



## forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/752/AM1

Enquiries: Ms Mathodi Mogorosi

Telephone: (012) 399 9388 E-mail: MMogorosi@environment.gov.za

Ms Deidre Herbst  
Eskom Holdings SOC Limited  
PO Box 1091  
JOHANNESBURG  
2001

Telephone Number: (011) 800 3501  
Email Address: Deidre.herbst@eskom.co.za

### PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Herbst

### AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 10 OCTOBER 2016 FOR THE PROPOSED 65MW MAJUBA PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY AND ITS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTIONS 1, 2 AND 6 OF THE FARM WITKOPPIES 81 HS, AMERSFOORT, WITHIN THE DR PIXLEY KA SEME LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 10 October 2016, your application for amendment of the EA received by the Department on 18 June 2021 and the acknowledgement letter dated 28 June 2021, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended, has decided to amend the EA dated 10 October 2016, as follows:

#### Amendment 1: Extension of validity period of the EA:

The validity period of the EA (which is due to expire on 10 October 2021) is hereby extended by an additional five (05) years to 10 October 2026. As such, Condition 6 of the EA dated 10 October 2016 is amended as follows:

*"6. This activity must commence within a period of ten (10) years from the date of issue of this authorisation (i.e. the EA lapses 10 October 2026). 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".*

The Department is aware that the environment changes constantly, as a result it might be significantly different from the one that existed at the time of the issuing of this EA, hence the validity of the EA cannot exceed a maximum period of 10 years. Failure to commence with construction activities within the maximum 10-year period, your EA will be deemed to have lapsed and a new application for Environmental Authorisation will have to be lodged.

**The reason for the amendment is as follows:**

Since approval of the environmental application in 2016, Eskom's debt levels and NERSA's decisions to not award cost reflective tariffs have prevented the organization from commencing construction of the project. However, opportunities for partnerships and availability of green financing have made this project a reality. Additionally, the current capacity shortage and Eskom's newly established Just Energy Transition initiative have lent further support for the accelerated delivery of this project. Eskom therefore intends to begin construction of this project within the next two years, but the existing EA will expire before commencement of construction. Moreover, the project has advanced in obtaining internal governance approvals and Eskom will, within the current calendar year, seek a Ministerial determination for capacity allocation from the Department of Mineral Resources (DMRE) in terms of section 34 of the Electricity Regulations Act of 2006.

This amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 10 October 2016.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013) which stipulate that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA 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 as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

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:**

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: [appeals@environment.gov.za](mailto:appeals@environment.gov.za);

By hand: Environment House

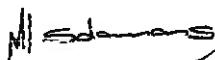
473 Steve Biko,  
Arcadia,  
Pretoria,  
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447,  
Pretoria,  
0001;

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, 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](https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations) or request a copy of the documents at [appeals@environment.gov.za](mailto:appeals@environment.gov.za).

Yours faithfully



**Ms Millicent Solomons**  
Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations  
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
Date: 21/07/2021.

cc: Tebogo Lekalakala | Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd (Majuba Power Station) | E-mail: [LekalaT@eskom.co.za](mailto:LekalaT@eskom.co.za)

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WITKOPPIES 81 HS, AMERSFOORT, WITH PIXLEY KA Seme LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE



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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447 - PRETORIA - 0001 - Environment House - Cnr Soutpansberg & Steve Biko Roads - Pretoria Tel (+27 12) 399 9000

Enquiries: Devinagle Bandeman Tel: 012 399 9337

Email: [vbendeman@environment.gov.za](mailto:vbendeman@environment.gov.za)

Ms. Solomons  
Director: Strategic Infrastructure Development

Dear Mrs. Solomons

### APPOINTMENT AS ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS FOR THE PERIOD 12 JULY 2021 UNTIL 23 JULY 2021.

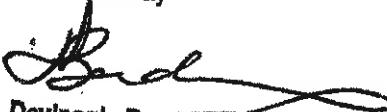
This serves to confirm your appointment as Acting Chief Director: integrated environmental authorisations, from 12 July 2021 until 23 July 2021, whilst Mr Sabelo Malaza is on Annual Leave.

You will act in this capacity with the full responsibilities and duties attached to the post, including the activities entrusted to the Acting Chief Director: integrated environmental authorisations by or in terms of the Acts administered by the Department.

Your appointment in the above acting position remains subject to the provisions of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation No. 103 of 1994), as amended, the Government Employees Pension Fund Act, 1996 (Proclamation No. 21 of 1998), the regulations promulgated under these Acts and relevant circulars.

In the execution of your duties and the exercising of the powers delegated to you, you will furthermore be subjected to the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, compliance with the promotion of Access to Information Act, Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, the Minimum Information Security Standards, Departmental Policies and other applicable legislations with the Republic of South Africa. You are therefore advised to make yourself familiar with the provisions of the legislations and policies and the amendments thereof. (Copies of departmental policies can be obtained from the Human Resource Office).

Yours Sincerely

  
Devinagle Bandeman  
Acting Deputy Director-General: RCSM (Regulatory Compliance and  
Sector Monitoring)  
Date: 9/01/2021



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**  
I ACCEPT / DO NOT ACCEPT  
appointment as Acting Chief  
Director: integrated environmental  
authorizations

Signed: Ms. Solomons

Date: 12/01/2021