

Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd

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Our Ref : 21167-36-Let-001

20 July 2022

Dear Stakeholder

INVITATION TO COMMENT ON THE AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (EMPr) FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE LETHABO POWER STATION, NEAR SASOLBURG, FREE STATE

The Applicant, Eskom Holdings SOC Limited appointed Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd to undertake the amendment of the EMPr for the proposed construction of the 75MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) facility and associated infrastructure at the Lethabo Power Plant, near Sasolburg, Free State as per the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) that was granted on 3 November 2016 (DFFE Reference No as per the Environmental Authorisation: 14/12/16/3/3/2/753). Refer to the Locality Map in Figure 1.

Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd proposes the construction of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) facility on Eskom-owned land, with a net generating capacity of 75MW at the Lethabo Power Station. The broader site is proposed to accommodate the following infrastructure:

- Solar panels (fixed/tracking technology) with an export capacity of up to 75MW;
- Mounting structures for the solar panels to be rammed steel piles or piles with pre-manufactured concrete footings, or ground screws to support the PV panels;
- Central inverter/transformer stations to collect all energy generated from the PV panels. The inverter's role is to convert direct current (DC) electricity to alternating current (AC) electricity at grid frequency;
- An on-site substation or switching station;
- An 11kV/132kV overhead powerline to facilitate the connection from the solar energy facility from the onsite substation to the Lethabo power station or the nearest grid connection within the Lethabo power station;
- Internal access roads; and
- Associated buildings including a workshop area for maintenance, storage and control facility with basic services such as water and electricity.

1 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

1.1 AMENDMENT OF EMPr PROCESS

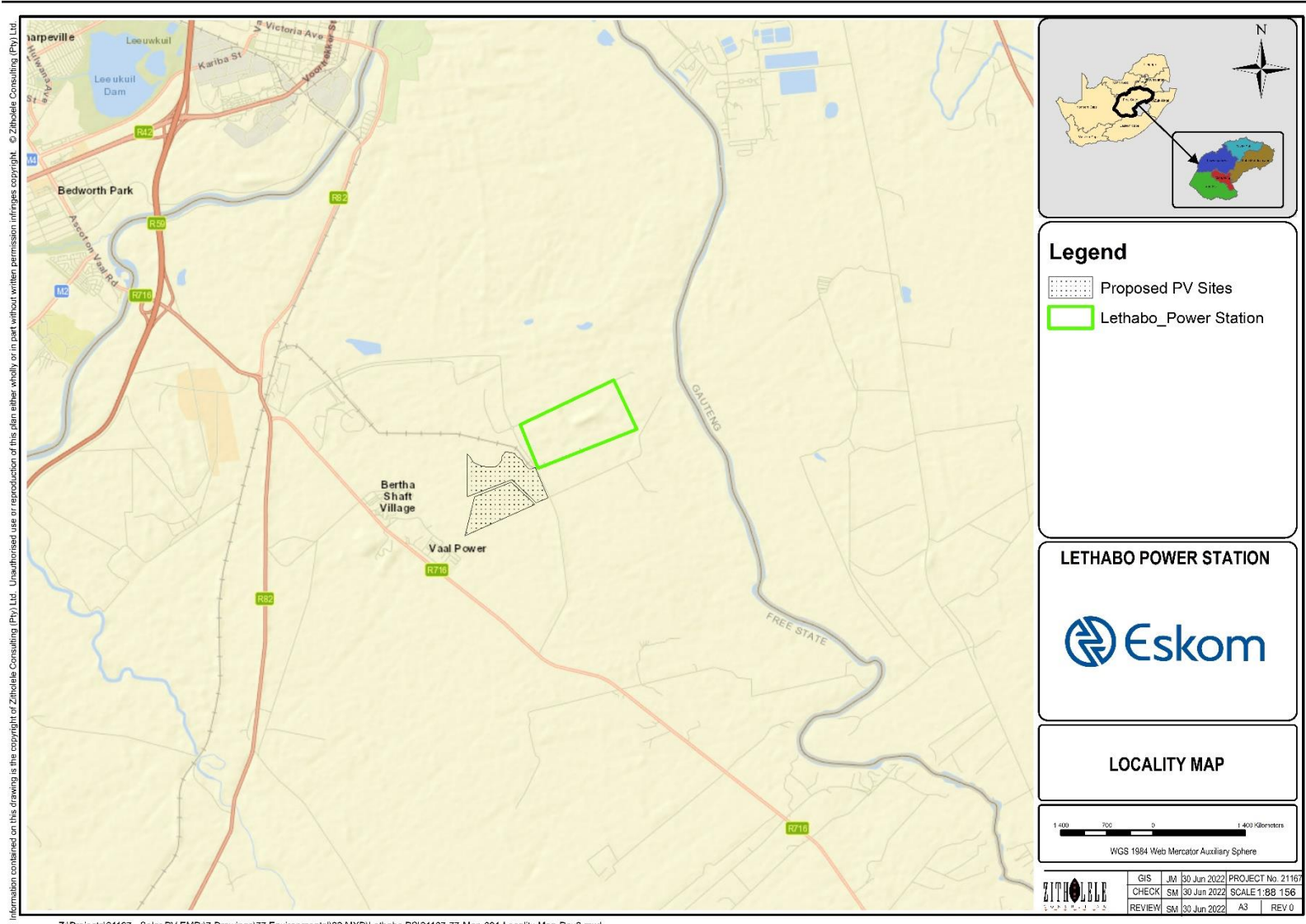
Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 23(1)(b) of the National Environmental Management Act, No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA), Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2014, as amended (GN R.982) of Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd intention to amend the EMPr for the proposed solar PV plant. The Application for Amendment of the EMPr was lodged with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment on 19 July 2022.

In terms of Regulation 26(h) of the EIA Regulations of 2014 (as amended) the generic EMPr for the proposed powerline and on-site substation that is associated with the proposal solar PV facility, is accessible to the public.



Director: S. Pillay
Associate Directors: J. Heera (Ms.), T. Kaponda, Dr. M. Vosloo





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Figure 1: Locality Map

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2 PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE AMENDMENT OF THE EMPR

The amended EMPr for the solar PV facility and associated infrastructure (which includes the Final Site Layout Map) and the Generic EMPr for the proposed powerline and the on-site substation, can be accessed at the following venues and online portals:

- Sasolburg Public Library (8 John Vorster Ave, Sasolburg, 1947, Tel No: 016 973 8464)
- Vereeniging Public Library (Leslie St, Vereeniging, 1930, Tel No: 016 450 3186)
- Zitholele Consulting's website (www.zitholele.co.za/environmental/ under the heading "Lethabo Solar EMPr".

Please submit your comments on the amendment of the EMPr and the Generic EMPr's by no later than 22 August 2022 to the contact persons/details as listed below. Information regarding the amendment of the EMPr's can also be requested from the Public Participation Office at the contact details provided herein.

All stakeholders that wish to provide comments on the amendment of EMPr's, including this process and stay informed throughout the process are urged to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) by submitting your contact details and interest on the project to the Public Participation Process (PPP) desk at the contact details provided. Alternatively, SMS the word "solar" to 45776. Further communication relating to the project will only be undertaken with registered I&APs. The PPP desk can be contacted as follows:

Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd,
Ms. Natasha Lalie / Ms. J Morwasehla
P.O. Box 6002, Halfway House, 1685
Tel: 011 207 2060, Fax: 086 674 6121
E-mail: solar@zitholele.co.za

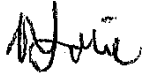


3 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

All comments will be considered and responded to by the technical project team or applicant and will be captured in a Comments and Responses Report (CRR) that will be submitted with the application to the Competent Authority for consideration.

All I&APs will be informed of the submission of the application and provided an opportunity to review how their comments were considered in the application and responses provided to their comments.

Yours faithfully



Ms. Natasha Lalie
ZITHOLELE CONSULTING (PTY) LTD



Dr Mathys Vosloo

Natasha Lalie
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