

Comments and Responses 1683 Genade Boerdery Middleplaats Pivot EIA

Mr Henry Biko

Date 2025/03/17 Method Email

Comment Response

Thanks and content of the correspondence is noted. You are very welcome. Do contact us should you have any further comment or concern.

Ms Ria Barkhuizen

Date 2025/03/31 Method Email

Comment Response

Please forward your application to SANRAL Western Region wr*****@nra.co.za, as this falls under their jurisdiction. Thank you for your response. SANRAL Western Region and the associated email address will be prioritised for future correspondence.

Thami Hadebe

Date 2025/03/17 Method Email

Comment Response

Your wayleave application with project reference number 1683/JW/am dated 17 March 2025 has reference. Transnet Pipelines, a division of Transnet SOC Limited, is not affected by the proposal. Your awareness of the existence of Transnet’s pipeline servitudes and concern for their integrity is highly appreciated. This authorisation shall be valid for 48 months from the date - 17 March 2025. Thank you for your response. Transnet’s input and comment is much appreciated.

Date 2025/06/09 Method Email

Comment Response

Dear ***** Your wayleave application with project reference number 1683/JW/am dated 03 June 2025 has reference. Transnet Pipelines, a division of Transnet SOC Limited, is not affected by the proposal. Your awareness of the existence of Transnet’s pipeline servitudes and concern for their integrity is highly appreciated. This authorisation shall be valid for 48 months from the date - 04 June 2025. Dear ***** Thank you for your response. We take note of Transnet comments and engagement regarding the proposed project.

Ms Mmakhumo Jaola

Date 2025/07/09 Method Email

Comment Response

Comments and Responses 1683 Genade Boerdery Middleplaats Pivot EIA

Ms Mmakhumo Jaola

APPLICATION FOR AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998), AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 (AS AMENDED): GENADE BOERDERY MIDDELPLAATS PIVOT EIA: SCHMIDTSDRIF, SOL PLAATJE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF FRANCES BAARD DISTRICT, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE The Draft Scoping Report submitted by you in respect of the above-mentioned application was received by the Department on 17 June 2025 and has been reviewed. The Department hereby provides comments for the Draft Scoping Report: COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT 1. Final Scoping Report The final Scoping Report must be submitted in both electronic (soft copy) and printed (hard copy) formats. The Screening Report indicates that there is a solar PV development with approved Environmental Authorisations (EAs) located in close proximity to the proposed development area. To confirm the status and validity of the Environmental Authorisations for the mentioned renewable energy development, written confirmation must be obtained. This can be done by: Contacting the holder of the respective EA directly, or Submitting a PAIA request to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) at *****. 2. Public Participation The following contacts must be added to the list of Interested and Affected Parties. Comments must also be solicited from these stakeholders: Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform: Research Contact Person: ***** Email: ***** 3. Conclusion Please note that further information may still be requested by the Competent Authority in the EIA process. The permitting authority reminds you of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended), which states that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Dear *****, We refer to your email below and letter of comments dated 04 July 2025 regarding the Draft Scoping Report for the Genade Boerdery Middelplaats Pivot EIA project, Schmidtsdrif, Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province (DAERL Ref: NC/EIA/05/FB/SOL/DOU1/2025). 1. Final Scoping Report • The Final Scoping Report will be submitted as both a hard copy and soft copy as requested. • A request to the DFFE will be submitted to ascertain whether any of the nearby solar PV development EAs are valid. 2. Public Participation • The specified contact will be added to the list of Interested and Affected Parties who will be given an opportunity to comment during the draft EIA public review period. 3. Conclusion • Your comment is duly noted. We trust that you will find this in order. Please feel free to contact EIMS should you have any further comments regarding this application.

Date 2025/07/09 Method Email

Comment

APPLICATION FOR AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998), AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014 (AS AMENDED): GENADE BOERDERY MIDDELPLAATS PIVOT EIA: SCHMIDTSDRIF, SOL PLAATJE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF FRANCES BAARD DISTRICT, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE The Draft Scoping Report submitted by you in respect of the above-mentioned application was received by the Department on 17 June 2025 and has been reviewed. The Department hereby provides comments for the Draft Scoping Report: COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT 1. Final Scoping Report The final Scoping Report must be submitted in both electronic (soft copy) and printed (hard copy) formats. The Screening Report indicates that there is a solar PV development with approved Environmental Authorisations (EAs) located in close proximity to the proposed development area. To confirm

Response

In response to the comment above regarding renewable energy applications, the relevant DFFE contact person was engaged, below is the correspondence of the engagement: Sent: Monday, 07 July 2025 15:49 To: S DLOMO (DFFE) Good afternoon, I hope you are well. I received your contact details from my colleague, and I was hoping you could kindly assist me. I am in the process of undertaking/assisting with two EA application for farm developments in the Northern Cape and, at the request of the provincial authority (NC DAERL), we need to provide written proof from the DFFE indicating whether any authorised EAs exist within the projects' locations, for renewable energy projects. 1. The Screening Tool report for the first proposed project (hereon referred to as ****) indicated the following approved EAs for renewable energy projects: (Screenshot) Could you kindly confirm whether the applications noted with a distance of 0 km from the proposed area, are found within the proposed area or adjacent to the proposed area.

Comments and Responses 1683 Genade Boerdery Middleplaats Pivot EIA

Ms Mmakhumo Jaola

the status and validity of the Environmental Authorisations for the mentioned renewable energy development, written confirmation must be obtained. This can be done by: Contacting the holder of the respective EA directly, or Submitting a PAIA request to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) at *****. 2. Public Participation The following contacts must be added to the list of Interested and Affected Parties. Comments must also be solicited from these stakeholders: Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform: Research Contact Person: ***** Email: ***** 3. Conclusion Please note that further information may still be requested by the Competent Authority in the EIA process. The permitting authority reminds you of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended), which states that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Could you also kindly confirm if there are any approved EAs within the proposed area. I have attached a KML file of the project area, the relevant properties are as follows: (Screenshot) 2. The Screening Tool report for the second proposed project (hereon referred to as Genade Boerdery) indicated the following approved EAs for renewable energy projects: (Screenshot). Could you kindly confirm whether there are any approved EAs within the proposed area, or directly adjacent to the proposed area. I have attached a KML file of the project area, the relevant properties are as follows: (Screenshot). If there is anything else you need, don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to your response. Thank you very much for your assistance in this matter.

Date 2025/07/11 Method Email

Comment

Response from Rhulani Kubayi (2025/07/11): Just had a chat with Mmakhumo. Her concern is the EAs on your Screening Tool report showing 0km distance from the proposed site. They need to get a sense of how far such are from the project site and confirmation that there are no EAs that have been issued on the proposed project site. As I explained in my earlier email, you can display all the EAs in the vicinity of your site and even be able to measure the distance in the Screening Tool to show how far the sites are from your project site (understanding that the distance is based on farm portions rather than distance to an actual site which may be misleading). We can connect virtually at some point if need be so we can go through this on the ST. Mmakhumo says you can use this communication as support material when addressing this matter in your EIA application. Kind regards Rhulani

Response

Please refer to the cases officer's response below: Good morning Jolene, Thank you for your email. In relation to the confirmation of the EAs approved on the proposed site for the above-mentioned project- I spoke to Mr Rhulani from DFFE who gave clarity on the interpretation of the Screening report in relation to existing EAs in the vicinity of the application area. Mr Rhulani indicated that he will send you (or the person who reached him) an email on further instructions to further indicate the distance of the approved EAs even though the Screening report indicates "0m distance". The email/ guidance from Mr Rhulani/DFFE can be used as a response to the requested confirmation of approved EAs. Kind regards, M. Jaola

Mr John Geeringh

Date 2025/03/24 Method Email

Comment

Please send me a KMZ file of the proposed development

Response

Thank you for your email and interest. Please find the attached as requested.

Date 2025/06/09 Method Email

Comment

Please send me a KMZ file of the proposed development. Kind regards

Response

Good day, Kindly find the attached KMZ of the assessment area and proposed pivot areas. Please

Comments and Responses 1683 Genade Boerdery Middleplaats Pivot EIA

Mr John Geeringh

feel free to contact us if you require any further information.

Canny Mosebjadi Mothapo

Date 2025/03/17 Method Email

Comment

Thank you for the EIA notification, may you kindly resend the attachments to *****@caa.co.za and delist all other SACAA email addresses on your database. Kindly save and send your environmental impact analysis reports/meeting requests and request for comments to *****@caa.co.za, going forward please.

Response

Thank you for your email. Your request and suggestions have been understood. We have now deactivated all other CAA email addresses listed on our database.

Ms Jacoline Mans

Date 2025/06/11 Method Email

Comment

Dear ***, Thank you for your email. We hereby acknowledge receipt of your comments on the Scoping Report for the Genade Boerdery Middelplaats Pivot Project. In order for us to ensure your comments are adequately addressed in the EIA, we kindly request clarity regarding what is considered “significant” in terms of potential impacts on protected tree species? If possible, please specify in terms of density/ha or trees per project (for example). Since you recommend a biodiversity offset investigation if the potential impacts on tree species is significant, we will require guidance from you on what is deemed significant. Offsets are triggered in terms of residual impact significance of moderate or higher and the impact significance after mitigation was rated medium-low (moderate-low), therefore it is less than medium/moderate. We kindly request clarification in order to collect the correct information for the EIA phase. Thank you in advance.

Response

Good day Jacoline, I hope this email finds you well. I refer to your email below regarding the Genade Boerdery Middelplaats Pivot Project. Thank you for confirming that impacts exceeding 2000 protected trees will “flag” the development. We have conducted an additional survey to identify the impact on protected trees and believe that a site visit with you will be beneficial. Would you be available to meet with the biodiversity specialist at the proposed site? Please could you indicate your availability and I will organize accordingly? I look forward to hearing back from you soon

Date 2025/06/11 Method Email

Comment

Dear ***, Thank you for your email. We hereby acknowledge receipt of your comments on the Scoping Report for the Genade Boerdery Middelplaats Pivot Project. In order for us to ensure your comments are adequately addressed in the EIA, we kindly request clarity regarding what is considered “significant” in terms of potential impacts on protected tree species? If possible, please specify in terms of density/ha or trees per project (for example). Since you recommend a biodiversity offset investigation if the potential impacts on tree species is

Response

Good Morning Impacts exceeding 2000 protected trees (all size classes) “flag” the development. Regards

Comments and Responses 1683 Genade Boerdery Middleplaats Pivot EIA

Ms Jacoline Mans

significant, we will require guidance from you on what is deemed significant. Offsets are triggered in terms of residual impact significance of moderate or higher and the impact significance after mitigation was rated medium-low (moderate-low), therefore it is less than medium/moderate. We kindly request clarification in order to collect the correct information for the EIA phase. Thank you in advance.

Date 2025/06/30 Method Email

Comment

I refer to your e-mail notification of 3 June 2025. Please receive comments from the Branch: Forestry Management, Directorate: Forest Resource Protection in the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) on the above-mentioned proposed development. The due date for comments is 7 July 2025. The mandate of the Forestry Branch in the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), as an EIA commenting authority, is to ensure control over developments that affect State forests, natural forests and protected trees. 1. The applicant must assess and quantify the anticipated impacts on protected trees during the EIA phase. See Section 12(1)(d) of the National Forests Act, (Act No. 84 of 1998) (“NFA”) and Government Notice (GN) 4496, Government Gazette No. 50291 of 13 March 2024 for the list of protected tree species. Protected trees are known to occur in the vicinity of the study site. 2. Section 15(1) of the NFA states that no person may cut, disturb, damage or destroy any protected tree; or possess, collect, remove, transport, export, purchase, sell, donate or in any other manner acquire or dispose of any protected tree, or any forest product derived from a protected tree, except under a license granted by the Minister; or in terms of an exemption published by the Minister. 3. The prohibition on protected trees applies to all trees, alive and dead. It also applies to all size classes of the species listed as protected. 4. Cutting or disturbing a protected tree without a valid Forest Act Licence is a criminal offence and a transgression of the National Forests Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998) and carries a fine or imprisonment or both. 5. Protected trees with active bird nests or other significant biodiversity features may not be destroyed without a valid Fauna Permit from the provincial conservation authority, the Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform (“DAERL”), if these would be affected. 6. The applicant, Genade Boerdery Pty Ltd, plans to develop eight (8) new irrigation pivots for the cultivation of potatoes. The development of these pivots will occur in phases over the course of 5 years. The crops will be rotated to prevent blight and allow for recovery of the soil. Once the planting cycle for a pivot area is completed, the area will be reseeded with grazing grasses for cattle. Seven of the new cultivation areas will each cover 60 hectares, and one will cover 50 hectares, resulting in a total of ~470 hectares of indigenous vegetation clearance by the end of the five-year period. The proposed project is located on the farm Middel Plaats South No. 104, Sol Plaatje Local Municipality, Northern Cape.

Response

Your comments are duly noted and appreciated. 1. Thank you for your comment. Kindly note that the anticipated impacts on protected trees will be investigated as part of the EIA phase of this project. 2,3,4. The applicant will apply for a License under the NFA for the destruction or transplant or transport of protected tree species, as specified in Section 3.1.11 (National Forests Act (NFA)) as well as Section 8.2.2.2 (Loss of Species of Conservation Concern) of the SR where the following mitigation is stated: “In order to remove the protected trees a license application will have to be made to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment” (page 84). 5. Kindly refer to Section 3.2.1 of the SR (Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act (NCNCA)). A single permit will be applied for at DAERL prior to site clearing activities that will cover the permitting requirements as per any schedule 1 or 2 listed species under the NCNCA. The permit will also meet the TOPS regulations. Further, the EMPr will include a requirement for a specialist walkthrough to identify any protected species within the development footprint prior to any developments. 6. No response required. 7. The Site Sensitivity Verification Report (SSVR) was drafted prior to inputs from the specialist studies, with only the input from the EAPs. It is specified in the SSVR that the final sensitivity relating to the terrestrial biodiversity theme would be verified by a suitably qualified specialist. An extract from the SSVR was further included in the Scoping Report in Section 3.1.2.1 (page 15). It is further stated that “a Site Sensitivity Verification Report (SSVR) has been compiled to consider the recommendations of the DFFE Screening Tool Report and to provide a rationale for the selection of specialist studies included in line with the recommendations of the Plan of Study for EIA included in this Scoping Report” (page 15 of the Scoping Report) – this does not imply that the terrestrial biodiversity sensitivity is “High” as suggested in the SSVR, rather it indicates the need for a full impact assessment to be undertaken by a suitably qualified specialist, who may oppose the suggested sensitivity of the EAP. Further, there are areas of High sensitivity within the area assessed by this EIA process, however, majority of the proposed pivot areas were assessed to be moderate sensitive by the specialist. Regarding Page 102, Table 23 of the SR, one must be careful not to confuse impact “significance” with the features inherent sensitivity. Kindly refer to the Impact Assessment Methodology detailed in Section 8 of the Scoping Report. The classification of the impact as “medium to high” pre-mitigation and “medium to low” after mitigation is distinguished in Table 22 on page 81 of the SR.

Comments and Responses 1683 Genade Boerdery Middleplaats Pivot EIA

Ms Jacoline Mans

The site is approximately 8 km south of Schmidtdrif. The center point of the site is located at approximately 28°47'8.10"S, 24° 4'29.24"E. The affected vegetation type is Kimberley Thornveld. The site is not located within a Critical Biodiversity Area. Irrigation water will be sourced from the Vaal River and the applicant will utilize their existing Water Use Licence; no additional quantities of water other than what is authorised will be required. 7. A Terrestrial and Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment was done by Dr. Natalie Birch. According to the Scoping Report, the DFFE Screening tool result for the terrestrial biodiversity theme is low, but the suggested sensitivity is high. Number 7 of the Biodiversity Assessment Report concluded that the "impact of the impact of the proposed development on the terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity is moderate to low....". Page 102 of the SR, Table 23, indicates the construction phase impacts on Habitat fragmentation, Loss of Natural vegetation and Alien invasion as well as Loss of Species of Conservation Concern are medium to high pre-mitigation, and medium to low after mitigation. These contradictions need to be clarified, since the SR elevated the "low" sensitivity to a suggested "high" sensitivity. 8. Page 33, number 1.8.1 acknowledges limits to current knowledge, e.g. gaps, uncertainties and assumptions, stating that the "exact number and location of protected plant species within the proposed development footprint is not known. The EMPr will include a requirement for a specialist walkthrough to identify any protected species within the development footprint and to oversee the relocation of these plants, if required, prior to any developments." The potential impact on protected tree species must be quantified during the EIA phase. 9. Number 7.4 of the SR refers to Terrestrial Biodiversity. Four plant communities were identified, mixed Vachellia Savannah, Vachellia erioloba woodland (occurs in the northwestern section of the property with high density V. erioloba), Grasslands and Senegalia mellifera scrub. The former two plant communities contain protected V. erioloba, V. haematoxylon and Boscia albitrunca. The report stated that although B. albitrunca is recorded on site, it does not occur within the proposed development footprint(s). The report confirmed the presence of protected V. erioloba and V. haematoxylon within the proposed development footprints, but did not quantify the potential impacts. It only stated that the V. erioloba woodland has a high-density V. erioloba but gave no indication of the number of trees per hectare. 10. Number 7.4.3 of the Scoping Report refers to alien invasive species under CARA and NEMBA. However, the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act, 2009 (Act No. 9 of 2009), Schedule 6, should also be consulted in this regard. 11. Under alien invasive vegetation, the suggested mitigation measures are that "alien vegetation that has grown in the pivot areas and disturbed land must be removed through approved methods". What is meant by approved methods and who must approve the methods? 12. The report states that the planned pivots mostly fall within the moderate sensitivity areas. The high and moderate sensitivity areas contain protected trees; the areas of greater tree density have been classified as highly sensitive areas. These trees will be lost when the vegetation is removed for the construction of the pivots. The Vachellia erioloba is also a protected species under the National Forests Act of 1998 (Act 84 of 1998). Number 8.2.2.2 states the "areas where the

It is a score associated with the pre- and post-mitigation scenarios determining the level of impact the relevant activity will have on the sensitive feature/s. It is therefore not contradictory statements, rather sensitivity scores and mitigation scores made at different stages of the process by different individuals or reports (i.e., the EAP, the Specialist and the DFFE Screening Tool Report). 8. Thank you for your comment. Kindly note that the anticipated impacts on protected trees will be investigated as part of the EIA phase of this project. 9. Thank you for your comment. Kindly note that the anticipated impacts on protected trees will be investigated as part of the EIA phase of this project. 10. Your comment is appreciated. This will be considered during the EIA phase. 11. The phrase "approved methods" refers to alien plant control measures that are legally compliant in terms of the Alien and Invasive Species Regulations (GNR 1020 of 2020), promulgated under the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004) (NEM:BA) (kindly refer to Section 3.1.5 of the SR). These methods include manual, mechanical or chemical control that must be suited to the Listed Invasive Species Category (1a, 1b, 2 or 3) under NEM:BA. Each category has specific legal obligations for control, eradication, and permitting as outlined in the SR. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that alien vegetation removal aligns with the regulations. Further, the EMPr (to be included in the EIR), will recommend that an Environmental Control Officer (ECO) to be appointed prior to construction/clearance. All permitting requirements and method statements must be approved by the ECO prior to construction in order to ensure compliance with the regulations. 12. The biodiversity specialist confirmed through a site visit the densities of protected trees and sensitivities of specific areas within the project area. They also assessed the significance post-mitigation as moderate to low. Should any permits or licenses be required, the application process will be conducted in consultation with a biodiversity specialist and the relevant governmental department to ensure full compliance with the relevant legislation. 13. The applicant will apply for a License under the NFA for the destruction or transplant or transport of protected tree species, as specified in Section 3.1.11 as well as Section 8.2.2.2 (Loss of Species of Conservation Concern) of the SR where the following mitigation is stated: "In order to remove the protected trees a license application will have to be made to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment" (page 84). Recommendations 14. The anticipated impacts on protected trees will be investigated as part of the EIA phase of this project. 15. The anticipated impacts on protected trees and also on any vulnerable bird species, will be investigated as part of the EIA phase of this project. 16. Noted, the applicant will be informed of the applicable legislation, permitting and licensing requirements. 17. Noted.

Comments and Responses 1683 Genade Boerdery Middleplaats Pivot EIA

Ms Jacoline Mans

protected trees occur in high densities has been excluded from development.” The SR confirms that “the clearing of vegetation will result in the loss of some protected flora”. It further states “A search and rescue operation should be performed prior to clearing, it is however not a feasible or practical option regarding the protected trees, so it is important to ensure that trees between the pivots remain undisturbed. A permit is required if any protected trees need to be cut or removed within the development footprint.” Images extracted from the report confirms that even in the ‘moderate sensitive’ areas, there is high density protected trees as can be seen in figure 6 below. 13. On the EIA application form, number 8, “no” was ticked for authorisations required under Other National legislation, yet the SR confirmed the presence of NFA listed protected tree species which may not be disturbed without a valid Forest Act Licence under the National Forests Act, 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998) as amended. Recommendations: 14. The potential impacts on protected tree species must be quantified during the EIA phase and if significant, a Biodiversity Offset Report must be compiled by a suitably qualified offset specialist for comments (and approval by the relevant regulating authorities) and appended to the Final EIR as per National Biodiversity Offset Guideline. 15. The DFFE is concerned about the proposed development which may have significant unavoidable impacts on protected trees, which provide habitat to critically endangered, endangered and vulnerable bird species. 16. Having an Environmental Authorisation does not exempt the holder of such authorisation from complying with other applicable environmental legislation and permit and licence requirements. 17. Please quote the Reference Number NC-FB-0012-2025-26, should you wish to correspond further on this matter. Enquiries may be directed to ***** at *****, Cell *****.

Date 2025/07/30 Method Email

Comment

Dear *** I suggest you present the findings of the protected tree survey via Teams to DFFE and DAERL. As discussed, we have cost containment measures in place and getting a trip authorisation for a site inspection might be difficult at this time. After the presentation, we can decide if it is necessary for us to do a site inspection. I copy the colleagues in DAERL, to also check their availability. Next week, I am available for a Teams Meeting on 4, 6 or 8 August. The week thereafter I am only available on 11 August. Christine/Natalie, may you please confirm which date would suit you (if any)? The site is in the Frances Baard DM. Kind Regards

Response

Dear ****, I hope you are well. I’d just like to follow up on your email below. Have your colleagues been able to confirm their availability?

Date 2025/08/05 Method Email

Comment

Good morning ***, Apologies I was out of office last week. I will be able to attend the 11

Response

1. Good morning *** My apologies for only responding now. I was not in office on Friday.

Comments and Responses 1683 Genade Boerdery Middleplaats Pivot EIA

Ms Jacoline Mans

August. Could you please provide us with shape /kml file of the proposed site in preparation for the meeting? Best regards	11:00 will be fine with me if **** can attend at that time. I will wait for the meeting link. Kind Regards 2. Good Morning Yes, I am only available today and then again next week. Kind Regards
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Date	2025/08/05	Method	Email
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Comment

Good morning ***, Apologies I was out of office last week. I will be able to attend the 11 August. Could you please provide us with shape /kml file of the proposed site in preparation for the meeting? Best regards

Response

Good morning All, I have discussed with our team, Monday 11 August would be suitable for a Teams meeting (anytime before 12h00). Please let me know what time suits you and I will set up a meeting invite, I suggest 11h00. I have attached a KMZ of the assessment area for your orientation. I've also attached a KMZ and map of the initial proposed pivots (assessed in the Scoping Phase of this project). As will be discussed in the meeting, some alternative options to the layout will be put forward in the EIA phase. I look forward to your response, and to meeting with you all.

Date	2025/08/15	Method	Email
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Comment

No response.

Response

Good day All, Following our Teams meeting from Monday, kindly find attached the revised biodiversity report indicating the alternatives that are to be included in the EIA report. I've also attached a KMZ of the centre points for the alternative (removal of pivot 3) as per your request. Please be advised that the applicant has indicated that they will not be using herbicides. Please don't hesitate to contact me should you require anything further. As was mentioned in the meeting, please could you provide comments as soon as possible (before 22 August 2025) so that we may proceed with the draft EIA report. We appreciate your valuable input and involvement in this project and look forward to receiving your revised comments soon.

Date	2025/08/26	Method	Email
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Comment

No Response

Response

Good day All, I would like to follow up on my email below regarding the revised comments on the Scoping Report. We would like to capture your comments in the draft EIA report which is to be published for Public Review soon. As the 22nd of August has passed, please indicate whether you will be providing revised comments so that we can proceed with publishing the draft EIA report as soon as possible. We appreciate your involvement in this project.

Orefemetse Ramantsi

Comments and Responses 1683 Genade Boerdery Middleplaats Pivot EIA

Orefemetse Ramantsi

Date 2025/06/30 Method Email

Comment

1. The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the report. The report states the proposed development is not situated in any biodiversity priority areas and does not fall within any Key Biodiversity Areas (KPAs). However, the proposed project area is within the Kimberley Thornveld vegetation classified least threatened ecosystem according to the Northern Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (NCBSP). In addition, the study area consists of Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) on site as protected trees: Vachellia erioloba and avifauna species: Secretary bird (VU), African White backed Vulture (CR) and Cape Vulture (EN)) to be protected and prevent habitat fragmentation, loss of natural vegetation, alien invasion and SCC. 2. For the potential removal of protected trees for the proposed development permit from the relevant Department nationally or provincially must be obtained prior to any disturbance. 3. The report must provide detailed mitigation measures and restoration, rehabilitation measures for species of conservation concern and ensure that impacts on highly sensitive areas are minimized and avoided altogether. 4. In conclusion, the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email; ***** for the attention of *****.

Response

1. We appreciate your participation in the review of the Scoping Report. Your comments are noted and were addressed by a suitably qualified biodiversity specialist and will be included in the EIA Report. 2. All relevant permits will be acquired prior to disturbance of vegetation, as stated in Section 8.2.2.2 (i) of the Scoping Report (SR). • An integrated permit application will be made to DAERL (Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform) for the removal of species listed in Schedule 1 & 2 of the NCNCA. A permit is also required to destroy or translocate any nationally or provincially listed species from the site. A single permit, which covers all of these permitting requirements as well as meets TOPS regulations, is used. • In order to remove the protected trees a license application will be made to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment. 3. Kindly refer to Section 8.2 (Impacts and Mitigation) of the Scoping Report. • Vegetation clearing should be restricted to areas of the pivot only. • A search and rescue operation will be performed prior to clearing, it is however not a feasible or practical option with regard to the protected trees, so trees between the pivots will remain undisturbed. The mitigation measures provided by the biodiversity specialist will also be incorporated in the EIA report as well as the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). 4. Kindly refer to Section 9 (Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment) of the SR. The specialist studies were included with the SR. However, the specific aspects of the environment that was assessed by the biodiversity specialist and included in their report attached to the SR, will be included in the Plan of Study in the FSR. This includes the assessment of the Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) on site such as protected trees: Vachellia erioloba and avifauna species: Secretary bird, African White backed Vulture and Cape Vulture. 5. ***** has been included as an Interested & Affected Party (I&AP) and will receive further communications regarding the project including opportunities to review the Draft EIA Report which will include all Public Participation Process documentation in the appendices to the report.

Boitshepo Motsodisa

Date 2025/03/17 Method Email

Comment

Please note that all development applications are processed via our online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link: <http://sahra.org.za/sahris/>. We do not accept emailed, posted, hardcopy, faxed, website links or DropBox links as official submissions. Please create an application on SAHRIS for each EA

Response

Application submitted to SAHRIS: Case ID 25133

Comments and Responses 1683 Genade Boerdery Middleplaats Pivot EIA

Boitshepo Motsodisa

application and upload all documents pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation Application Process. As per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA. If a case already exists on SAHRIS regarding the development, please upload the documents to that case using the "Make an additional submission to an existing case" in the application selector wizard <https://sahris.org.za/form/application-selector>. Please ensure that all documents produced as part of the EA process are submitted as part of the application. ****PLEASE NOTE**** An application fee is now required for all section 38 applications. Please ensure that the SAHRIS application contains a proof of payment as per the notice at the following link: <https://sahris.org.za/help>. A payment of R 2 000.00 for each application is required. Please make separate payments with the specific reference numbers. Applications that do not include a proof of payment will be considered incomplete and will not be processed until proof of payment is provided. Please make use of the SAHRIS Case ID in the payment reference. e.g. 12345/38.8. Please upload the PoP using the "Make an additional submission to an existing case" in the application selector wizard <https://sahris.org.za/form/application-selector>. The case officer assigned to your case will approve the submission and begin to process the case.

Date 2025/03/17 Method Email

Comment

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Response

Thank you for your email. We will be creating an application for this project on the SAHRIS website and will upload the associated heritage reports.

Comments and Responses 1683 Genade Boerdery Middleplaats Pivot EIA

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payment is provided. Please make use of the SAHRIS Case ID in the payment reference. e.g. 12345/38.8. Please upload the PoP using the "Make an additional submission to an existing case" in the application selector wizard <https://sahris.org.za/form/application-selector>. The case officer assigned to your case will approve the submission and begin to process the case.

Date 2025/06/09 Method Email

Comment

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Date 2025/06/09 Method Email

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Response

Good day, Thank you for your email. Kindly note that the Scoping Report and associated appendices, as well as the Palaeontological Desktop Assessment and Phase I Heritage Impact Assessment reports have been uploaded to the SAHRIS application : 1683 Genade Boerdery Pivot EIA (Case ID: 25133).

Response

Thank you for your email. The submissions are received and will be processed soon. I will let you know if anything else is needed.

Comments and Responses 1683 Genade Boerdery Middleplaats Pivot EIA

Boitshepo Motsodisa

Application Process. As per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA. If a case already exists on SAHRIS regarding the development, please upload the documents to that case using the "Make an additional submission to an existing case" in the application selector wizard <https://sahris.org.za/form/application-selector>. Please ensure that all documents produced as part of the EA process are submitted as part of the application. ****PLEASE NOTE**** An application fee is now required for all section 38 applications. Please ensure that the SAHRIS application contains a proof of payment as per the notice at the following link: <https://sahris.org.za/help>. A payment of R 2 000.00 for each application is required. Please make separate payments with the specific reference numbers. Applications that do not include a proof of payment will be considered incomplete and will not be processed until proof of payment is provided. Please make use of the SAHRIS Case ID in the payment reference. e.g. 12345/38.8. Please upload the PoP using the "Make an additional submission to an existing case" in the application selector wizard <https://sahris.org.za/form/application-selector>. The case officer assigned to your case will approve the submission and begin to process the case.

Date 2025/07/07 Method Email

Comment

Interim Comment The SAHRA DAU acknowledges the submitted Heritage Reports. Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the DEIA inclusive of appendices. Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header. Yours faithfully

Response

Refer to the copy of the comments in the App C7 - Correspondence Document.