment and micro-siting have taken place.
38. A permit must be obtained from the relevant nature conservation agency for the removal or destruction of any indigenous protected and endangered plant and animal species if required.
39. Ablution facilities must be placed outside of the 1:100 year floodline of a watercourse.
40. No exotic plants may be used for rehabilitation purposes. Only indigenous plants occurring within a ten (10) kilometre radius of the development site must be utilised.
41. Vegetation clearing must be kept to an absolute minimum. Mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and the invasion of alien species.

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42. Construction must include design measures that allow surface and subsurface movement of water along drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface flows. Drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water run-off.
43. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal where appropriate.
44. Any solid waste, which will not be recycled, must be disposed of at a landfill licensed in terms of section 20 (b) of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act No.59 of 2008). No waste material may be left on site after construction.
45. If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, marine shell and charcoal/ash concentrations), unmarked human burials, fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during construction, the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, must be contacted to inspect the findings.
46. The recommendations of the EAP in the BAR dated September 2016 and the specialist studies attached must be adhered to. In the event of any conflicting mitigation measures and conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the specific condition of this Environmental Authorisation will take preference.

General

47. A copy of this environmental authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMPr, must be made available for inspection and copying-
 - 47.1. at the site of the authorised activity;
 - 47.2. to anyone on request; and
 - 47.3. where the holder of the environmental authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.
48. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the authorisation with the conditions of authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of authorisation.

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M.S

Date of environmental authorisation: 10/01/2017

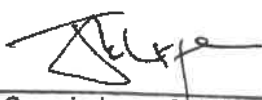

Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs

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RIVERWALK OFFICE PARK
41 MATROOSBERG ROAD
ASHLEA GARDENS, EXTENSION 6
PRETORIA, 0081
ATTORNEY, SOUTH AFRICA

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

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1. Information considered in making the decision

2023-01-30

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- The listed activities as applied for in the application form received on 25 July 2016.
- The information contained in the Draft BAR dated July 2016 and received on 25 July 2016.
- The information contained in the Final BAR dated September 2016 and received on 09 September 2016.
- The comments received from DAFF; GDARD and other I&APs as included in the Final BAR dated September 2016.
- Mitigation measures as proposed in the final BAR dated September 2016.
- The information contained in the specialist studies submitted as part of the Final BAR dated September 2016 and as appears below:

Title	Prepared by	Date
Floral Impact Assessment	Scientific Aquatic Services	July 2016
Faunal Impact Assessment	Scientific Aquatic Services	July 2016
Wetland Impact Assessment	Scientific Aquatic Services	July 2016
Visual Impact Assessment	Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd	January 2016
Soil and Agricultural Potential Assessment	Rehab Green Monitoring Consultants CC	March 2016
Heritage Impact Assessment	Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd	February 2016

- The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.

- b) The need for the 132kV transmission powerlines and substation is to connect the proposed 200 MW Sibanye Gold Photovoltaic Energy Facility.
- c) The BAR dated September 2016 identified all legislation and guidelines.
- d) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the BAR dated September 2016 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- e) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2014 for public involvement.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the BAR dated September 2016 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- d) The information contained in the BAR dated September 2016 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- e) The mitigation measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the BAR and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction phase.

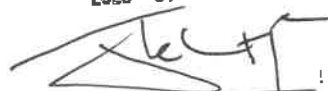
In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the authorised activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the authorised activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.

JOHN KLEINTJES
COMMISSIONER OF OATHS EX OFFICIO
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