

**Registration form to request registration in terms of the
“Norm for the Exclusion of the Development and
Expansion of Solar Photovoltaic facilities in areas of
Low or Medium Environmental Sensitivity”**

***Development and operation of a 1.5 MW Solar
Photovoltaic facility located on a 1.7 ha area on
Portion 16 of Tygerfontein 347, Albertinia, Hessequa
Local Municipality***

**For registration and comment:
31 July 2026 – 31 August 2026**



PREPARED FOR THE APPLICANT:

Outeniqua Game Farm (Pty) Ltd

PREPARED BY:

Claire De Jongh (EAPASA REG: 2021/3519)

DATE:

July 2026



**Western Cape
Government**

Department of Environmental Affairs and
Development Planning

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration form to request registration in terms of the
*"Norm for the Exclusion of the Development and
Expansion of Solar Photovoltaic facilities in areas of Low
or Medium Environmental Sensitivity"*

APRIL 2024

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO BE READ PRIOR TO COMPLETING THE ATTACHED FORM:

1. Purpose

The purpose of this form is to request registration in terms of the "*Norm for the Exclusion of the Development and Expansion of Solar Photovoltaic facilities in areas of Low or Medium Environmental Sensitivity*". Registration in terms of the Norm allows for the exclusion from the requirement to obtain an environmental authorisation from the competent authority for listed and specified activities identified in paragraph 3 of the Norm.

2. General

2.1. Submission of documentation, reports and other correspondence:

The Department has adopted a digital format for corresponding with applicants or the general public. If there is a conflict between this approach and any provision in the legislation, then the provisions in the legislation prevail. If there is any uncertainty about the requirements or arrangements, the relevant Competent Authority must be consulted.

The Directorate: Development Management has created generic e-mail addresses for the respective Regions, to centralise their administration (i.e. receiving EIA applications and notifying clients of decisions, Notice of Intent form; request for fee reference numbers, etc.) Please make use of the relevant general administration e-mail address below when submitting documents:

DEADPEIAAdmin@westerncape.gov.za

Directorate: Development Management (Region 1):
City of Cape Town; West Coast District Municipal area;
Cape Winelands District Municipal area and Overberg District Municipal area.

DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za

Directorate: Development Management (Region 3):
Garden Route District Municipal area and Central Karoo District Municipal area

REGISTRATION FORM

REGISTRATION FORM TO REQUEST REGISTRATION IN TERMS OF THE "NORM FOR THE EXCLUSION OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITIES IN AREAS OF LOW OR MEDIUM ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY"

APRIL 2024

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Date of receipt of the registration form	
Registration number	

PROJECT TITLE (This must include local municipality and/or district municipality and province)

Development and operation of a 1.5 MW solar Photovoltaic facility located on a 1.7 ha area on Portion 16 of Tygerfontein 347, Albertinia, Hessequa Local Municipality

1. This form must always be used when requesting registration in terms of the "Norm for the Exclusion of the Development and Expansion of Solar Photovoltaic Facilities in Areas of Low or Medium Environmental Sensitivity". Registration in terms of this Norm allows for the exclusion from the requirement to obtain an environmental authorisation from the competent authority for listed and specified activities identified in paragraph 3 of the Norm.
2. All fields must be completed in full. The submission of incomplete information will lead to the registration being returned for inclusion of the missing information as contemplated in paragraph 9.2.
3. The required information must be typed within the spaces provided in the form. The sizes of the spaces provided are not necessarily indicative of the amount of information to be provided. Spaces are provided in tabular format and will extend automatically when each space is filled with typing. A legible font type and size must be used when completing the form. The font size should not be smaller than 10pt (e.g. Century Gothic 10).
4. Unless protected by law, all information contained in and attached to this registration form, will become public information on receipt by the competent authority other than the personal information of the landowner/s.
5. Please note that where the competent authority is the national department responsible for the environment, this form must be copied to the relevant provincial environmental department(s) for their information.
6. Where the provincial environmental department is the competent authority, this form must be copied to the national department responsible for the environment at Norm_Standard@dffe.gov.za.
7. Accompanying spatial data must be submitted electronically in shape file format (.shp) files with associated metadata, packaged as a ZIP file (.zip) using the Hartebeesthoek94 WGS84 coordinate system.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

CAPE TOWN OFFICE: DIRECTORATE: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (REGION 1) (City of Cape Town, West Coast District, Cape Winelands District & Overberg District)	GEORGE REGIONAL OFFICE: DIRECTORATE: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (REGION 3) (Central Karoo District & Garden Route District)
The completed Form must be sent via electronic mail to: DEADPEIAAdmin@westerncape.gov.za Queries should be directed to the Directorate: Development Management (Region 1) at: E-mail: DEADPEIAAdmin@westerncape.gov.za Tel: (021) 483-5829 Western Cape Government Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Attention: Directorate: Development Management (Region 1) Private Bag X 9086 Cape Town, 8000	The completed Form must be sent via electronic mail to: DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za Queries should be directed to the Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) at: E-mail: DEADPEIAAdmin.George@westerncape.gov.za Tel: (044) 814-2006 Western Cape Government Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Attention: Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) Private Bag X 6509 George, 6530

COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Identified competent authority to consider the application:	Western Cape Department of environmental affairs and development planning (DEADP)
Reason(s) in terms of section 24C of NEMA:	- The project does not have implications for international environmental commitments or relations as stated in Section 24 C (a) of NEMA and thus the MEC is identified as the competent authority. - The proposed site is not recognised as any of the areas listed under Section 24C(2)(a)(ii) of NEMA – a conservancy, protected natural environment, proclaimed private nature reserve, natural heritage site, buffer zone or transitional area of a biosphere reserve / world heritage site. - The footprint of the project will not fall within the footprint of more than one province or traverse international boundaries as stated in Section 24 C (c) of NEMA. - The project will not be undertaken by any of the bodies listed in Section 24 C (d) of NEMA - a national department, a provincial department responsible for environmental affairs or any other organ of state performing a regulatory function and reporting to the MEC, or a statutory body, excluding any municipality, performing an exclusive competence of the national sphere of government

	The project will not take place within a national proclaimed protected area or other conservation area under control of a national authority as stated in Section 24C (e) of NEMA.
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DETAILS OF THE PROPONENT

All notifications regarding the registration will be sent to the proponent using the details provided in this section.

Title	Mr
Name of the proponent	Patric
Surname of the proponent	Reeves-Moore
Name of contact person for proponent (name and surname) (if other)	Lyndall Reeves-Moore Kerryn Gayle Smith Clint Mark Smith
Company/ Trading name (if any)	Outeniqua Game Farm (Pty) Ltd
Company Registration Number	2025/970577/07
Physical address	Outeniqua Game Farm
Postal address	PO Box 59 Ruiterbos
Postal code	6499
Telephone	+27(0) 79 520 6081
Cellphone	+27(0) 79 520 6081
E-mail	patricreevesmoore@gmail.com

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER OR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST INFORMATION

Company of Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) or environmental scientist (ES):
EAP or ES's name:

EAP or ES's qualifications:

Professional affiliation/registration:¹⁵

Physical address:

Claire De Jongh trading as EAP services

Claire De Jongh (nee Jarvis)

BSc Environmental Management: Zoology Stream
BSc Honours: Environmental monitoring and modelling

EAPASA registration: 2021/3519
SACNASP (certificated): 115390

17 High street, Mount pleasant, Gqeberha, 6070

Postal address:	17 High street, Mount pleasant, Gqeberha, 6070		
Postal code:	6070	Cell:	0846074743
Telephone:	0846074743		
E-mail:	claire@eapservices.co.za		

The appointed EAP/ES and relevant specialists must meet the requirements of regulation 13(1) of the EIA Regulations¹⁶ as if it applies in the context of this Norm and must sign the declaration of independence included as Appendix 7. The declaration which must be sworn under oath must affirm that all the information submitted for the purposes of the registration is true and correct. A separate declaration by the relevant EAP/ES and each specialist is required. The Curriculum Vitae of the EAP/ES and specialists must be included as Appendix 8 and the professional affiliation/registration certificate is to be included as Appendix 9.

PROJECT INFORMATION AND MAPS

Please provide a detailed description of the project including the associated infrastructure which must include the following:

- preliminary technology to be used;
- associated infrastructure including the details of this infrastructure and a motivation as to the reason that it is regarded as integral to the solar PV facility; and
- MWs to be registered.

INTRODUCTION

The proposed development comprises a 1.5 MW solar photovoltaic (PV) facility to be developed by Outeniqua Game Farm (Pty) Ltd (OGF) on Portion 16 of Farm Tygerfontein No. 347, Albertinia, Hessequa Local Municipality, Garden Route District Municipality.

The facility is intended to generate renewable electricity for supply to the proposed residential development on the adjacent Portion 15 of Farm Tygerfontein No. 347 (subject to a separate environmental authorisation process) and/or for connection to the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network.

The following infrastructure forms an integral part of the proposed solar PV facility and is required for the generation, storage, transmission and export of electricity:

- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) to store electricity generated by the solar facility and improve operational flexibility.
- 11 kV mini-substation to facilitate voltage transformation and connection of the facility to the electrical distribution network.
- Underground electrical reticulation installed in sleeves between the solar array, BESS, mini-substation and the proposed point(s) of supply.
- Electrical reticulation installed in sleeves to provide electricity either directly to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15, or alternatively to the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network via the existing electrical connection point on Erf 2282 (29 Mission Street).
- Where electricity is supplied to the Hessequa Local Municipality, the existing electrical connection point on Erf 2282 (29 Mission Street) will be upgraded, as required, to facilitate connection to the municipal electricity distribution network.
- Internal access roads, security fencing, drainage infrastructure and ancillary services necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the facility.

The proposed development is being registered in terms of the Norm for the Exclusion of the Development and Expansion of Solar Photovoltaic Facilities in Areas of Low or Medium Environmental Sensitivity.

The Norm, published under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), establishes the requirements under which specified activities associated with the development and expansion of solar photovoltaic facilities, including infrastructure that is integral to the generation, storage, transmission and export of electricity, may be excluded from the requirement to obtain an environmental authorisation prior to commencement, provided that the requirements of the Norm are met.

LOCATION AND OVERVIEW

The proposed solar development footprint occupies approximately **1.7 ha** within the north-eastern portion of Portion 16 of Farm Tygerfontein No. 347.

The proposed solar development area has been substantially transformed through historical brick-making activities and grazing over the past five decades. The proposed solar array, Battery Energy Storage System and associated electrical infrastructure are all located within the previously disturbed brick-making area. This portion of the property has never been cultivated due to its shallow soils, underlying hard rock and very low agricultural potential.

The facility has been designed to generate up to 1.5 MW of renewable electricity. Depending on the operational scenario, electricity may either be supplied directly to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15 (subject to a separate environmental authorisation process) or supplied to the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network via the existing electrical connection point on Erf 2282 (29 Mission Street), immediately adjacent to Portion 15 and owned by the proponent. Where electricity is supplied to the municipal network, the existing connection point will be upgraded, as required, to facilitate the connection. Electrical reticulation between the solar facility and the relevant point of supply will comprise underground cables installed in sleeves only, with no overhead powerlines proposed. The reticulation corridor, including the location of the existing connection point and any associated upgrade works, is situated entirely within land owned and controlled by the proponent and as confirmed by the Site Sensitivity Verification Report, is located within areas of Low environmental sensitivity.

The surrounding land uses comprise:

- the proposed Greens residential development immediately south of the site;
- A row of residential houses and the Albertinia Golf Course south of the proposed residential development;
- agricultural land to the west and north;
- the municipal cemetery, wastewater treatment works and road reserve to the east.

In terms of 4.1 of the Norm - *Where possible, land which has already been modified should be considered for the location of the proposed facility and the consideration of such land for the location of the proposed facility must be discussed in the site sensitivity verification report.*

In accordance with Section 4.1 of the Norm, preference has been given to locating the proposed facility within an already modified area. The Site Sensitivity Verification Report confirms that the proposed solar development footprint is situated entirely within a previously disturbed area of Low environmental sensitivity, thereby satisfying the intent and requirements of the Norm.

DESCRIPTION OF SOLAR FACILITY

The design of the proposed solar facility has been prepared by Lourens du Preez of Pro-Plan Drawing Office (January 2026). The facility will comprise the following components:

- Twelve (12) modular Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) power stacks, each rated at 125 kW.
- Twelve (12) inverters, each rated at 125 kW, providing a total installed generating capacity of 1.5 MW.
- One (1) 11 kV mini-substation.
- Electrical distribution cabinet.
- Electrical control room with a smooth steel-trowelled cement screed floor.
- Trench with a steel cover between two rows of power stacks.
- Six (6) LED tube lights.
- Day/night switch.
- One (1) 15-amp wall plug.
- External wall light.
- Four-way Ring Main Unit (RMU) incorporating bulk metering for the safe switching, protection and metering of the 11 kV distribution network.
- Underground electrical reticulation and MV cabling (installed within protective sleeves) extending from the solar facility either:
 - directly to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15 (anticipated demand of approximately 1.3 MW), subject to a separate environmental authorisation process; or
 - to the existing electrical connection point on Erf 2282 (29 Mission Street), owned by Outeniqua Game Farm (Pty) Ltd, which will be upgraded as required to facilitate connection to the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network.

Each solar structure will have the following specifications:

- Height: 4.0 m
- Width: 5.5 m, with a 0.6 m shoulder on either side (overall width of 6.7 m)
- Length: 20.6 m
- Foundation blocks: 0.6 m³
- 100 × 100 mm square tube columns
- Fifty-four (54) solar panels per structure. The solar panels will be positioned in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and the applicable SANS 1307, SANS 10106 and engineering standards.

The underground electrical reticulation will be installed within a narrow trench and will include:

- Installation within a defined corridor;
- Cabling placed within protective sleeves;
- Trench dimensions as specified by the electrical engineer;
- Backfilling and reinstatement of disturbed areas following installation;
- No overhead powerlines or pylons; and
- No establishment of new servitudes or use of road reserves.

The major components of the solar facility will be manufactured off site and assembled on site. The solar support structures will be installed directly onto the existing compacted brick-making surface, which provides a stable foundation. Consequently, only limited excavation will be required for the foundation blocks, underground cable trenches and associated electrical infrastructure. As confirmed by the Site Sensitivity Verification Report, the solar facility footprint, underground reticulation corridor and associated electrical infrastructure are all located within areas of Low environmental sensitivity.

The site development plans are included in Appendix 10-1 of this registration form.

The Engineering Services Report: Bulk Supply for Erf 2282, Albertinia is included in Appendix 10-2 of this Registration Form.

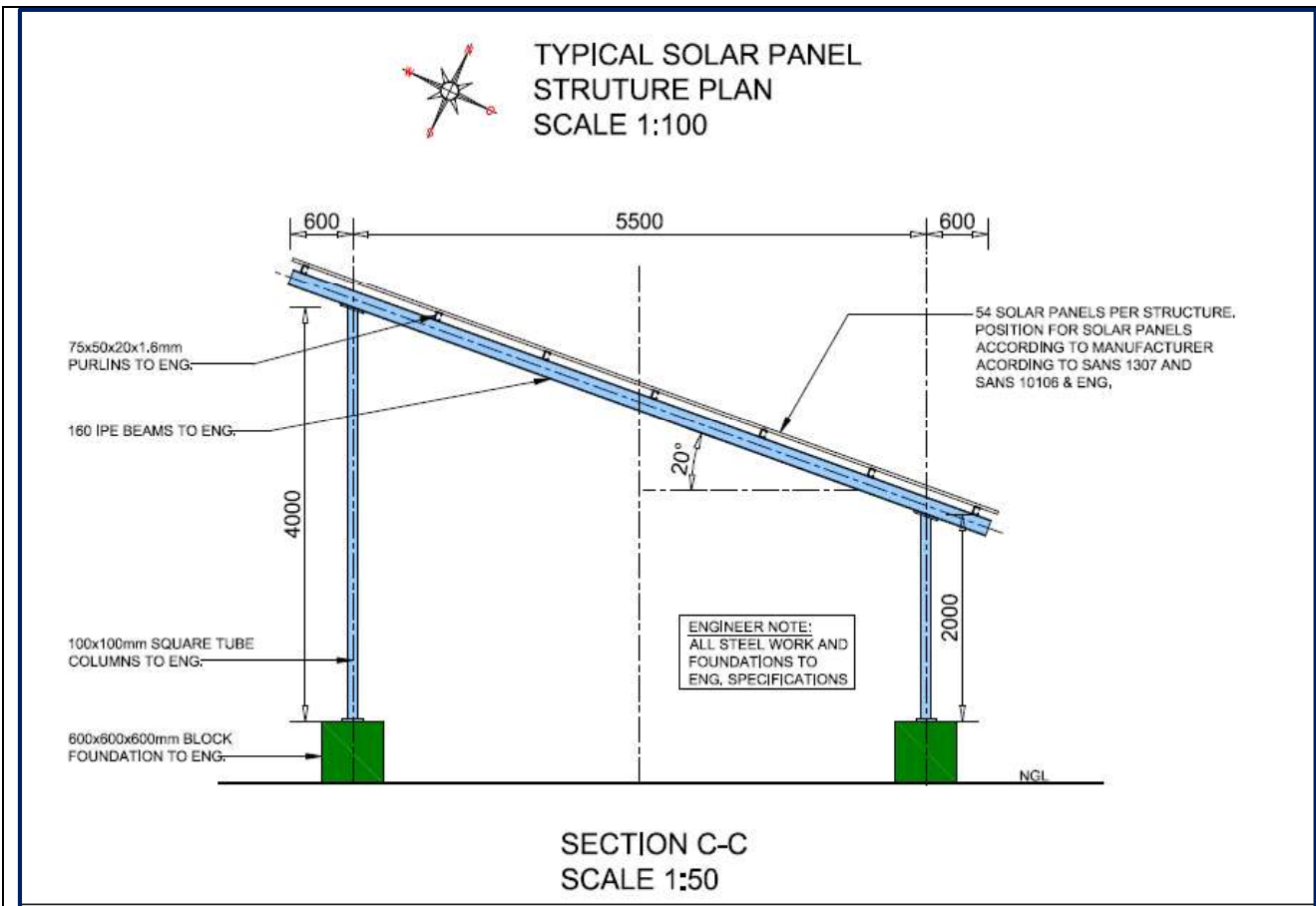


Figure 1: Typical solar panel structure plan

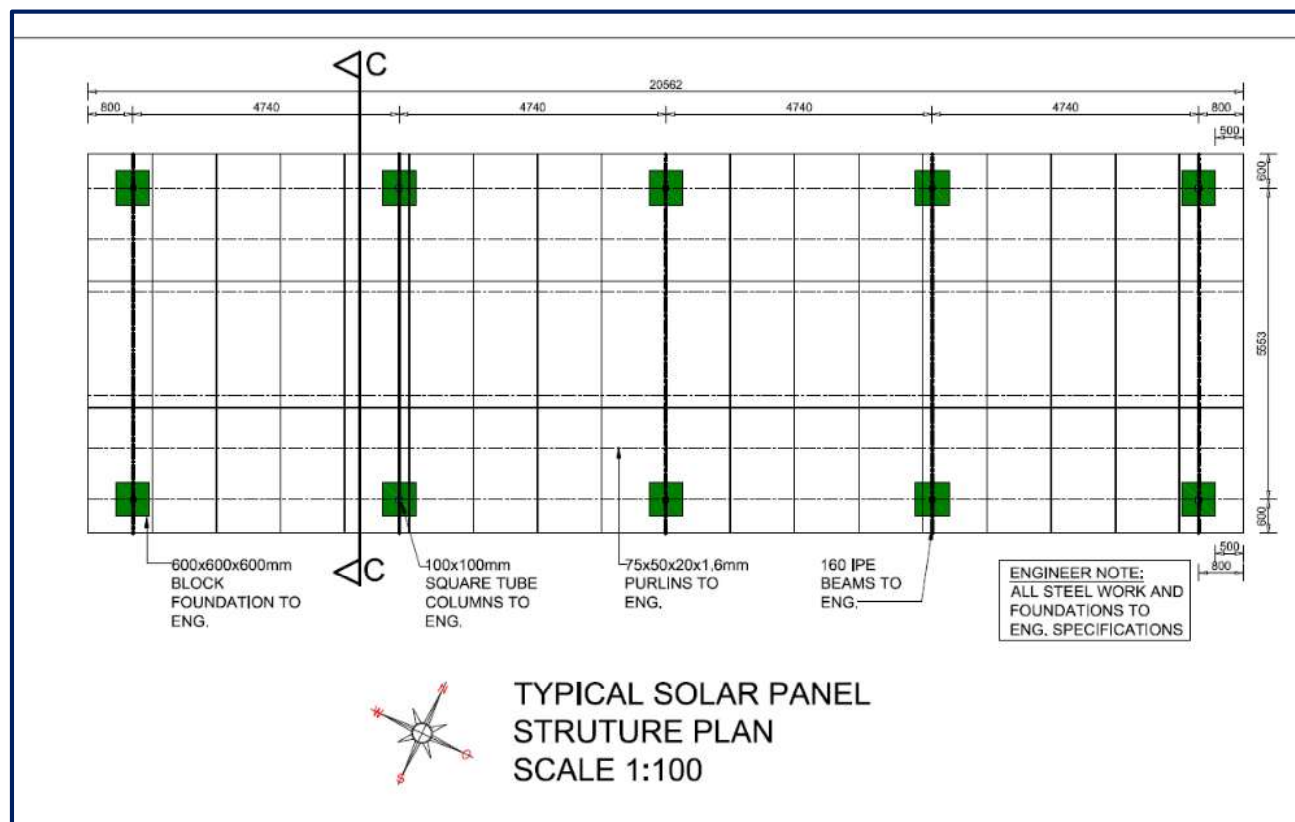


Figure 2: Typical solar panel structure plan showing length of solar structure

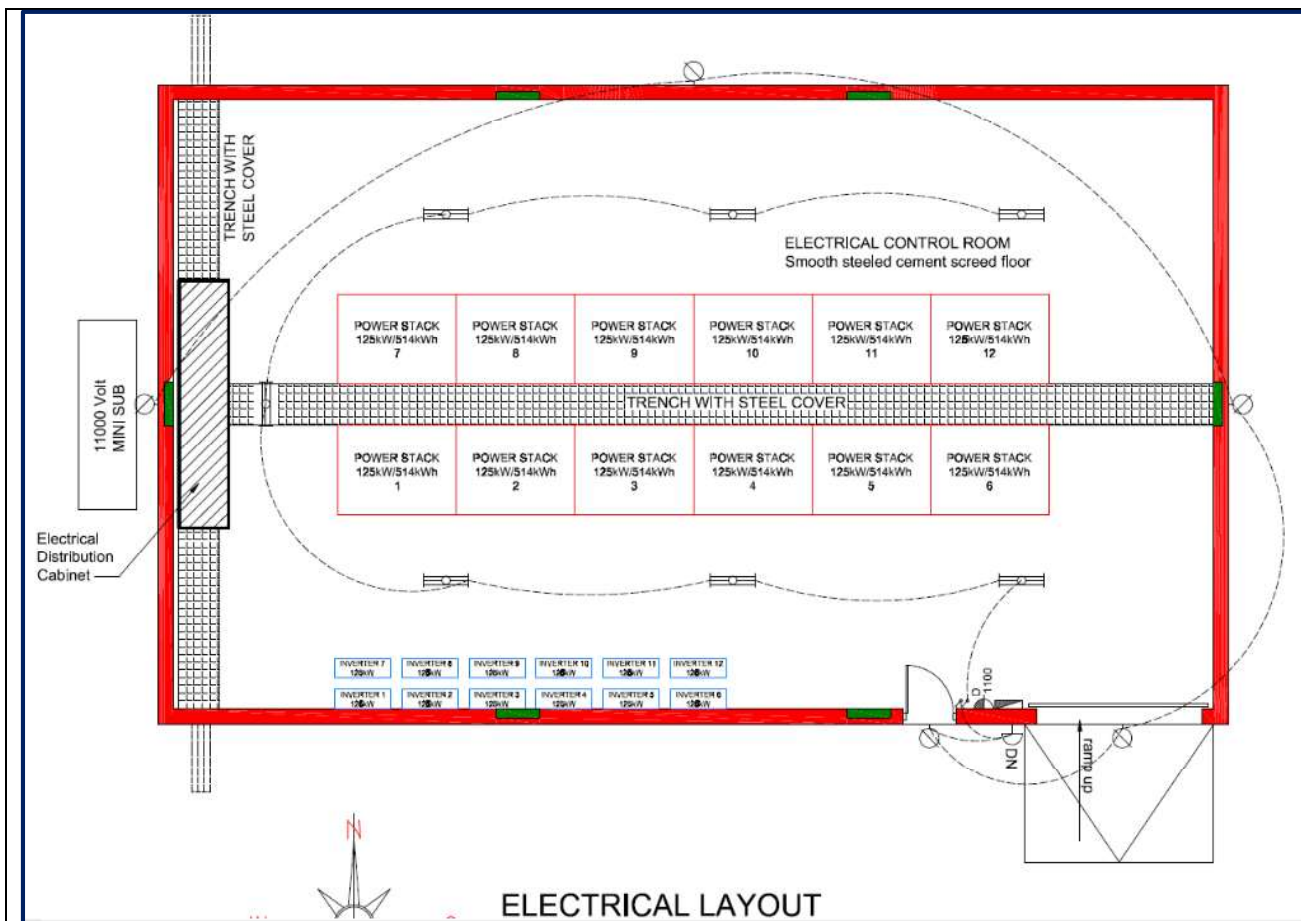


Figure 3: Electrical layout showing 12 solar structures (power stacks) and 12 inverters and 11KV mini sub



Figure 4: Layout of solar facility showing solar panels, the electrical control room (power stacks) and the 4-way ring main unit (adapted from Pro-Plan, 2026)

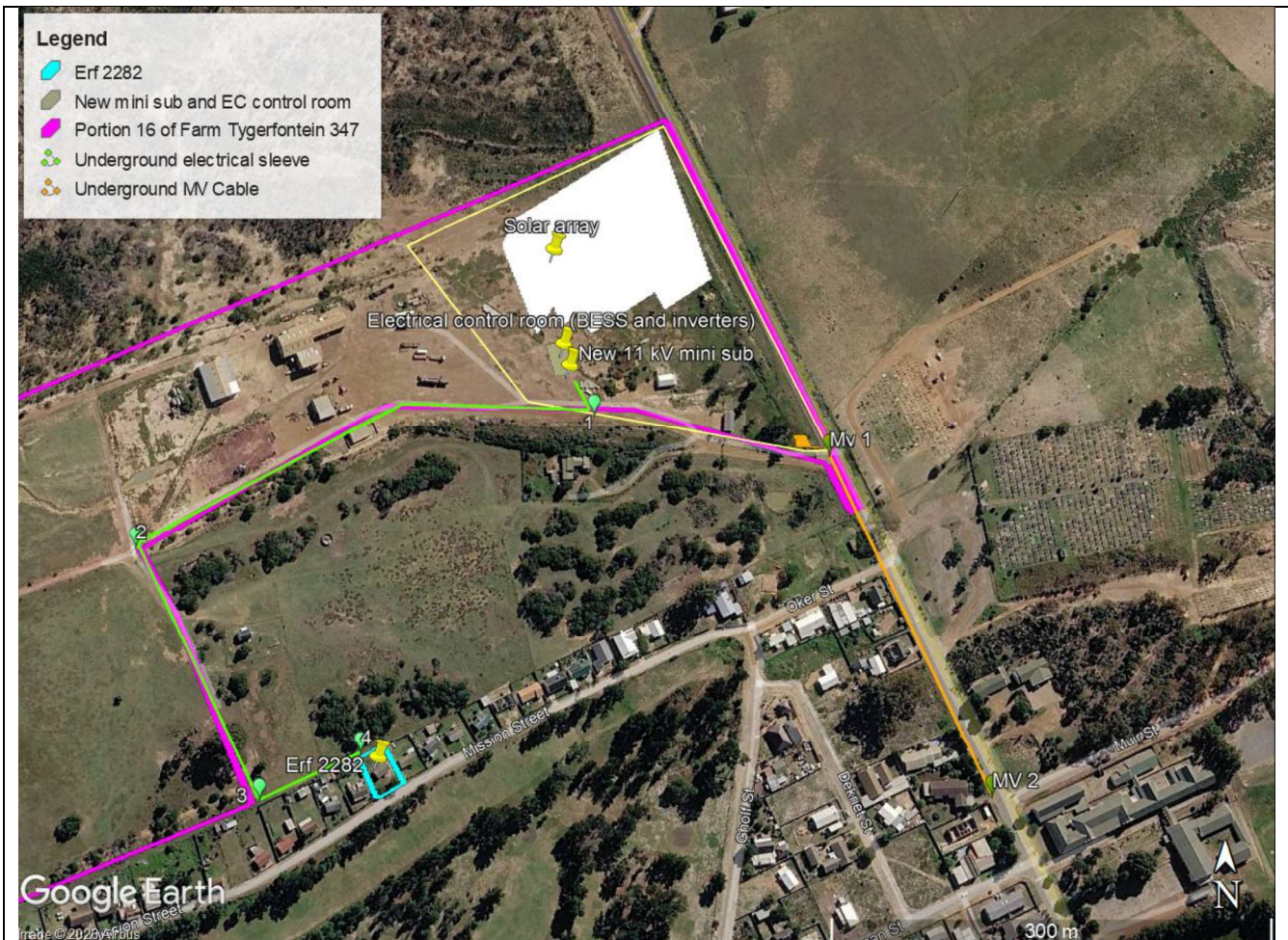


Figure 5: Location of Proposed Solar PV Facility and Associated Electrical Infrastructure

SCREENING TOOL REPORT AND SPECIALIST STUDIES

A screening tool has been developed by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environmental Affairs (DFFE). The Screening Tool identifies related exclusions and/ or specific requirements including specialist studies applicable to the proposed site and/or development, based on the national sector classification and the environmental sensitivity of the site.

A Screening Report referred to in Regulation 16(1)(v) of the EIA Regulations 2014, must accompany any application for Environmental Authorisation. A screening report was generated for the proposed project, and the following environmental sensitivities are identified on the solar PV footprint:

- Agricultural potential is Very High
- Terrestrial Biodiversity is Very High
- Plant species sensitivity is Medium
- Animal Species sensitivity is Medium
- Aquatic Sensitivity is Low
- Palaeontology is low
- Archaeology and heritage is Low

In terms of 2.1.2 of the norm - *when proposed entirely in areas of "low" or "medium" environmental sensitivity as identified by the screening tool and verified by relevant specialists as contemplated in paragraph 4, for the following environmental themes:*

2.1.2.1. Plant species;

2.1.2.2. Animal species;

2.1.2.3. Terrestrial biodiversity;

2.1.2.4. Aquatic biodiversity; and
2.1.2.5 Agriculture;

In accordance with Paragraph 2.1.2 of the Norm, the environmental sensitivities relating to agriculture, terrestrial biodiversity, plant species, animal species and aquatic biodiversity were verified through specialist site assessments. Figures 6–10 illustrate the environmental sensitivities identified by the DFFE Screening Tool.

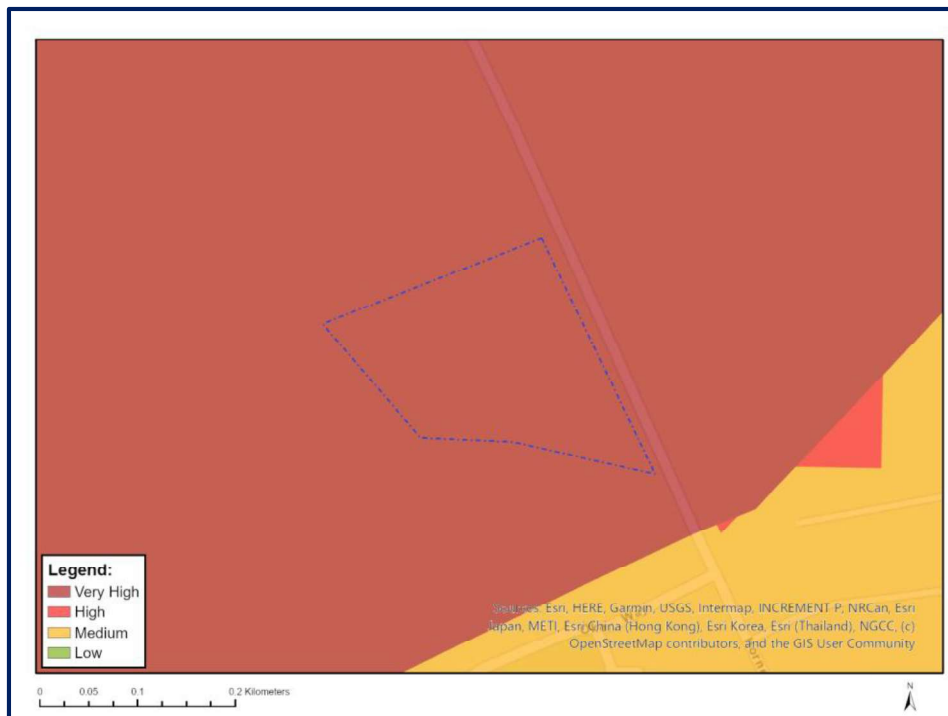


Figure 6: STR indicates a very high agricultural theme sensitivity for the solar project area

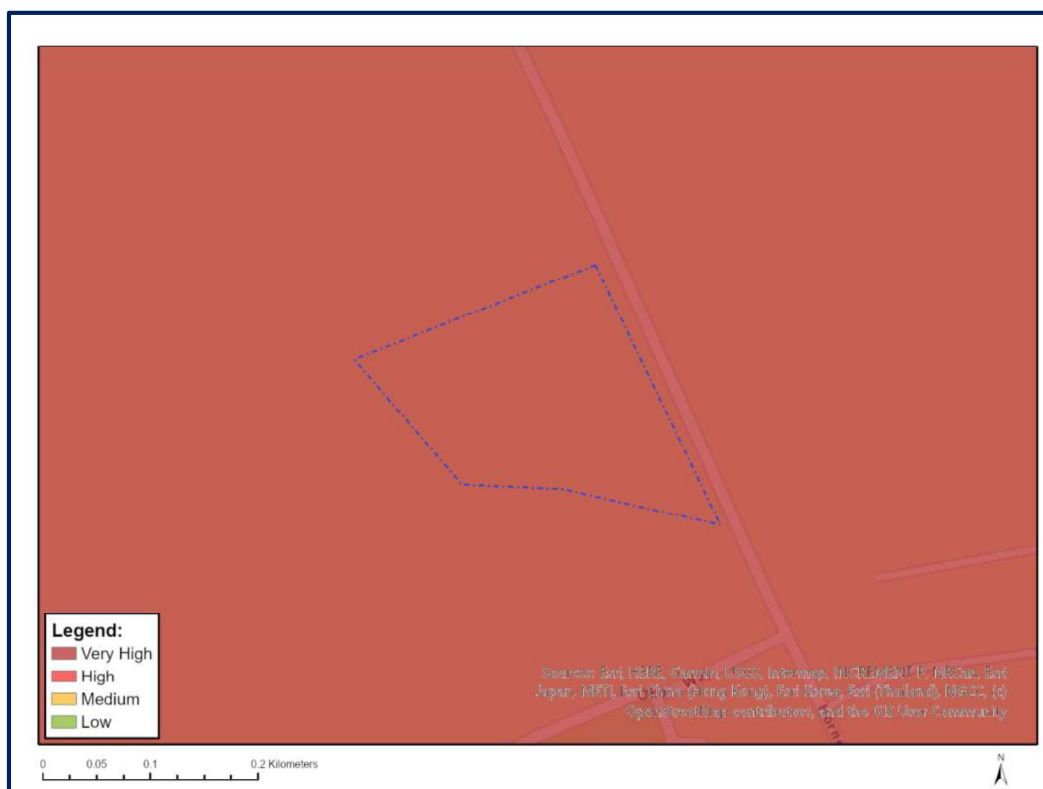


Figure 7: STR indicates a very high terrestrial biodiversity theme sensitivity for the solar project area

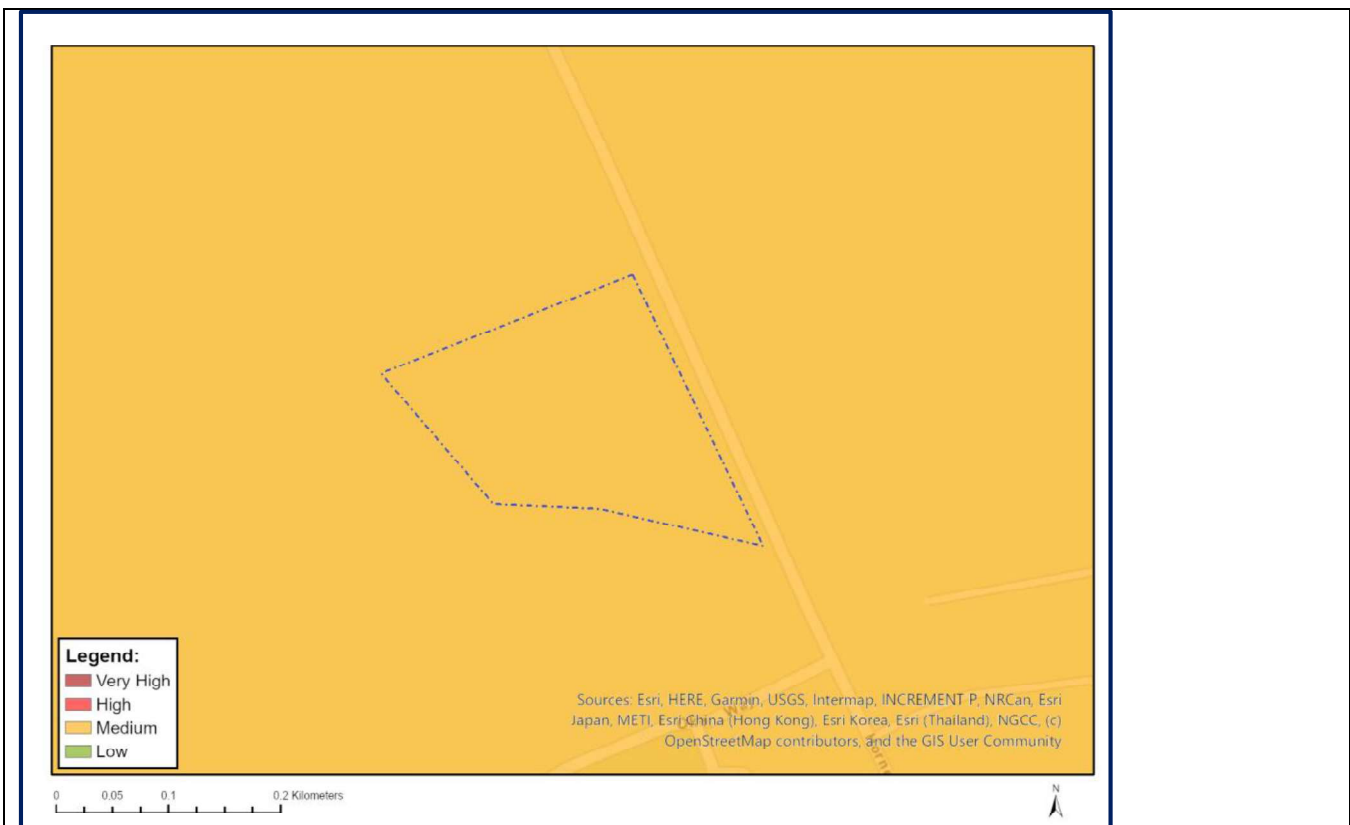


Figure 8: STR indicates a medium plant theme sensitivity for the solar project area

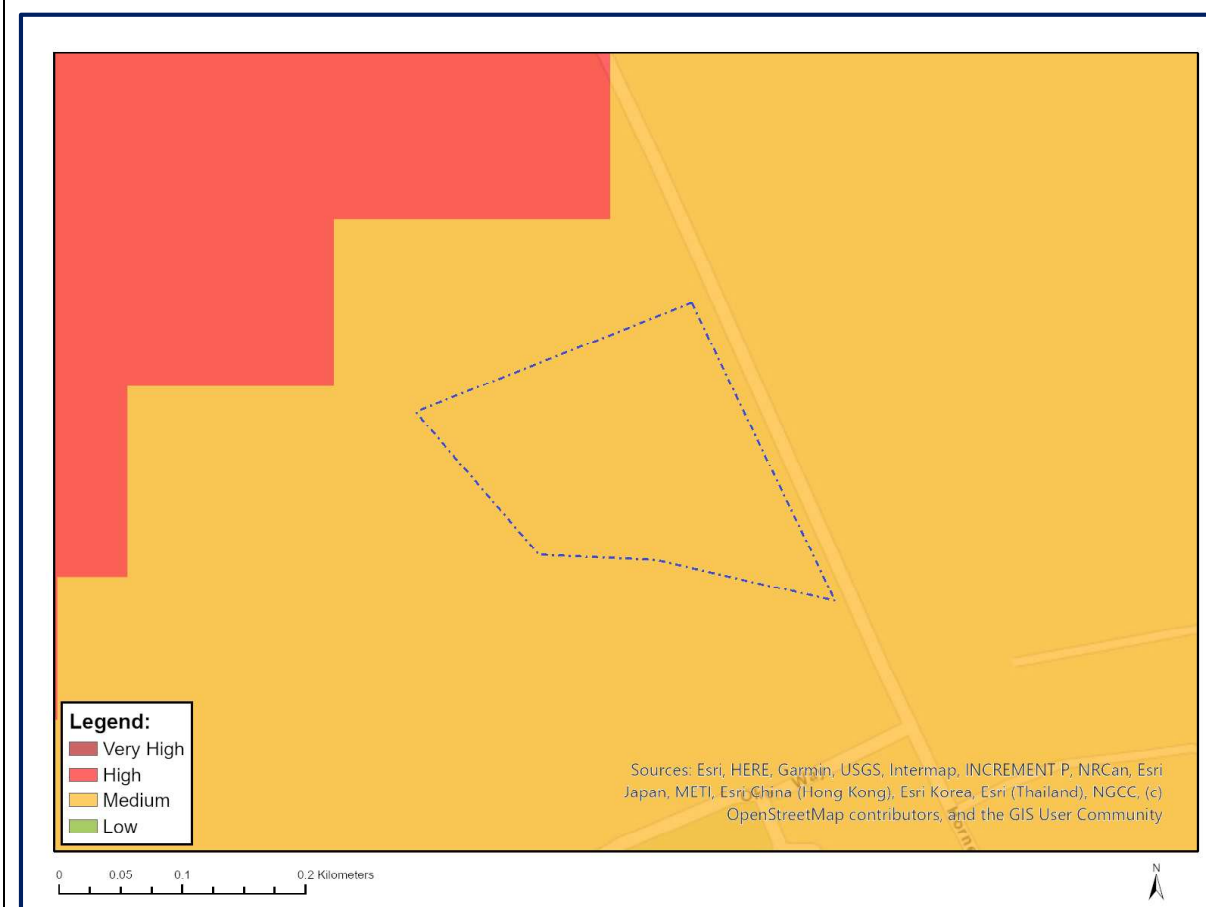


Figure 9: STR indicates a medium animal species theme sensitivity for the solar project area

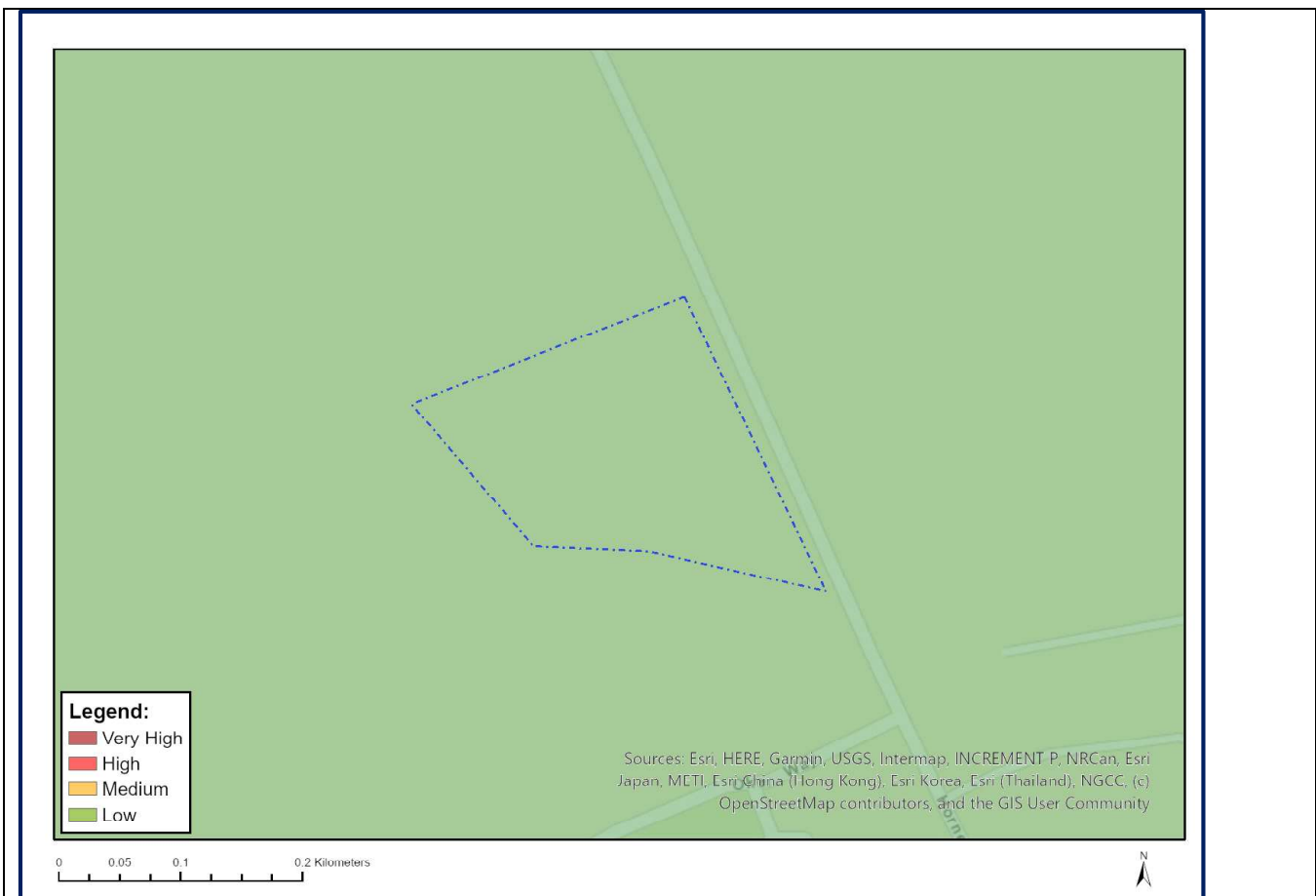


Figure 10: STR indicates a low aquatic theme sensitivity for the solar project area

SPECIALIST STUDIES

In terms of the Norm:

4.3 A proponent must ensure that a site sensitivity verification inspection is undertaken for the environmental themes contemplated in paragraph 2.1.2 to confirm whether or not the environmental sensitivity of the footprint and corridor is as identified by the screening tool.

4.4 A "very high" or "high" environmental sensitivity rating may be disputed by the specialist, provided that evidence and motivation to substantiate such a change of environmental sensitivity is provided.

4.5 The site sensitivity verification must be undertaken-

4.5.1 for the environmental themes contemplated in paragraph 2.1.2;

4.5.2 for the footprint as well as the proposed corridor for the linear infrastructure;

4.5.3 by specialists, registered in the field for which they are undertaking the site sensitivity verification and where relevant, with demonstrated experience in the taxonomic group of the species being considered;

4.5.4 within the season which would be most relevant to identify the specific species or vegetation of interest; and

4.5.5 for a period of time as necessitated by the sensitivity of the proposed site and size of the proposed facility.

4.6 The site sensitivity verification inspection must be a physical inspection, which must, where relevant, be supplemented by utilising any desk top information available, including any fine scale data available from the provincial department responsible for the environment, provincial conservation authorities, iNaturalist records or the relevant municipality, where available.

4.7 Where additional information identified in paragraph 4.6 has been used in the verification process, this information must be identified and referenced in the site sensitivity verification report.

Paragraph 4 of the Norm requires a physical Site Sensitivity Verification to confirm or dispute the environmental sensitivities identified by the Screening Tool for both the development footprint and any associated linear infrastructure. Where appropriate, a specialist may dispute a "High" or "Very High" sensitivity rating, provided that sufficient evidence and motivation are supplied.

To comply with these requirements, the following specialist investigations were undertaken:

Specialist	Scope	Site Visit
Claire de Jongh (EAP)	Site inspections and environmental verification	July 2025 and December 2025
Upstream Consulting	Aquatic assessment, delineation of aquatic features and Aquatic Compliance Statement	July 2025
Jamie Pote	Terrestrial Biodiversity Site Sensitivity Verification, including flora and fauna	August 2025
Gavin Schafer	Agricultural and soil capability assessment	February 2026

In terms of the Norm:

4.15 The outcome of the relevant site sensitivity verification must be recorded by the specialist in the form of a specialist report, and collated into a final site sensitivity verification report that confirms or disputes the environmental sensitivity, as identified by the screening tool for each environmental theme identified in paragraph 2.1.2.

4.16 The specialist report must be appended to the final site sensitivity verification report and must be signed by the relevant specialist.

The specialist assessments were undertaken in accordance with the Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on Identified Environmental Themes (GN 320 of 20 March 2020), where applicable, and the requirements of Paragraph 4 of the Norm.

The findings of the specialist assessments were incorporated into a consolidated Site Sensitivity Verification Report, which confirms the verified environmental sensitivities for the proposed development footprint and associated electrical reticulation corridor. The Site Sensitivity Verification Report and all supporting specialist reports are included in Appendix 3.

CLIMATE AND RAINFALL

The site is situated at an elevation of approximately 175 m above mean sea level (amsl) on gently sloping terrain that generally drains southwards. Albertinia experiences a temperate climate characterised by mild summers and cool, wet winters, with a mean annual rainfall of approximately 400–600 mm. Rainfall is seasonal, with the highest precipitation occurring during the autumn and winter months. Although drainage lines within the area are predominantly non-perennial, episodic high-intensity rainfall events may result in short-duration surface runoff and flash flows.

GEOLOGY

The property is underlain by Bokkeveld Group shales and Table Mountain Group sandstones of the Cape Supergroup. The proposed development area is located on relatively uniform terrain and is characterised by deep, sandy soils.

Deep neutral to acidic Tertiary sands associated with the limestone of the Bredasdorp Formation, together with acidic sands derived from alluvial deposits of the Gouritz River, occur within the project area. The acidic Tertiary sands are typically grey and are associated with the Potberg and Aasvogelberg formations. The site is

mapped within the Fc, Hb and Db land types. According to Schafer (2026), the local geology comprises high-level terrace gravels, silcrete and ferricrete (map symbol Tg), together with sandstone and argillaceous sandstone (map symbol Db) and remnants of wind-blown sands.

SOILS

Soil potential is determined by the physical characteristics of the soil, including effective depth, texture, structure, drainage and water-holding capacity (WHC). These characteristics determine the suitability of land for cultivation and are used to classify land capability. The International Land Capability Classification (LCC) system (McRae & Burnham, 1981) classifies land into eight capability classes, of which Classes I–IV are generally regarded as suitable for cultivation.

The proposed solar development area is characterised by Ms (Low) agricultural potential and is classified as Land Capability Class V. The original soils comprised an Orthic A horizon over hard rock, consisting of light grey sand to loamy sand approximately 20–35 cm deep overlying bedrock. The shallow effective soil depth, low water-holding capacity and poor nutrient retention result in very low agricultural potential. The soils are further characterised by a moderate erosion hazard, low to moderate compaction hazard, an estimated clay content of approximately 6% in the A-horizon and approximately 40% in the B-horizon.

The proposed solar installation area has been extensively modified through historical brick-making activities undertaken over the past five decades. During these activities, the original topsoil and underlying clay-rich subsoil were removed for brick manufacture, leaving the site largely underlain by exposed hard rock with only isolated pockets of shallow residual soil. Warehouses associated with the former brick-making operation currently occupy portions of the disturbed area and are used for the storage of farm equipment. Consequently, the development footprint no longer contains soils capable of supporting agricultural production and has never been utilised for crop cultivation due to its inherently poor agricultural potential.

In terms of the Norm:

4.8 For the agriculture theme, the site sensitivity verification report must confirm that the "allowable development limits" set for solar photovoltaic technology on agricultural land in the Agricultural Specialist Assessment Protocol, are not exceeded.

In accordance with Paragraph 4.8 of the Norm, the agricultural specialist confirmed that the proposed development complies with the Agricultural Specialist Assessment Protocol. The Site Sensitivity Verification Report verified the agricultural sensitivity of the proposed solar development footprint and associated infrastructure as Low, confirming that no agriculturally sensitive areas occur within the development footprint and that the allowable development limits prescribed by the Protocol are not exceeded. The previously disturbed nature of the site further supports its suitability for the proposed solar facility.

Figures 11 and 12 illustrate the soils and general agricultural potential of the site. The Agricultural Assessment and Site Sensitivity Verification Report are included in Appendix 3.

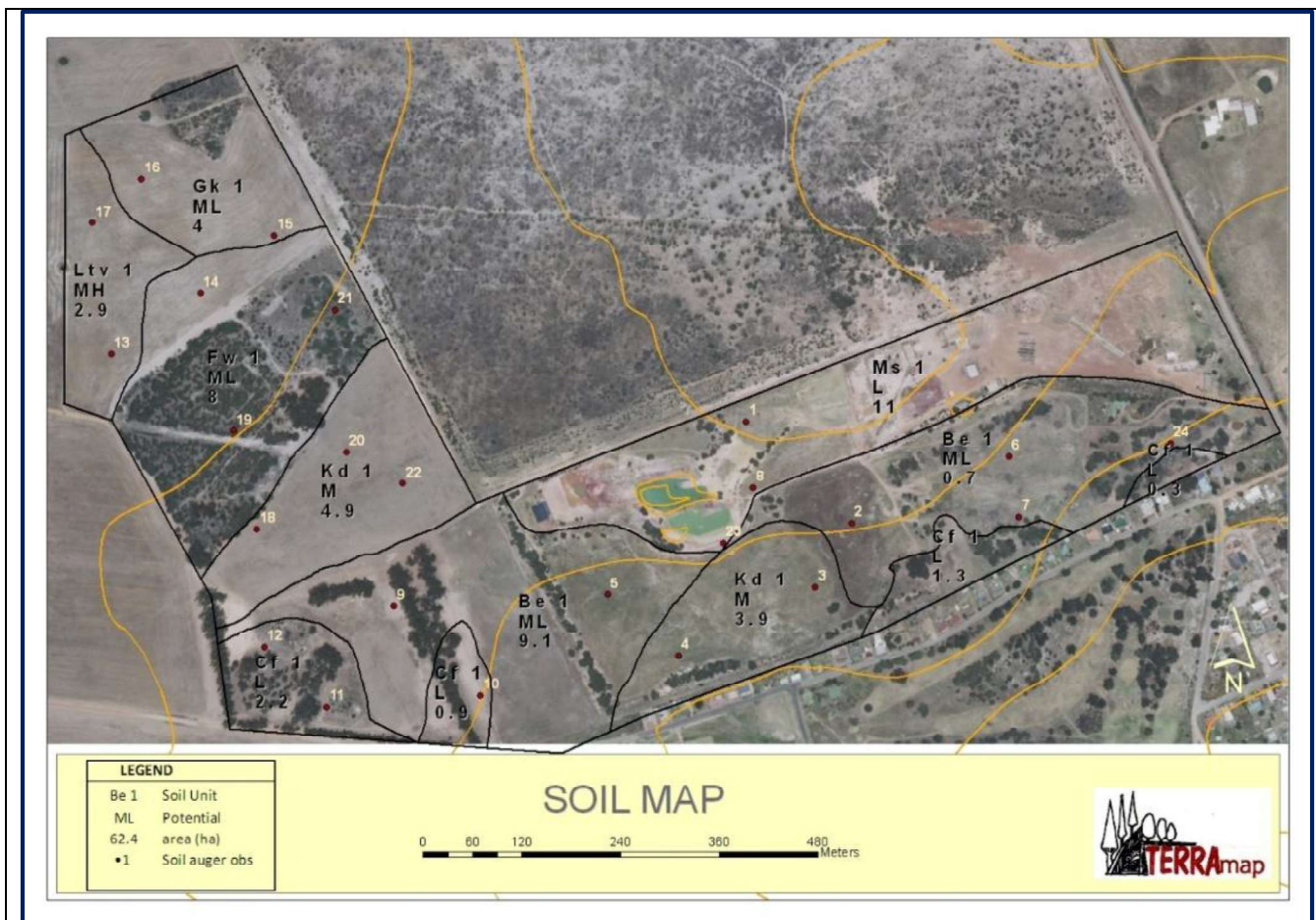


Figure 11: Soil Map showing low potential soils mapped on solar PV footprint

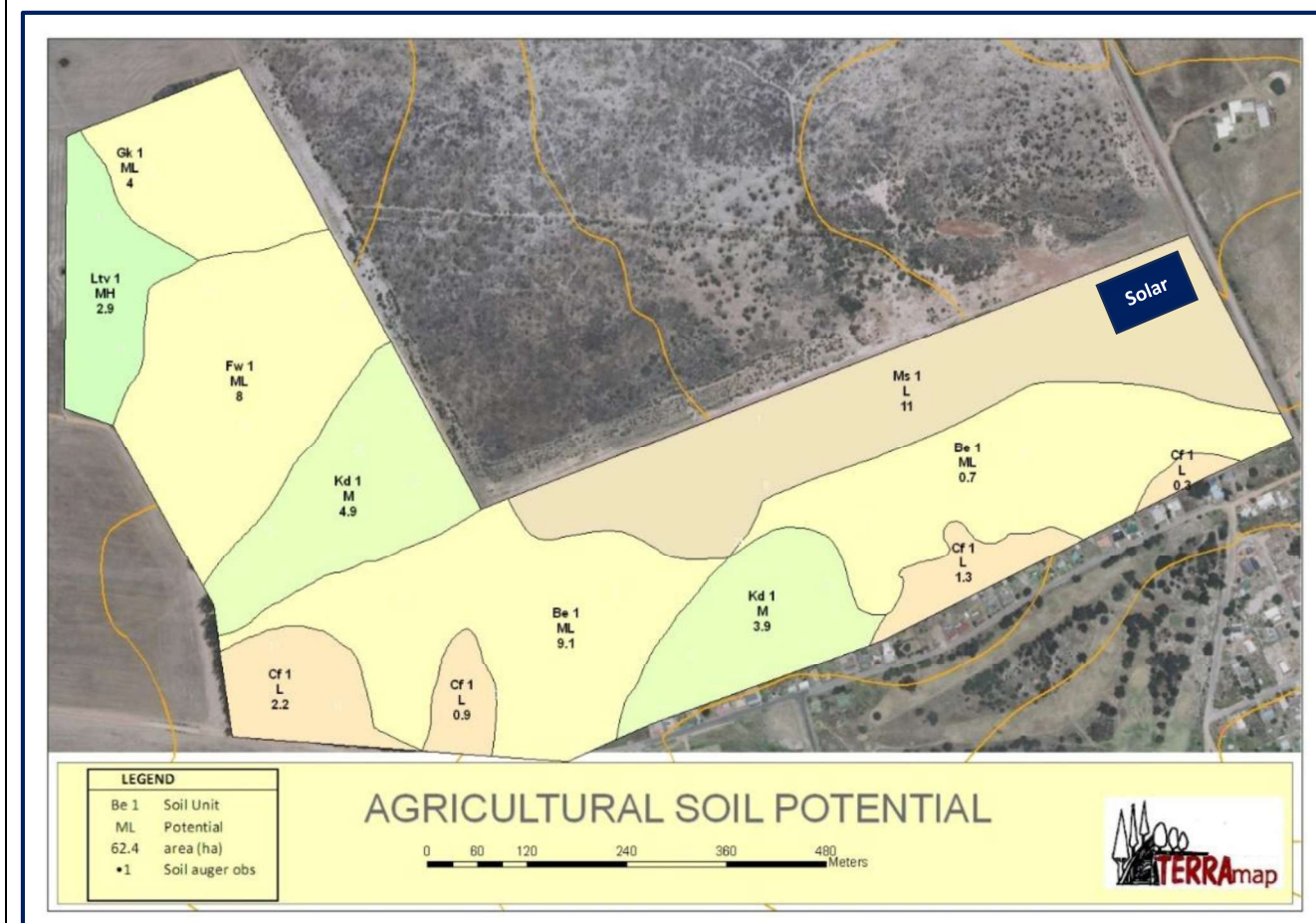


Figure 12: General Agricultural Soil Potential showing low potential on solar PV site

LAND USE

Historically, Portion 16 of Farm Tygerfontein No. 347 has been utilised for a combination of agricultural and industrial activities. Prior to the 2000s, the western portion of the property was used for forestry and livestock grazing, while the eastern portion was developed for brick-making, associated industrial infrastructure and quarrying activities. These historical activities resulted in extensive disturbance of the original vegetation and soils. The proposed solar facility is located entirely within the previously disturbed brick-making area in the north-eastern portion of the property. This area has remained transformed for approximately five decades and currently comprises disturbed ground, existing industrial infrastructure and areas utilised for the storage of farm equipment.

SURFACE WATER

The site falls within the Gouritz Water Management Area and is not located within any mapped Strategic Water Source Areas. The National Wetland Map 5 (NBA, 2018) does not identify any wetlands on Portion 16, and the national river inventories indicate that no rivers or watercourses occur on the property (Upstream Consulting, 2025). In addition, the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (CapeNature, 2023) does not identify any Aquatic Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) within the property.

The Aquatic Assessment confirmed that no natural wetlands, rivers, watercourses or drainage lines occur within the proposed solar development footprint or within 500 m thereof, including the associated underground electrical reticulation corridor.

TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY

The proposed development falls within the Albertinia Sand Fynbos vegetation type, which is classified as Endangered in terms of the National Biodiversity Assessment Red Listed Ecosystems Assessment (NBA/RLE, 2022).

Although the surrounding landscape historically supported Albertinia Sand Fynbos, the proposed solar development footprint has been extensively transformed through historical brick-making activities, quarrying and associated industrial land uses over approximately the past five decades. Consequently, the indigenous vegetation within the development footprint has been almost entirely removed.

The most recent National Biodiversity Assessment (2022) remnant vegetation dataset classifies the proposed development footprint as **No Natural Area Remaining (NNAR)**, with intact remnant vegetation confined to the north-western portion of Portion 16, outside the proposed solar development area. Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) are identified through the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP) to safeguard biodiversity pattern and ecological processes. The 2017 WCBSP did not identify the site as falling within a CBA or ESA, whereas the updated 2023 WCBSP indicates that portions of the property overlap with mapped **CBA 1** and **CBA 2** areas.

Verification of the presence or absence of natural vegetation, together with the terrestrial biodiversity sensitivity and the mapped CBA status, formed a key component of the specialist site assessment.

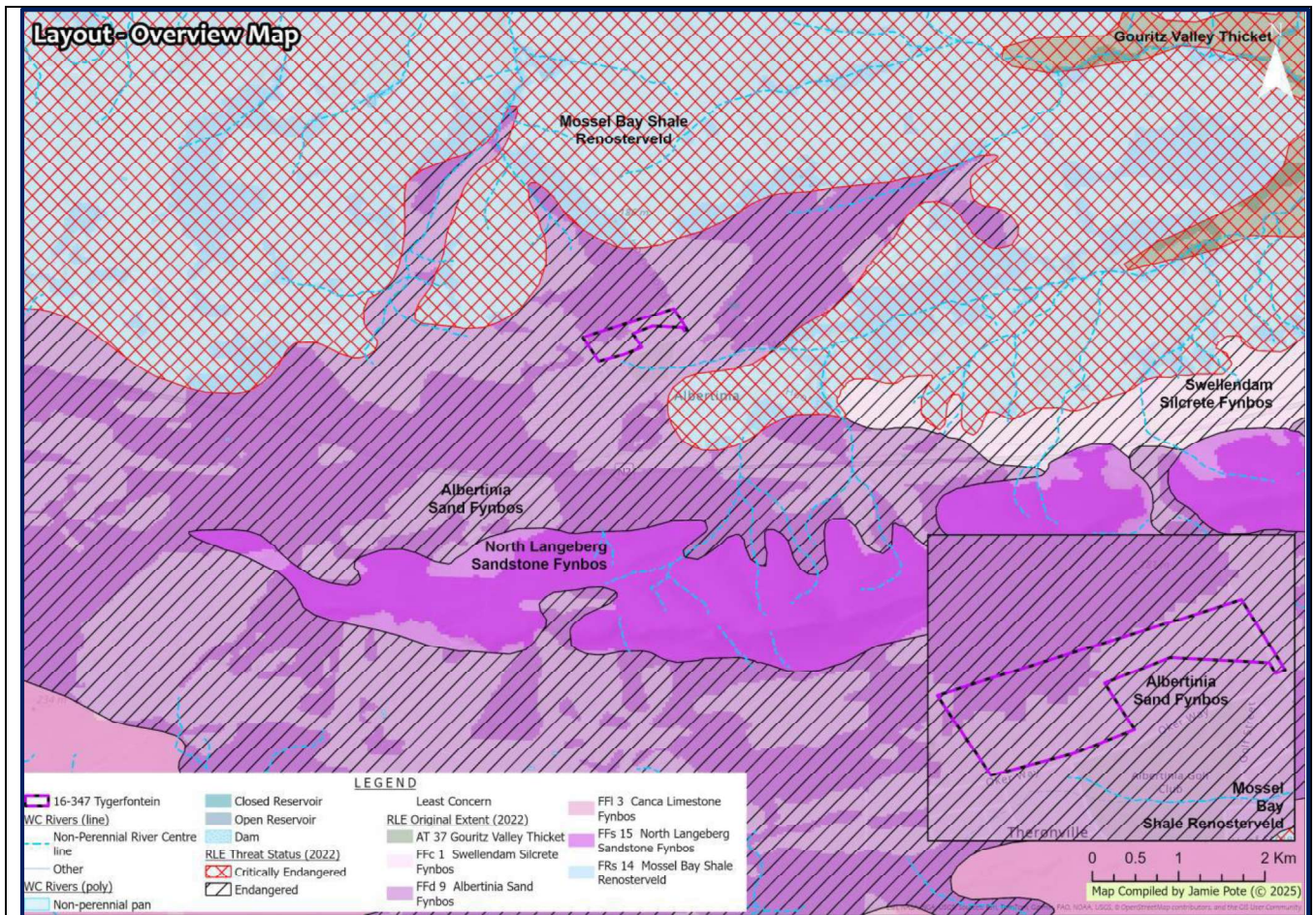


Figure 13: National Biodiversity Assessment Vegetation Type and Conservation Status (NBA, 2018). Darker shaded areas indicative of remnant vegetation.

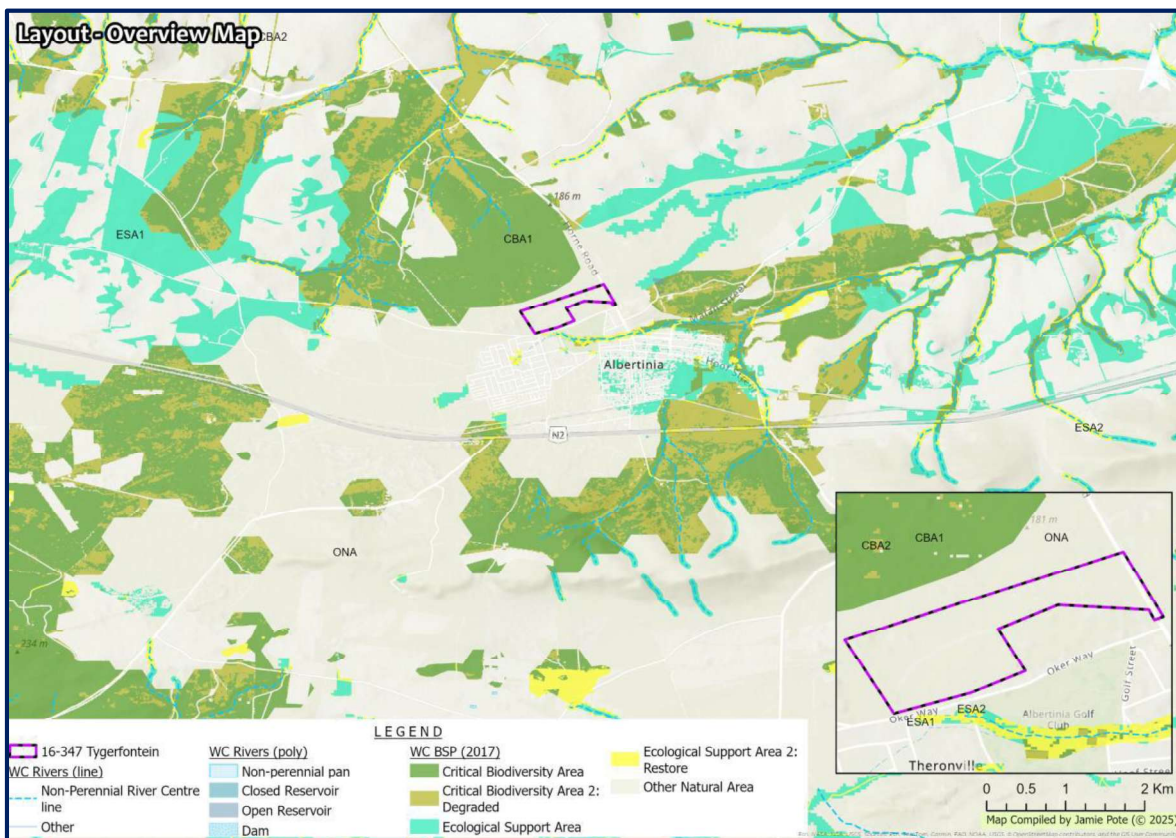


Figure 14: Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP, 2017) –The site does not overlap with CBA 1 or ESA areas.

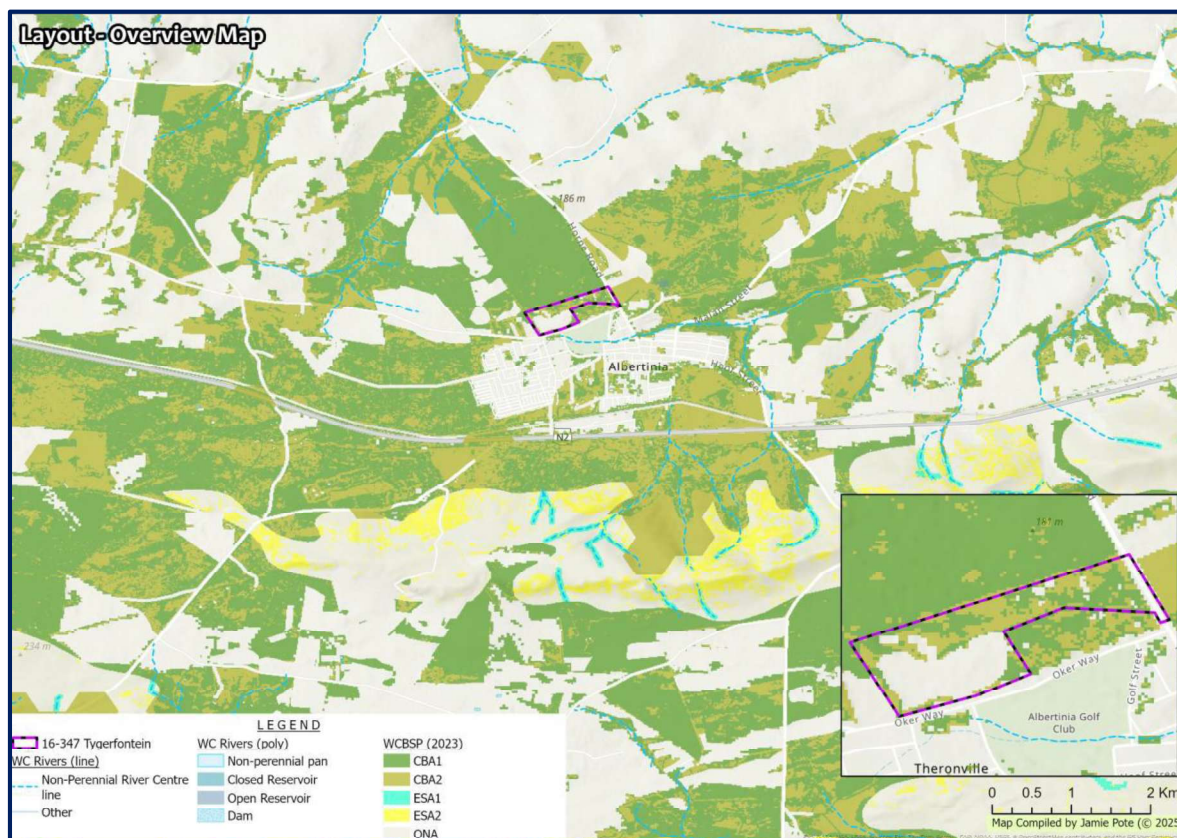


Figure 15: Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBS, 2023) –The site does overlap with CBA 1 & 2 areas.

In terms of the Norm:

4.9 For the plant and animal species themes, the relevant specialist must confirm the presence, likely presence, or absence of a species of conservation concern within the footprint and corridor identified as "medium" sensitivity by the screening tool.

4.10 Should a species of conservation concern be found or have been confirmed to be likely present on the footprint, this exclusion does not apply and an application for an environmental authorisation must be submitted.

4.11 Should a species of conservation concern be found or have been confirmed to be likely present in the corridor, this exclusion applies under the conditions contemplated in paragraph 2.2.

4.12 The relevant specialists must consider the cumulative effects for the themes identified in paragraph 2.1.2 and provide a discussion on possible cumulative impacts, the ability to mitigate such impacts and a statement of environmental acceptability of any cumulative impacts after mitigation in any report produced.

4.13 Should the cumulative impact not be acceptable after mitigation this exclusion does not apply and an application for an environmental authorisation must be submitted.

4.14 The relevant specialists must consider the presence and preservation of ecological corridors and discuss the possible presence and preservation of such ecological corridors.

Terrestrial Biodiversity

The project is located within a previously disturbed brownfield site comprising the former brick-making area on Portion 16. Historical brick-making, quarrying and associated industrial activities have extensively transformed the site over approximately the past five decades. Large areas are devoid of vegetation, while the remaining areas comprise degraded secondary grassland dominated by common grasses and alien invasive species, particularly *Acacia cyclops*.

The terrestrial biodiversity specialist confirmed that the proposed solar development footprint and associated underground electrical reticulation corridor contain no remaining natural vegetation and are correctly classified as No Natural Area Remaining (NNAR). This conclusion is supported by historical aerial imagery, land cover mapping and Landsat imagery, all of which confirm the long-standing transformation of the site. Although the 2023 Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan maps portions of the property as CBA 1 and CBA 2, the specialist verified that these mapped biodiversity priorities are not representative of the current on-site conditions within the proposed development footprint. No Albertinia Sand Fynbos remains within the development footprint, with only occasional secondary thicket elements, including scattered shrubs and succulent species, occurring within the disturbed landscape. The footprint has been extensively transformed and no longer meets the criteria for a Critical Biodiversity Area or Ecological Support Area. The specialist therefore verified the terrestrial biodiversity sensitivity of the development footprint and associated infrastructure as Low. Refer to Appendix 3b.

Plant species

The site falls within the broader distribution range of several endemic flora species and Species of Conservation Concern (SCC). However, the terrestrial biodiversity specialist confirmed that the proposed development footprint contains no suitable habitat for these species as a result of the extensive historical transformation associated with brick-making, quarrying and associated industrial activities. No plant species characteristic of Albertinia Sand Fynbos remain within the development footprint.

Site surveys confirmed that no Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable or Rare flora species, including any of the flora Species of Conservation Concern identified by the DFFE Screening Tool, are present within the proposed development footprint or associated underground electrical reticulation corridor. Accordingly, the proposed development will not impact on any flora Species of Conservation Concern.

Four broad habitat types were identified on Portion 16 during the specialist assessment (Figure 20):

1. **Transformed habitat** – comprising buildings, roads, hardened surfaces, unvegetated areas and the former brick-making and quarry area. The proposed solar facility is located entirely within this transformed habitat.
2. **Alien invaded habitat** – comprising dense stands of *Acacia mearnsii* (Black Wattle) and *Acacia cyclops* (Rooikrans), with scattered indigenous shrubs occurring along the margins.
3. **Secondary grassland (old agricultural lands)** – dominated by common pasture grasses, particularly *Cynodon dactylon* (Kweek), together with pioneer herbs and scattered shrubs. No species typical of Albertinia Sand Fynbos were recorded, confirming that the vegetation represents transformed secondary vegetation rather than natural fynbos.
4. **Artificial quarry dam** – a man-made waterbody associated with the former quarry, surrounded by alien invasive vegetation and limited riparian species.

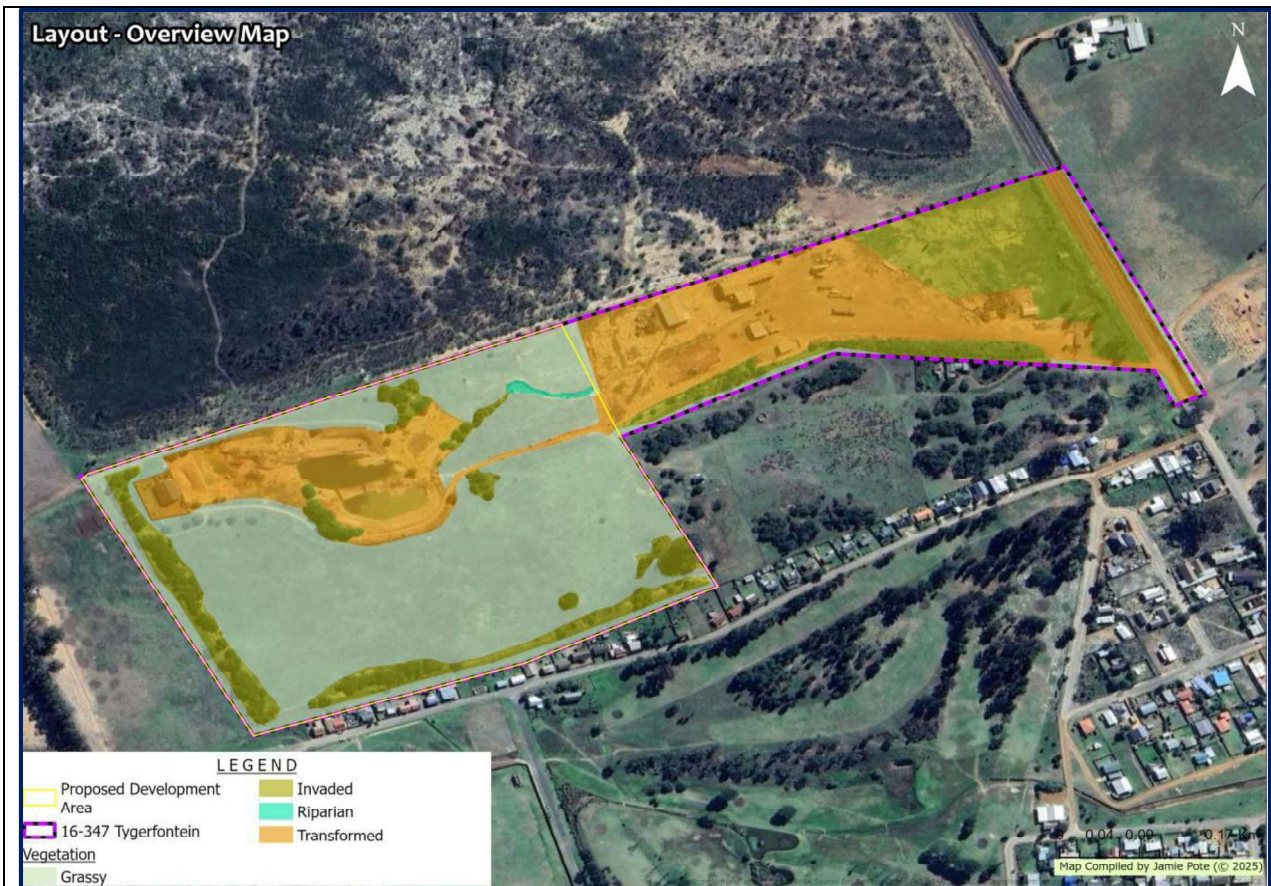


Figure 16: Mapped vegetation of the site (Overview) with the solar facility located in a transformed area

Animal Species

No Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable fauna species, nor any of the fauna Species of Conservation Concern identified by the DFFE Screening Tool, were recorded during the specialist assessment. The Screening Tool identified *Aneuryphymus montanus* (mountain grasshopper), *Afrodis afra* (Southern Black Korhaan) and *Sensitive Species 5* as requiring verification. Site observations confirmed that none of these species, nor suitable habitat for these species, occur within the proposed development footprint or associated underground electrical reticulation corridor. The transformed nature of the site provides little or no suitable habitat for these species. Fauna recorded were typical of disturbed agricultural landscapes and included a small herd of Springbok and evidence of Cape Dune Mole-rat (*Bathyrgerus suillus*), neither of which are species of conservation concern.

Conclusion

The terrestrial biodiversity specialist concluded that the proposed development will not result in the loss of natural habitat, will not impact on flora or fauna Species of Conservation Concern, will not affect ecological corridors, and that the cumulative impacts on terrestrial biodiversity are environmentally acceptable following implementation of the recommended mitigation measures.

Accordingly, the findings of the specialist assessment confirm compliance with the requirements of Paragraphs 4.9 to 4.14 of the Norm.

Environmental Sensitivity of the Proposed Ancillary Underground Electrical Reticulation

The proposed underground electrical reticulation will convey electricity from the solar facility either directly to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15 (subject to a separate environmental authorisation process) or, alternatively, via underground cabling traversing Portion 15 to the existing electrical connection point on Erf 2282 (29 Mission Street), where electricity may be exported to the Hessequa Local

Municipality electricity distribution network. The existing connection point on Erf 2282 will be upgraded, as required, to facilitate the municipal connection. The specialist assessments of the proposed underground reticulation corridor confirm that the affected areas are of Low environmental sensitivity for the plant species, animal species, terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity and agricultural themes.

The specialist assessments confirm that:

- the corridor traverses previously transformed and disturbed land;
- no natural or intact vegetation remains within the proposed trench alignment;
- the terrestrial environment is transformed and of negligible ecological value;
- no wetlands, watercourses or riparian features occur within or adjacent to the proposed corridor;
- agricultural potential is Low and the land is not considered suitable for cultivation; and
- no Species of Conservation Concern or sensitive habitats occur within the corridor footprint.

The installation of underground electrical cabling is expected to result in negligible environmental impacts:

- the disturbance footprint is narrow, linear and temporary in nature;
- all disturbed areas will be reinstated following installation;
- no permanent loss of natural habitat or agricultural land will occur;
- no hydrological features will be impacted; and
- construction impacts will be short-term and can be effectively managed through implementation of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

The proposed underground electrical reticulation will not result in habitat fragmentation, will not alter the existing land-use capability, and will not give rise to unacceptable cumulative environmental impacts. These findings apply irrespective of whether the solar facility supplies electricity directly to the proposed Greens residential development or whether the underground reticulation traverses Portion 15 to connect with the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network via the existing connection point on Erf 2282 (29 Mission Street). The specialist assessments confirm that the proposed ancillary underground electrical reticulation is located entirely within areas of Low environmental sensitivity for the plant species, animal species, terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity and agricultural themes, and accordingly complies with the environmental sensitivity requirements of the Norm.

NEED AND DEIRABILITY OF THE SOLAR PV FACILITY

Need

Solar photovoltaic (PV) technology converts solar energy into electricity, providing a renewable source of power that reduces reliance on conventional fossil fuel generation while producing no direct greenhouse gas emissions during operation.

The need for additional Solar PV generation within the Hessequa Local Municipality is high and is driven by increasing electricity demand, energy security considerations, rising Eskom electricity tariffs and national and provincial objectives to increase renewable energy generation. The continued escalation in electricity costs, together with the need to improve local energy resilience, has increased the demand for alternative and sustainable energy sources.

Solar PV contributes to energy security by reducing dependence on the national electricity grid and mitigating the impacts of electricity supply interruptions. Renewable energy generation can reduce electricity costs over the long term for both residential and commercial users while contributing towards a more secure, resilient and sustainable electricity supply. As electricity tariffs continue to increase, investment in solar PV infrastructure provides an increasingly cost-effective and financially sustainable alternative energy source.

The proposed 1.5 MW solar PV facility will contribute towards these objectives by providing an additional local source of renewable electricity. Electricity generated by the facility may either supply the proposed Greens residential development or, alternatively, be exported to the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network. In either operational scenario, the facility will improve local energy resilience, diversify electricity supply and reduce reliance on the national grid.

Desirability

The proposed development aligns with national, provincial and municipal objectives promoting renewable energy generation, energy resilience and sustainable development. It also supports the Western Cape's objective of increasing embedded generation and reducing dependence on the national electricity grid.

Importantly, Hessequa Local Municipality has confirmed its support in principle for the proposed solar PV facility. In its letter dated 18 June 2026 (Appendix 2-5), the Municipality confirms that it supports the responsible development of renewable energy facilities within its municipal area, including facilities intended to supply electricity to private developments as well as facilities that may export excess electricity to the municipal electricity distribution network, subject to the applicable municipal approvals and technical requirements.

The Municipality further records that the proposed facility, whether intended to supply the associated development, export electricity to the municipal grid, or operate under another lawful and technically approved arrangement, is considered desirable in principle because it has the potential to:

- improve local energy resilience;
- reduce pressure on conventional electricity supply;
- support sustainable private development;
- promote renewable energy generation within the municipal area; and
- contribute to the diversification of electricity supply.

Accordingly, the proposed solar PV facility is considered both needed and desirable from a municipal planning and energy resilience perspective.

Table 1: Need and desirability

1. How will this development (and its separate elements/aspects) impact on the ecological integrity of the area?
The proposed solar facility is located entirely within a previously disturbed brownfield site associated with historical brick-making and quarrying activities. Specialist assessments verified the proposed development footprint and associated underground electrical reticulation corridor as being of Low sensitivity for the terrestrial biodiversity, plant species, animal species, aquatic biodiversity and agricultural themes. No natural vegetation, wetlands, watercourses, Species of Conservation Concern or sensitive habitats will be affected. Accordingly, the proposed development is expected to have a negligible impact on the ecological integrity of the area.
1.1. How were the following ecological integrity considerations taken into account?: 1.1.1.Threatened Ecosystems, 1.1.2.Sensitive, vulnerable, highly dynamic or stressed ecosystems, such as coastal shores, estuaries, wetlands, and similar systems require specific attention in management and planning procedures, especially where they are subject to significant human resource usage and development pressure,

1.1.3.Critical Biodiversity Areas ("CBAs") and Ecological Support Areas ("ESAs"),

1.1.4.Conservation targets,

1.1.5. Ecological drivers of the ecosystem,

The ecological integrity of the site was assessed through specialist investigations addressing the terrestrial biodiversity, plant species, animal species, aquatic biodiversity and agricultural themes. Although the property falls within the Endangered Albertinia Sand Fynbos vegetation type and portions of the property are mapped as CBA 1 and CBA 2 in the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (2023), the proposed solar development footprint and associated underground electrical reticulation corridor were verified as previously transformed brownfield areas with No Natural Area Remaining (NNAR). Historical brick-making, quarrying and associated industrial activities have removed the indigenous vegetation and ecological characteristics associated with Albertinia Sand Fynbos within the development footprint.

The specialist assessments confirmed that no threatened ecosystems, sensitive habitats, wetlands, watercourses, ecological corridors or other vulnerable ecosystems occur within the proposed development footprint or associated reticulation corridor. Similarly, no Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable flora or fauna species, nor any of the Species of Conservation Concern identified by the DFFE Screening Tool, were recorded during the specialist assessments, and no suitable habitat for such species remains within the development area.

Although regional biodiversity datasets identify CBA 1 and CBA 2 on portions of the property, the specialist site verification confirmed that the mapped biodiversity priorities are not representative of the verified on-site conditions within the proposed development footprint. The development footprint no longer contributes towards biodiversity conservation targets or ecological processes due to its long-standing transformation and negligible ecological value. Consequently, the proposed development will not compromise threatened ecosystems, Critical Biodiversity Areas, Ecological Support Areas, conservation targets or the ecological drivers of the surrounding ecosystem.

1.1.6.Environmental Management Framework,

1.1.7.Spatial Development Framework, and

1.1.8.Global and international responsibilities relating to the environment (e.g. RAMSAR sites, Climate Change, etc.).

Section 2 and Section 3 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) require that environmental management places people and their needs at the forefront of decision-making while ensuring that development is socially, environmentally and economically sustainable. These principles further require that disturbance of ecosystems and loss of biological diversity are avoided wherever possible or, where avoidance is not possible, are minimised and remedied.

The proposed solar PV facility has been designed to give effect to these principles by locating the development entirely within a previously disturbed brownfield area associated with historical brick-making activities. Specialist assessments verified the proposed development footprint and associated underground electrical reticulation corridor as being of Low environmental sensitivity for the plant species, animal species, terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity and agricultural themes. The development avoids natural vegetation, wetlands, watercourses, Species of Conservation Concern and other environmentally sensitive features.

The proposal is consistent with the objectives of the National Development Plan (2011–2030), which identifies the expansion of electricity generation capacity and the transition towards a low-carbon economy as national priorities. South Africa has significant solar energy potential, and the development of renewable energy facilities contributes towards improving energy security, diversifying electricity supply and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The proposed development is further aligned with the objectives of the Garden Route Environmental Management Framework (EMF), as it utilises an already transformed brownfield site, avoids areas of high environmental sensitivity and does not adversely affect important biodiversity resources, ecological processes or visually sensitive landscapes.

The proposed development is also consistent with the applicable municipal Spatial Development Framework by promoting sustainable infrastructure development within an already disturbed area, thereby avoiding unnecessary expansion into environmentally sensitive or high-value agricultural land.

From an international perspective, the proposed development supports South Africa's commitments to mitigating climate change by increasing renewable energy generation and reducing dependence on fossil fuel-based electricity generation. No Ramsar wetlands, protected international conservation areas or other internationally significant environmental resources occur within or adjacent to the proposed development area.

Accordingly, the proposed development is considered to be consistent with the applicable environmental management framework, spatial planning objectives and South Africa's national and international environmental commitments.

1.2. How will this development disturb or enhance ecosystems and/or result in the loss or protection of biological diversity? What measures were explored to firstly avoid these negative impacts, and where these negative impacts could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimise and remedy (including offsetting) the impacts? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?

The proposed solar PV facility has been located within a previously disturbed brownfield site associated with historical brick-making, quarrying and agricultural activities. The proposed underground electrical reticulation is located on previously disturbed land. Specialist assessments confirmed that the development footprint and associated underground electrical reticulation corridor are located entirely within areas of Low environmental sensitivity for the plant species, animal species, terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity and agricultural themes. The site has been verified as No Natural Area Remaining (NNAR) and no natural vegetation, wetlands, watercourses, ecological corridors, Species of Conservation Concern or sensitive habitats will be affected.

The primary measure adopted to avoid impacts on ecosystems and biological diversity was the selection of a previously transformed site rather than an area supporting intact natural vegetation. Consequently, no significant impacts on ecosystems or biodiversity are anticipated, no biodiversity offsets are required, and mitigation measures are limited to good construction practices and implementation of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). Positive impacts include the utilisation of a disturbed site for renewable energy generation, thereby avoiding pressure on environmentally sensitive areas while contributing to South Africa's transition towards a low-carbon economy.

1.3. How will this development pollute and/or degrade the biophysical environment? What measures were explored to firstly avoid these impacts, and where impacts could not be avoided altogether, what

measures were explored to minimise and remedy (including offsetting) the impacts? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?
The proposed development is not expected to result in significant pollution or degradation of the biophysical environment. Potential impacts are limited to temporary construction-related activities, including vegetation clearance within the already disturbed footprint, dust generation, noise, waste generation and minor soil disturbance associated with the installation of foundations and underground electrical cabling. These impacts have been avoided and minimised through the selection of a previously disturbed brownfield site, the avoidance of environmentally sensitive areas, the use of underground rather than overhead electrical infrastructure, and the design of a narrow, temporary trench for the underground reticulation. Disturbed areas will be reinstated following construction, and all construction activities will be managed in accordance with the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), including measures for erosion control, waste management, dust suppression, pollution prevention and rehabilitation. No significant residual impacts are anticipated following implementation of the recommended mitigation measures, and no environmental offsets are required. The principal positive environmental benefit of the proposed development is the generation of renewable electricity, which contributes to reduced greenhouse gas emissions and decreased reliance on fossil fuel-based electricity generation.
1.4. What waste will be generated by this development? What measures were explored to firstly avoid waste, and where waste could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimise, reuse and/or recycle the waste? What measures have been explored to safely treat and/or dispose of unavoidable waste ?
The majority of the solar facility components will be manufactured off-site and assembled on site, thereby minimising construction waste. Limited excavation will be required for foundation blocks, the mini-substation and the installation of underground electrical reticulation. Waste generated during construction is expected to be minimal and will consist primarily of packaging materials, general domestic waste, scrap metal, off-cuts of electrical cabling, and small quantities of construction rubble. Waste generation will be minimised through accurate material procurement, off-site prefabrication, and good housekeeping practices. The waste hierarchy will be applied by avoiding unnecessary waste generation, reusing materials where practicable, recycling suitable waste streams through licensed recycling facilities, and disposing of residual waste at a licensed municipal waste disposal facility. No hazardous waste is anticipated other than small quantities associated with the servicing of construction equipment, which will be managed and disposed of by suitably authorised contractors in accordance with applicable waste management legislation. Detailed waste management measures are included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).
1.5. How will this development disturb or enhance landscapes and/or sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage? What measures were explored to firstly avoid these impacts, and where impacts could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimise and remedy (including offsetting) the impacts? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?
The proposed solar PV facility will be developed within a previously disturbed brownfield site associated with historical brick-making, quarrying and agricultural activities. The development footprint has been selected to avoid disturbance of undeveloped land. The proposed development is not expected to disturb or adversely affect the nation's cultural heritage. No offset or enhancement measures are required.

1.6. How will this development use and/or impact on non-renewable natural resources? What measures were explored to ensure responsible and equitable use of the resources? How have the consequences of the depletion of the non-renewable natural resources been considered? What measures were explored to firstly avoid these impacts, and where impacts could not be avoided altogether, what measures were explored to minimise and remedy (including offsetting) the impacts? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?
The proposed development will generate up to 1.5 MW of renewable electricity from solar energy, thereby reducing reliance on electricity generated from non-renewable fossil fuel sources. Electricity generated by the facility may either be supplied directly to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15 (subject to a separate environmental authorisation process) or, alternatively, exported to the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network via the existing electrical connection point on Erf 2282 (29 Mission Street). In either operational scenario, the facility will contribute towards reducing demand on conventional electricity generation and associated greenhouse gas emissions. The proposed development is located within a previously disturbed brownfield site and therefore avoids the unnecessary consumption of undeveloped natural resources. The development footprint has been selected to minimise impacts on agricultural land, biodiversity and other environmental resources. No significant depletion of non-renewable natural resources is anticipated, and no environmental offsets are required.
1.7. How will this development use and/or impact on renewable natural resources and the ecosystem of which they are part? Will the use of the resources and/or impact on the ecosystem jeopardise the integrity of the resource and/or system taking into account carrying capacity restrictions, limits of acceptable change, and thresholds? What measures were explored to firstly avoid the use of resources, or if avoidance is not possible, to minimise the use of resources? What measures were taken to ensure responsible and equitable use of the resources? What measures were explored to enhance positive impacts?
The proposed development utilises solar energy, a renewable natural resource, to generate electricity. The development footprint and associated underground electrical reticulation corridor have been verified as areas of Low environmental sensitivity for the plant species, animal species, terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity and agricultural themes. The development is located entirely within a previously disturbed brownfield site and will not compromise the integrity or carrying capacity of the surrounding ecosystem. The development has been designed to minimise the use of natural resources through the utilisation of an existing disturbed site, the installation of underground electrical reticulation rather than overhead powerlines, and the avoidance of environmentally sensitive areas.
1.7.1. Does the proposed development exacerbate the increased dependency on increased use of resources to maintain economic growth or does it reduce resource dependency (i.e. de-materialised growth)? (note: sustainability requires that settlements reduce their ecological footprint by using less material and energy demands and reduce the amount of waste they generate, without compromising their quest to improve their quality of life)
The proposed development reduces dependency on non-renewable energy resources by generating renewable electricity from solar energy. It contributes to energy resilience while reducing reliance on fossil fuel-based electricity generation and supporting South Africa's transition towards a low-carbon economy.
1.7.2. Does the proposed use of natural resources constitute the best use thereof? Is the use justifiable when considering intra- and intergenerational equity, and are there more important priorities for which

the resources should be used (i.e. what are the opportunity costs of using these resources this the proposed development alternative?)
The proposed use of the site is considered to represent the best use of the available resource. The facility is located on a previously disturbed brownfield site with low environmental sensitivity, thereby avoiding impacts on natural ecosystems while making productive use of an already transformed area. The development promotes the efficient utilisation of renewable energy resources without compromising environmental sustainability or intergenerational equity.
1.7.3. Do the proposed location, type and scale of development promote a reduced dependency on resources?
The proposed location, type and scale of development reduce dependency on non-renewable energy resources while minimising the need for additional infrastructure. Electricity will either be supplied directly to the proposed Greens residential development or, alternatively, exported to the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network via the existing connection point on Erf 2282. In either case, only underground electrical reticulation installed within sleeves is required, with no overhead powerlines or extensive new linear infrastructure.
1.8. How were a risk-averse and cautious approach applied in terms of ecological impacts?: 1.8.1.What are the limits of current knowledge (note: the gaps, uncertainties and assumptions must be clearly stated)? 1.8.2.What is the level of risk associated with the limits of current knowledge? 1.8.3. Based on the limits of knowledge and the level of risk, how and to what extent was a risk averse and cautious approach applied to the development? What measures were taken to enhance positive impacts?
A risk-averse and cautious approach was applied throughout the planning and design of the proposed development by selecting a previously disturbed brownfield site associated with historical brick-making, quarrying and agricultural activities. Specialist assessments were undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Norm and the Environmental Themes Protocols to verify the environmental sensitivities of the proposed development footprint and associated underground electrical reticulation corridor. These assessments confirmed the development footprint to be of Low environmental sensitivity for the plant species, animal species, terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity and agricultural themes. The limits of current knowledge are considered to be low, as the specialist assessments included site inspections, verification of the Screening Tool results and review of available spatial and environmental information. No significant uncertainties were identified that would alter the conclusions of the assessments. Consequently, the level of environmental risk associated with the proposed development is considered to be low. The risk-averse approach was further applied by locating the facility entirely within a previously transformed area which has no natural vegetation, wetlands, watercourses, Species of Conservation Concern and other environmentally sensitive features on the site. Implementation of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) will further minimise temporary construction-related impacts and ensure that positive environmental benefits associated with renewable energy generation are realised.

1.9. How will the ecological impacts resulting from this development impact on people's environmental right in terms the following: 1.9.1. Negative impacts: e.g. access to resources, opportunity costs, loss of amenity (e.g. open space), air and water quality impacts, nuisance (noise, odour, etc.), health impacts, visual impacts, etc. What measures were taken to firstly avoid negative impacts, but if avoidance is not possible, to minimise, manage and remedy negative impacts? 1.9.2. Positive impacts: e.g. improved access to resources, improved amenity, improved air or water quality, etc
The proposed development is not expected to result in significant negative impacts on people's environmental rights. The facility is located within a previously disturbed brownfield site and avoids environmentally sensitive areas. Temporary construction-related impacts, including dust, noise, waste generation and soil disturbance, will be effectively managed through implementation of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). No significant impacts on air quality, water resources, ecological integrity or access to natural resources are anticipated. The development will provide positive environmental and socio-economic benefits through the generation of renewable electricity, contributing towards improved energy resilience, reduced reliance on fossil fuel-based electricity generation and lower greenhouse gas emissions. Depending on the operational scenario, electricity may either supply the proposed Greens residential development or be exported to the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network.
1.10. Describe the linkages and dependencies between human wellbeing, livelihoods and ecosystem services applicable to the area in question and how the development's ecological impacts will result in socio-economic impacts (e.g. on livelihoods, loss of heritage site, opportunity costs, etc.)?
The proposed development is located within a previously transformed brownfield site that no longer provides significant natural ecosystem services or biodiversity value. Consequently, the development will not result in the loss of important ecosystem services, livelihoods or ecological resources. The principal socio-economic benefits relate to the generation of renewable electricity, which contributes towards improved energy security, supports economic development and reduces reliance on non-renewable energy sources. Construction and operation of the facility will also create employment opportunities and contribute to local economic activity while avoiding impacts on environmentally sensitive areas.
1.11. Based on all of the above, how will this development positively or negatively impact on ecological integrity /objectives/targets/ considerations of the area?
The proposed solar PV facility is located entirely within a previously disturbed brownfield site that has been verified through specialist assessment as being of Low environmental sensitivity for the plant species, animal species, terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity and agricultural themes. No significant impacts on ecological integrity, biodiversity objectives or environmental targets are anticipated. Potential negative impacts are limited to temporary construction-related disturbance and will be effectively managed through implementation of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). Positive impacts include the generation of up to 1.5 MW of renewable electricity, reduced reliance on fossil fuel-based electricity generation, improved energy resilience and support for South Africa's transition towards a low-carbon economy.

1.12. Considering the need to secure ecological integrity and a healthy biophysical environment, describe how the alternatives identified (in terms of all the different elements of the development and all the different impacts being proposed), resulted in the selection of the "best practicable environmental option" in terms of ecological considerations?
The proposed solar PV facility has been located entirely within a previously disturbed brownfield site associated with historical brick-making, quarrying and agricultural activities. The development footprint is situated within an already modified landscape adjacent to existing warehouse facilities, agricultural land, the municipal cemetery and an existing road. Site selection prioritised the use of this transformed area, thereby avoiding natural vegetation, wetlands, watercourses, high-value agricultural land and other environmentally sensitive features. Specialist assessments verified the proposed development footprint and associated underground electrical reticulation corridor as being of Low environmental sensitivity for the plant species, animal species, terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity and agricultural themes. Accordingly, the proposed site represents the best practicable environmental option, as it enables the generation of renewable energy while avoiding significant impacts on ecological integrity and the biophysical environment.
1.13. Describe the positive and negative cumulative ecological/biophysical impacts bearing in mind the size, scale, scope and nature of the project in relation to its location and existing and other planned developments in the area?
The proposed development is limited in scale (1.5 MW) and is located within a previously disturbed brownfield site that has negligible ecological value. Specialist assessments concluded that the development will not result in the loss of natural habitat, Species of Conservation Concern, wetlands, watercourses or ecological corridors. Consequently, no significant negative cumulative ecological or biophysical impacts are anticipated. Positive cumulative impacts include an increase in local renewable energy generation, reduced reliance on electricity generated from non-renewable energy sources, improved energy resilience and support for South Africa's transition to a lower-carbon economy. Temporary construction-related impacts will be effectively managed through implementation of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), and no unacceptable cumulative environmental impacts are expected.
2.1.What is the socio-economic context of the area, based on, amongst other considerations, the following considerations?: 2.1.1. The IDP (and its sector plans' vision, objectives, strategies, indicators and targets) and any other strategic plans, frameworks of policies applicable to the area, 2.1.2. Spatial priorities and desired spatial patterns (e.g. need for integrated of segregated communities, need to upgrade informal settlements, need for densification, etc.), 2.1.3. Spatial characteristics (e.g. existing land uses, planned land uses, cultural landscapes, etc.), and 2.1.4. Municipal Economic Development Strategy ("LED Strategy").
The Hessequa Local Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDP) (2022–2027) identifies energy security, infrastructure resilience and sustainable economic development as key municipal priorities. A significant component of the Municipality's strategy is to strengthen electricity supply through the increased integration of renewable energy technologies and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), thereby reducing reliance on the national electricity grid and improving the reliability and resilience of local electricity supply.

Solar photovoltaic (PV) technology has become one of the most cost-competitive forms of electricity generation globally, with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA, 2022) reporting significant reductions in the cost of utility-scale solar PV since 2010. The integration of battery energy storage enables renewable electricity generated during daylight hours to be stored and utilised during periods of peak demand or electricity supply interruptions, thereby improving network stability, reducing reliance on conventional electricity generation and enhancing long-term energy resilience.

The Municipality further recognises the importance of distributed renewable energy generation in supporting local economic development. Hessequa Local Municipality actively encourages Small-Scale Embedded Generation (SSEG) and is investigating mechanisms that would enable residents and businesses to supply surplus renewable electricity to the municipal electricity distribution network under appropriate commercial arrangements. This approach has the potential to increase locally generated electricity without requiring significant municipal capital investment, while strengthening long-term electricity supply resilience.

The proposed solar PV facility directly supports these strategic objectives by providing up to 1.5 MW of renewable electricity generation together with an integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). The facility has been designed as a standalone renewable energy development and, depending on operational requirements and applicable agreements, electricity generated may either:

- be supplied directly to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15 (subject to a separate environmental authorisation process); or
- be exported to the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network via the upgraded electrical connection point on Erf 2282 (29 Mission Street).

Hessequa Local Municipality has confirmed its support for the proposed solar PV facility and the proposed connection to the municipal electricity distribution network, subject to completion of the required technical assessments and grid connection requirements (refer to (Appendix 2-5)). This support confirms that the proposed development aligns with municipal objectives relating to renewable energy generation, electricity supply resilience and improved local energy security.

The proposed development therefore provides operational flexibility and does not rely on the implementation of the proposed residential development on Portion 15. Should the residential development proceed, the generated electricity may contribute towards its electricity requirements. Alternatively, the facility is capable of operating independently by supplying renewable electricity directly into the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network. In both scenarios, the development contributes towards increased renewable energy generation, improved electricity resilience and enhanced energy security within the municipal area.

From a spatial planning perspective, the proposed development is located entirely within a previously disturbed brownfield site associated with historical brick-making, quarrying and agricultural activities. The development footprint is situated within an already modified landscape adjacent to existing warehouse facilities, agricultural land, the municipal cemetery and established road infrastructure. The utilisation of this transformed area is consistent with spatial planning principles that promote the efficient use of previously disturbed land and avoids unnecessary disturbance of environmentally sensitive areas.

The proposed development further supports the Municipality's Local Economic Development (LED) objectives by facilitating private sector investment in renewable energy infrastructure, improving local energy resilience, reducing dependence on electricity generated from non-renewable sources, creating temporary employment opportunities during construction, supporting specialist operational and

maintenance services during operation, and contributing towards a more secure and sustainable electricity supply to support future economic growth within the Hessequa Local Municipality.
2.2.Considering the socio-economic context, what will the socioeconomic impacts be of the development (and its separate elements/aspects), and specifically also on the socioeconomic objectives of the area?
The proposed solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will contribute positively to the socio-economic objectives of the Hessequa Local Municipality by supporting improved energy security, infrastructure resilience and sustainable economic development. The development represents a significant private sector investment in renewable energy infrastructure within the municipal area, demonstrating investor confidence and contributing towards the diversification and strengthening of the local energy sector. Reliable electricity supply is a key enabling factor for economic growth, residential development, investment confidence and the continued functioning of businesses and municipal services. By introducing additional renewable electricity generation capacity, the proposed development will contribute towards improving local energy resilience, reducing dependence on conventional electricity generation sources and supporting future economic development opportunities within the Municipality. The development forms part of the broader transition towards increased renewable energy generation, energy diversification and distributed electricity supply. The progressive implementation of renewable energy initiatives, battery storage systems and distributed generation has the potential to contribute towards: • improved electricity supply resilience across the municipal area; • reduced reliance on Eskom bulk electricity purchases over the longer term; • reduced exposure to electricity supply interruptions and associated economic impacts; • increased participation of private investors, residents and businesses in renewable electricity generation; • stimulation of local economic activity through renewable energy investment and associated services; and • improved environmental sustainability through increased renewable energy adoption. The development of a Municipal Energy Master Plan will further assist the Municipality in prioritising and coordinating future energy opportunities to ensure that renewable energy investments are technically feasible, financially sustainable and aligned with municipal infrastructure planning.
2.2.1. Will the development complement the local socioeconomic initiatives (such as local economic development (LED) initiatives), or skills development programs?
The proposed development is considered to complement the local socio-economic initiatives and Local Economic Development (LED) objectives of the Hessequa Local Municipality by facilitating private sector investment in renewable energy infrastructure, strengthening local electricity resilience and supporting the transition towards a more sustainable and diversified energy supply. The investment by the private developer represents the mobilisation of external capital towards renewable energy infrastructure within the Municipality, without requiring direct municipal capital expenditure for the establishment of the facility. This contributes towards the Municipality's objectives of encouraging renewable energy generation, improving electricity supply resilience and supporting sustainable economic growth.

During the construction phase, the development will provide opportunities for local economic participation through the appointment of contractors, suppliers and service providers, as well as temporary employment opportunities for suitably qualified local labour. Where feasible, local procurement and the use of local skills will be encouraged.

During the operational phase, the facility will require ongoing specialist services associated with monitoring, maintenance and electrical infrastructure management, thereby creating opportunities for local service providers and supporting the development of renewable energy-related skills within the municipal area.

The proposed development therefore represents a positive socio-economic intervention by enabling private investment in renewable energy infrastructure, supporting municipal energy resilience objectives and contributing towards a more secure and sustainable electricity supply within the Hessequa Local Municipality. The facility has been designed as a standalone renewable energy development and can provide electricity either to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15 (subject to a separate environmental authorisation process) or directly to the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network via the upgraded electrical connection point on Erf 2282 (29 Mission Street). The socio-economic benefits of the development therefore remain applicable irrespective of the final electricity off-take arrangement.

2.3. How will this development address the specific physical, psychological, developmental, cultural and social needs and interests of the relevant communities?

The proposed solar PV facility and integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will address the physical and social needs of the surrounding community by contributing towards improved electricity security, reliability and resilience within the Hessequa Local Municipality. A secure and sustainable electricity supply is an important requirement for the functioning of households, businesses, municipal services and future development initiatives within the area.

The development supports the Municipality's objectives of increasing renewable energy generation and improving local energy resilience, thereby contributing towards a more reliable electricity supply and reducing vulnerability associated with electricity supply interruptions. The availability of additional renewable electricity generation capacity will support the broader socio-economic development of the area by enabling continued investment, economic activity and service delivery.

The proposed facility is located within a previously disturbed brownfield area associated with historical brick-making, quarrying and agricultural activities. The development footprint has therefore been selected to utilise an already transformed area, thereby avoiding unnecessary disturbance of undeveloped areas with potential biodiversity, cultural or heritage significance.

The development will further contribute to local community interests through temporary employment opportunities during the construction phase, opportunities for local contractors and service providers, and the potential development of renewable energy-related skills during the operational phase. The project therefore supports both immediate economic participation and longer-term sustainability objectives within the local community.

2.4. Will the development result in equitable (intra- and intergenerational) impact distribution, in the short- and long-term? Will the impact be socially and economically sustainable in the short- and long-term?

The proposed development is expected to result in a positive and equitable distribution of impacts by providing long-term socio-economic benefits while limiting potential environmental impacts through the utilisation of a previously disturbed development area.

The development will contribute towards improved electricity resilience and increased renewable energy generation capacity within the Hessequa Local Municipality. These benefits extend beyond the immediate project area by supporting a more secure and sustainable electricity supply network that can benefit current and future residents, businesses and municipal services.

The use of a transformed brownfield site ensures that the development avoids significant additional impacts on natural systems, biodiversity resources and heritage resources, thereby reducing potential negative impacts that may otherwise affect future generations. The development footprint is compatible with the surrounding land uses and is located adjacent to existing infrastructure, including established roads and developed areas.

From a socio-economic perspective, the project represents a sustainable private sector investment in renewable energy infrastructure that supports municipal energy objectives without requiring direct municipal capital investment. The construction phase will provide temporary employment and local procurement opportunities, while the operational phase will support ongoing specialist maintenance and service requirements.

The proposed solar PV facility is therefore considered socially and economically sustainable in both the short and long term, as it contributes towards improved energy security, supports local economic development objectives, encourages renewable energy investment and provides long-term infrastructure resilience within the Hessequa Local Municipality.

2.5. In terms of location, describe how the placement of the proposed development will:

2.5.1. result in the creation of residential and employment opportunities in close proximity to or integrated with each other,

2.5.2. reduce the need for transport of people and goods,

2.5.3. result in access to public transport or enable non-motorised and pedestrian transport (e.g. will the development result in densification and the achievement of thresholds in terms public transport),

2.5.4. compliment other uses in the area,

2.5.5. be in line with the planning for the area,

2.5.6. for urban related development, make use of underutilised land available with the urban edge

2.5.7. optimise the use of existing resources and infrastructure,

2.5.8. opportunity costs in terms of bulk infrastructure expansions in non-priority areas (e.g. not aligned with the bulk infrastructure planning for the settlement that reflects the spatial reconstruction priorities of the settlement),

2.5.9. discourage "urban sprawl" and contribute to compaction/densification,

2.5.10. contribute to the correction of the historically distorted spatial patterns of settlements and to the optimum use of existing infrastructure in excess of current needs,

2.5.11. encourage environmentally sustainable land development practices and processes,

2.5.12. take into account special locational factors that might favour the specific location (e.g. the location of a strategic mineral resource, access to the port, access to rail, etc.),

2.5.13. the investment in the settlement or area in question will generate the highest socioeconomic returns (i.e. an area with high economic potential),

2.5.14. impact on the sense of history, sense of place and heritage of the area and the socio-cultural and cultural-historic characteristics and sensitivities of the area, and

2.5.15. in terms of the nature, scale and location of the development promote or act as a catalyst to create a more integrated settlement?

The proposed solar PV facility and integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is located within a previously disturbed and transformed area associated with historical brick-making, quarrying and agricultural activities. The site is situated adjacent to existing warehouse facilities, established road infrastructure, the municipal cemetery and the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15. The location is considered suitable for renewable energy infrastructure due to its existing level of transformation, compatible surrounding land uses, proximity to electricity users and access to existing infrastructure.

The proposed 1.5 MW solar PV facility has been designed as a standalone renewable energy development and provides operational flexibility in terms of electricity supply. The electricity generated may be supplied to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15 (subject to a separate environmental authorisation process), exported to the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network via the upgraded electrical connection point located on Erf 2282 (29 Mission Street), or supplied to both. The facility is therefore not dependent on the approval or implementation of the proposed residential development and retains independent need and desirability as a renewable energy generation facility.

The location optimises the use of existing resources and infrastructure through the utilisation of an area with existing access, established surrounding development and proximity to the electricity connection point. The close proximity between the proposed facility, potential electricity users and the municipal electricity network reduces the need for extensive new electricity infrastructure, limits associated environmental disturbance and supports efficient infrastructure planning.

The proposed development represents significant private sector investment in renewable energy infrastructure within the Hessequa Local Municipality. This investment supports municipal renewable energy objectives by increasing local electricity generation capacity without requiring equivalent direct municipal capital expenditure for the establishment of the facility. The development contributes towards reducing future pressure on municipal resources associated with increasing electricity demand, improving electricity supply resilience and expanding renewable energy generation capacity.

The facility is compatible with the surrounding land uses and does not introduce a land use that is inconsistent with the existing character of the area. The development does not require expansion of the urban edge, establishment of new settlement areas or additional bulk infrastructure to support urban growth. Rather, it supports existing and planned development by providing renewable electricity infrastructure within an accessible and strategically located area.

The construction phase will involve the transport and installation of solar PV and BESS components manufactured off-site and assembled on site. This approach limits on-site construction activities, reduces waste generation and avoids the need for additional manufacturing-related infrastructure at the site.

Existing road infrastructure provides suitable access to the facility, reducing the requirement for additional transport infrastructure. The site selection further supports environmentally sustainable land development practices by directing renewable energy infrastructure towards an area that has already been modified by historical land uses, thereby avoiding unnecessary disturbance of undeveloped areas. Specialist assessments and site verification have confirmed that the site has low environmental sensitivity in terms of the applicable agricultural, terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity, plant species and animal species themes. The development footprint has been selected to avoid areas of ecological sensitivity and the proposed activity can be undertaken with appropriate mitigation measures to minimise potential environmental impacts. The proposed development aligns with the strategic objectives of the Hessequa Local Municipality relating to renewable energy generation, electricity resilience and sustainable economic development. Through private sector investment, efficient use of existing infrastructure and the provision of additional renewable electricity generation capacity, the development contributes towards improved local energy security and supports the Municipality's long-term energy planning objectives. The proposed development is therefore considered appropriately located in terms of its nature, scale and surrounding land uses, as it enables renewable energy generation in a suitable location while supporting municipal infrastructure resilience, reducing pressure on future electricity supply requirements and contributing towards sustainable development within the Hessequa Local Municipality.
2.6. How were a risk-averse and cautious approach applied in terms of socio-economic impacts?
A risk-averse and cautious approach was applied through the consideration of the potential socio-economic implications of the proposed solar PV facility and integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), including the compatibility of the development with surrounding land uses, electricity supply objectives, infrastructure requirements and potential benefits to the local area. The proposed development has been located within a previously disturbed and transformed area associated with historical brick-making, quarrying and agricultural activities. The site is located adjacent to existing development and infrastructure, and the proposed renewable energy land use is considered compatible with the surrounding area. The facility has been designed as a standalone renewable energy development, providing flexibility in terms of electricity supply. Electricity generated may be supplied to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15 (subject to separate environmental authorisation), the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network, or both. This approach reduces reliance on a single electricity off-take arrangement and ensures that the development retains socio-economic value irrespective of the final electricity supply arrangement.
2.6.1. What are the limits of current knowledge (note: the gaps, uncertainties and assumptions must be clearly stated)?
The following uncertainties and assumptions remain: - the final electricity off-take arrangement has not yet been confirmed and may involve supply to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15, the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network, or both; - depending on the final electricity supply arrangement, underground cabling infrastructure may traverse Portion 15 either towards the proposed Greens residential development or towards the municipal electricity connection point located on Erf 2282 (29 Mission Street); and

- the timing and implementation of the proposed Greens residential development remains subject to a separate environmental authorisation process.
- The potential cabling routes and associated infrastructure areas have been considered as part of the project planning process and have been verified as having low sensitivity in terms of the applicable environmental themes. The associated infrastructure requirements are therefore not expected to result in significant additional environmental or socio-economic risks.

Notwithstanding these uncertainties, the proposed facility has been assessed as a standalone renewable energy development with independent socio-economic benefits associated with increased renewable electricity generation, improved electricity resilience and private sector investment in local energy infrastructure. Hessequa Local Municipality's confirmation of the need for additional renewable energy generation capacity ((Appendix 2-5) supports the requirement for the facility, irrespective of whether electricity is ultimately supplied to the proposed Greens residential development, the municipal electricity distribution network, or both.

2.6.2. What is the level of risk (note: related to inequality, social fabric, livelihoods, vulnerable communities, critical resources, economic vulnerability and sustainability) associated with the limits of current knowledge?

The primary uncertainty relates to the final electricity supply arrangement; however, this does not affect the fundamental need or desirability of the renewable energy facility. Hessequa Local Municipality's confirmation of the need for additional renewable energy generation capacity (Appendix 2-5) supports the requirement for the facility, irrespective of whether electricity is ultimately supplied to the proposed Greens residential development, the municipal electricity distribution network, or both.

2.6.3. Based on the limits of knowledge and the level of risk, how and to what extent was a risk averse and cautious approach applied to the development?

The design approach provides flexibility regarding electricity supply options and avoids creating a dependency between the solar PV facility and the proposed Greens residential development. The Municipality's confirmation of the need for additional renewable energy generation capacity, together with the low sensitivity of the associated infrastructure areas, supports the conclusion that the proposed development represents a cautious and appropriate response to local energy requirements.

2.7. How will the socio-economic impacts resulting from this development impact on people's environmental right in terms following: 2.7.1. Negative impacts: e.g. health (e.g. HIV-Aids), safety, social ills, etc. What measures were taken to firstly avoid negative impacts, but if avoidance is not possible, to minimise, manage and remedy negative impacts? 2.7.2. Positive impacts. What measures were taken to enhance positive impacts?

The proposed solar PV facility and integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is not anticipated to result in significant negative socio-economic impacts on surrounding communities or existing land uses. The development has been located within a previously disturbed and transformed area associated with historical brick-making, quarrying and agricultural activities, thereby avoiding unnecessary disturbance of areas that may support existing livelihoods or community resources.

The development is located adjacent to existing infrastructure and compatible surrounding land uses, including warehouse facilities, roads and the municipal cemetery. The site selection and design process have considered potential impacts on surrounding users, access requirements and infrastructure needs.

Potential short-term impacts associated with construction activities, such as increased traffic, noise and temporary disturbance, will be managed through the implementation of appropriate environmental management measures and the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). Construction activities will be undertaken in accordance with approved environmental management requirements to minimise impacts on surrounding land uses and neighbouring communities.

No significant impacts relating to displacement of people, loss of livelihoods, disruption of social structures or reduced access to resources are anticipated.

The proposed development will contribute positively to environmental rights by supporting access to a more sustainable and resilient electricity supply. The facility will increase local renewable electricity generation capacity and contribute towards reduced reliance on electricity generated from greenhouse gas-emitting sources.

The development represents private investment in renewable energy infrastructure and supports the objectives of the Hessequa Local Municipality relating to electricity resilience and sustainable economic development. The project will provide temporary employment opportunities during construction, support local procurement and contractor opportunities where feasible, and create opportunities for ongoing specialist maintenance services during operation.

The positive socio-economic impacts of the development will be enhanced through the efficient use of existing infrastructure, connection flexibility and the ability to supply electricity to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15, the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network, or both.

2.8. Considering the linkages and dependencies between human wellbeing, livelihoods and ecosystem services, describe the linkages and dependencies applicable to the area in question and how the development's socioeconomic impacts will result in ecological impacts (e.g. over utilisation of natural resources, etc.)?

The surrounding community and local economy are dependent on reliable infrastructure services, including electricity supply, to support households, businesses, municipal services and future development. The proposed renewable energy facility contributes towards improving electricity resilience while reducing longer-term reliance on electricity generation from more carbon-intensive sources.

The development is located within an area that has already been modified by historical land uses, and the site does not represent an area where communities are dependent on natural resources for livelihoods or ecosystem services. The proposed development therefore has limited potential to affect ecosystem services that contribute directly to human wellbeing.

The applicable environmental assessments have confirmed that the site and associated infrastructure areas are of low sensitivity in terms of the relevant agricultural, terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity, plant species and animal species themes.

By enabling renewable electricity generation and reducing reliance on conventional electricity sources, the development has the potential to contribute indirectly towards improved environmental sustainability and reduced pressure on natural resources associated with energy generation.

2.9. What measures were taken to pursue the selection of the "best practicable environmental option" in terms of socio-economic considerations?

The Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO) was pursued through the consideration of a suitable location, surrounding land uses, electricity supply requirements, infrastructure availability and potential socio-economic benefits.

The selected site provides an opportunity to establish renewable energy infrastructure within a previously disturbed area, while making use of existing access and electricity infrastructure. The location enables electricity generated by the 1.5 MW solar PV facility and integrated BESS to be supplied to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15, the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network, or both.

The development represents private investment in renewable energy infrastructure that supports municipal energy objectives without requiring equivalent direct municipal capital investment. The selected option therefore provides socio-economic benefits while limiting potential environmental impacts and infrastructure requirements.

2.10. What measures were taken to pursue environmental justice so that adverse environmental impacts shall not be distributed in such a manner as to unfairly discriminate against any person, particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged persons (who are the beneficiaries and is the development located appropriately)? Considering the need for social equity and justice, do the alternatives identified, allow the "best practicable environmental option" to be selected, or is there a need for other alternatives to be considered?

The proposed development does not result in the displacement of communities, restriction of access to resources, loss of livelihoods or disproportionate impacts on vulnerable or disadvantaged groups. The site is located within a transformed area and is compatible with surrounding land uses.

The development provides broader public benefits through increased renewable electricity generation, improved electricity resilience and support for sustainable development objectives. The ability of the facility to supply electricity to the proposed Greens residential development, the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network, or both, ensures that the benefits of the development are not limited to a single beneficiary.

The proposed location and design were selected to balance the need for renewable energy infrastructure with the avoidance of unnecessary environmental impacts. No alternative location has been identified that would provide greater socio-economic benefits while achieving the same level of infrastructure efficiency and environmental suitability.

2.11. What measures were taken to pursue equitable access to environmental resources, benefits and services to meet basic human needs and ensure human wellbeing, and what special measures were taken to ensure access thereto by categories of persons disadvantaged by unfair discrimination?

The proposed development contributes towards equitable access to essential infrastructure services by increasing renewable electricity generation capacity within the Hessequa Local Municipality. Reliable electricity supply is an important component of human wellbeing, economic participation and the functioning of communities.

The development supports broader access to sustainable energy benefits by providing electricity supply flexibility, with electricity capable of being supplied to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15, the municipal electricity distribution network, or both.

The project further supports national and municipal objectives relating to sustainable development, renewable energy generation and climate resilience. Through private sector investment, local employment

opportunities and increased renewable electricity generation, the development contributes towards long-term social and economic sustainability.
2.12. What measures were taken to ensure that the responsibility for the environmental health and safety consequences of the development has been addressed throughout the development's life cycle?
Environmental risks associated with the proposed solar PV facility and integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) have been considered throughout the planning and operational phases of the development. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) includes measures to manage potential environmental risks, including the management of hazardous substances, waste management, pollution prevention, and emergency response procedures. Environmental awareness and training, including toolbox talks, will be undertaken with employees and contractors to ensure that personnel are aware of their environmental responsibilities, the requirements of the EMPr, applicable mitigation measures and procedures to be followed in the event of an environmental incident. The implementation of the EMPr will ensure that potential environmental health and safety risks associated with the development are appropriately managed, monitored and addressed throughout the relevant phases of the development.
2.13. What measures were taken to: 2.13.1. ensure the participation of all interested and affected parties, 2.13.2. provide all people with an opportunity to develop the understanding, skills and capacity necessary for achieving equitable and effective participation, 2.13.3. ensure participation by vulnerable and disadvantaged persons 2.13.4. promote community wellbeing and empowerment through environmental education, the raising of environmental awareness, the sharing of knowledge and experience and other appropriate means, 2.13.5. ensure openness and transparency, and access to information in terms of the process, 2.13.6. ensure that the interests, needs and values of all interested and affected parties were taken into account, and that adequate recognition were given to all forms of knowledge, including traditional and ordinary knowledge, and 2.13.7. ensure that the vital role of women and youth in environmental management and development were recognised and their full participation therein were be promoted?
A public participation process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Section 41 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998). The process will provide all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), including adjacent landowners, organs of state, relevant authorities, identified stakeholders and any other persons with an interest in the proposed development, with an opportunity to participate in the environmental assessment process. The public participation process will be undertaken in an open and transparent manner to ensure that relevant information regarding the proposed solar PV facility and associated infrastructure is made available to I&APs. Stakeholders will be provided with an opportunity to review project information, submit comments, identify concerns and provide input regarding the potential impacts and benefits associated

with the proposed development. All comments received will be recorded and considered, and responses will be provided in the Comments and Responses Report.

The solar development has previously been subject to this registration process. Comments received from I&APs and organs of state during that process, as well as the reasons for refusal provided by the competent authority, have been retained and considered as part of the current application process. Previous issues raised have been reviewed and responses and additional motivation have been incorporated into the current assessment where relevant. This ensures continuity of stakeholder input and demonstrates that previous concerns have informed the revised application.

The public participation process provides an opportunity for all sectors of society, including vulnerable and disadvantaged persons where applicable, as well as women and youth, to participate in the environmental assessment process. Information regarding the proposed development, potential impacts, mitigation measures and anticipated socio-economic benefits will be made available to facilitate meaningful participation and informed decision-making.

2.14. Considering the interests, needs and values of all the interested and affected parties, describe how the development will allow for opportunities for all the segments of the community (e.g.. a mixture of low-, middle-, and high-income housing opportunities) that is consistent with the priority needs of the local area (or that is proportional to the needs of an area)?

The proposed solar PV facility and integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is aligned with the priority needs of the Hessequa Local Municipality relating to improved electricity resilience, renewable energy generation and sustainable infrastructure development.

The development contributes towards addressing local energy requirements by providing additional renewable electricity generation capacity. The facility has been designed as a standalone renewable energy development, with electricity generated capable of being supplied to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15 (subject to separate environmental authorisation), the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network, or both.

The development supports broader community wellbeing by contributing towards a more secure and sustainable electricity supply, which is an important enabling factor for residential development, business activity, investment and municipal service delivery. The facility further represents private investment in renewable energy infrastructure and provides opportunities for local participation through construction activities, procurement and specialist operational services where feasible.

The proposed development complements municipal initiatives relating to renewable energy generation, battery storage systems and distributed electricity generation. The progressive implementation of these initiatives has the potential to contribute towards improved electricity supply resilience, reduced reliance on Eskom bulk electricity purchases, reduced reliance on emergency diesel generation, increased participation in renewable energy generation and improved environmental sustainability.

The proposed development is considered consistent with the priority needs of the local area by supporting sustainable energy generation, infrastructure resilience and long-term socio-economic development within the Hessequa Local Municipality.

2.15. What measures have been taken to ensure that current and/or future workers will be informed of work that potentially might be harmful to human health or the environment or of dangers associated with the work, and what measures have been taken to ensure that the right of workers to refuse such work will be respected and protected?

Environmental risks associated with the proposed solar PV facility and integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), including potential emergency incidents, waste management requirements, pollution prevention measures and the handling of hazardous substances, have been considered in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

Environmental awareness training and toolbox talks will be undertaken with employees and contractors to ensure that personnel are informed of their environmental responsibilities, applicable mitigation measures, emergency response procedures and the requirements of the EMPr.

The implementation of the EMPr will assist in ensuring that environmental risks associated with the development are communicated and appropriately managed throughout the relevant phases of the project.

2.16. Describe how the development will impact on job creation in terms of, amongst other aspects:

2.16.1. the number of temporary versus permanent jobs that will be created

2.16.2. whether the labour available in the area will be able to take up the job opportunities (i.e. do the required skills match the skills available in the area)

2.16.3. the distance from where labourers will have to travel

2.16.4. the location of jobs opportunities versus the location of impacts (i.e. equitable distribution of costs and benefits)

2.16.5. the opportunity costs in terms of job creation (e.g. a mine might create 100 jobs, but impact on 1000 agricultural jobs, etc.)

The proposed solar PV facility and integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will provide local employment opportunities during the construction phase and create opportunities for specialist services during the operational phase. The development is expected to create approximately 30 temporary employment opportunities during construction, with ongoing operational requirements associated with monitoring, maintenance and electrical infrastructure management.

The required skills for the construction and operation of the facility are expected to be available within the Hessequa Local Municipality and surrounding areas. Where feasible, local labour and service providers will be considered during the construction and operational phases, thereby supporting local economic participation and skills development.

The proposed development is located within close proximity to the Albertinia residential area, allowing potential employment opportunities to be accessed by local residents and reducing the need for extensive daily commuting. The location therefore supports the equitable distribution of socio-economic benefits by creating employment opportunities in the same area where the development impacts will occur.

The site is currently associated with a previously disturbed area and does not represent an area providing existing employment opportunities or active economic activities that would be displaced by the proposed development. The establishment of the solar PV facility will therefore not result in the loss of existing employment opportunities or agricultural production associated with the site.

The proposed development represents a positive employment opportunity by introducing renewable energy infrastructure into the area, creating temporary construction employment, supporting local procurement and providing potential longer-term opportunities for renewable energy-related services. The

employment benefits are considered appropriate in relation to the scale and nature of the development, with no significant opportunity costs identified.
2.17. What measures were taken to ensure: 2.17.1. that there were intergovernmental coordination and harmonisation of policies, legislation and actions relating to the environment 2.17.2. that actual or potential conflicts of interest between organs of state were resolved through conflict resolution procedures?
Intergovernmental coordination and alignment with applicable policies, legislation and municipal planning objectives have been addressed through consultation with relevant organs of state and authorities. A public participation process has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). Comments received from Interested and Affected Parties, including organs of state, have been recorded, considered and responded to. The proposed development is aligned with Hessequa Local Municipality's objectives relating to renewable energy generation, electricity resilience and sustainable development. No conflicts between organs of state have been identified during the registration process.
2.18. What measures were taken to ensure that the environment will be held in public trust for the people, that the beneficial use of environmental resources will serve the public interest, and that the environment will be protected as the people's common heritage.
The proposed development supports the sustainable use of environmental resources by enabling renewable electricity generation from solar energy, which contributes towards improved electricity resilience and reduced reliance on electricity generated from greenhouse gas-emitting sources. The proposed facility is located within a previously disturbed and transformed area, and therefore does not require the disturbance of intact natural areas. The development makes use of an area considered suitable for renewable energy infrastructure while supporting broader public interest objectives relating to sustainable energy generation and long-term electricity security.
2.19. Are the mitigation measures proposed realistic and what long term environmental legacy and managed burden will be left?
The mitigation measures included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) are considered practical, implementable and appropriate for the scale and nature of the proposed solar PV facility and integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). The EMPr includes measures to avoid, minimise and manage potential environmental impacts, including those associated with construction activities, waste management, hazardous substances, emergency incidents and the protection of the surrounding environment. The long-term environmental legacy of the development is expected to be positive through the provision of renewable energy infrastructure and improved electricity resilience. The managed environmental burden associated with the development is considered low due to the disturbed nature of the site, the low sensitivity of the assessed areas and the implementation of the EMPr.
2.20. What measures were taken to ensure that the costs of remedying pollution, environmental degradation and consequent adverse health effects and of preventing, controlling or minimising further

pollution, environmental damage or adverse health effects will be paid for by those responsible for harming the environment?
The applicant will be responsible for ensuring that the proposed development is implemented in accordance with the approved registration requirements and the EMPr. The EMPr provides measures to prevent pollution, minimise environmental impacts and manage potential incidents associated with the construction and operation of the facility. Environmental management measures, including waste management, pollution prevention, emergency response procedures and rehabilitation of any areas affected by construction activities, will be implemented by the responsible parties. In accordance with the polluter pays principle, any environmental impacts resulting from non-compliance or activities associated with the development will remain the responsibility of the party responsible for causing such impacts.
2.21 Considering the need to secure ecological integrity and a healthy biophysical environment, describe how the alternatives identified (in terms of all the different elements of the development and all the different impacts being proposed), resulted in the selection of the best practicable environmental option in terms of socio-economic considerations?
The proposed development site was selected as the preferred option based on its suitability for renewable energy infrastructure, existing level of disturbance, compatibility with surrounding land uses, proximity to electricity users and access to existing infrastructure. The site is located within a previously disturbed and transformed area, and the applicable environmental themes have been verified as low sensitivity. The proposed development footprint and associated infrastructure requirements can therefore be accommodated without significant impacts on ecological integrity or the surrounding biophysical environment. The selected option represents the Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO) as it enables the establishment of renewable energy infrastructure while making efficient use of an already modified site, minimising additional environmental disturbance and providing socio-economic benefits through private investment, local employment opportunities and improved electricity resilience. The facility has also been designed to provide flexibility in electricity supply, allowing power generated by the 1.5 MW solar PV facility and integrated BESS to be supplied to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15, the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network, or both. This ensures that the development retains socio-economic value while supporting local renewable energy objectives.
2.22. Describe the positive and negative cumulative socioeconomic impacts bearing in mind the size, scale, scope and nature of the project in relation to its location and other planned developments in the area?
The proposed solar PV facility and integrated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is considered to have predominantly positive cumulative socio-economic impacts within the Hessequa Local Municipality. The development contributes towards increasing local renewable electricity generation capacity, improving electricity resilience and supporting sustainable development objectives. The proposed facility will contribute to local economic benefits through private sector investment, temporary employment opportunities during construction, potential local procurement opportunities and

ongoing operational and maintenance requirements. The ability to supply renewable electricity to the proposed Greens residential development on Portion 15, the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network, or both, further supports the efficient use of infrastructure and long-term electricity supply security.

The development will also contribute towards reducing reliance on electricity generated from non-renewable sources, thereby supporting broader environmental sustainability objectives and potentially reducing long-term pressure associated with conventional electricity supply.

No significant negative cumulative socio-economic impacts are anticipated due to the scale and nature of the development, the disturbed nature of the site, its compatibility with surrounding land uses and the low sensitivity of the assessed areas. The development does not result in the loss of existing employment opportunities, displacement of communities or significant additional pressure on local resources.

The proposed renewable energy facility is therefore considered to contribute positively to the cumulative socio-economic development of the area while supporting planned growth and infrastructure resilience within the Hessequa Local Municipality.

CONSULTATION

In terms of the Norm:

5.1 The environmental assessment practitioner or environmental scientist on behalf of the proponent must identify and consult with parties who may be affected by the proposed facility, including as a minimum the following:

5.1.1 adjacent landowners and land occupiers;

5.1.2 relevant conservation and biodiversity entities/agencies;

5.1.3 relevant non-governmental organisations involved with ecology, including bird preservation;

5.1.4 relevant tourist and farmers associations;

5.1.5 the relevant heritage resources authority;

5.1.6 the relevant local government authority; and

5.1.7 Eskom, where the activities related to the development or expansion of a solar photovoltaic facility are proposed within 2km of a main electricity transmission substation or 1 km of a main electricity distribution substation, as identified by the screening tool.

5.2 The consultation process must as a minimum include the following:

5.2.1 notification of the proposed development including-

5.2.1.1 details of the proponent;

5.2.1.2 a detailed project description including the need and desirability of the proposed project;

5.2.1.3 the location of the proposed facility including a map generated at an appropriate scale that displays the extent of the proposed facility in as much detail as possible, overlaid on the identified environmental sensitivities per theme;

5.2.2 notification of where the site sensitivity verification report and environmental management programme can be accessed; and

5.2.3 a request for inputs and the timeframe in which inputs are to be submitted.

In accordance with Section 5 of the Norm, the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), on behalf of the proponent, is required to identify and consult with parties who may be affected by the proposed solar photovoltaic facility, including adjacent landowners and land occupiers, relevant conservation and biodiversity entities, relevant non-governmental organisations, relevant tourism and agricultural associations, the relevant heritage resources authority, the relevant local government authority and Eskom where applicable.

The Public Participation and Comments and Responses Report (CRR) is provided in Appendix 2. The CRR records the details of the consultation process, including the identification of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), correspondence received, comments raised and responses provided by the EAP, specialists and the proponent.

An initial registration process was undertaken for the proposed solar PV facility. Public participation was undertaken in accordance with Regulation 41 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). Landowners, adjacent landowners, identified and potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), relevant organs of state and other identified stakeholders were notified of the proposed registration process through site notices, notification letters, newspaper advertisement and email correspondence. A 30-day registration, review and comment period was provided from 3 April 2026 to 11 May 2026.

Comments received during the initial registration process, together with the corresponding responses, were recorded in the Comments and Responses Report. The initial Registration Form and supporting documentation were submitted to the Competent Authority (CA) for consideration. Following review of the submission, the Competent Authority issued a decision not to register the proposed development and provided reasons for the decision.

The Registration Form and supporting documentation have subsequently been revised to address the matters raised by the Competent Authority. A new Registration Form is therefore being submitted for consideration.

All comments received during the initial public participation process, together with the corresponding responses provided by the EAP, specialists and the applicant, have been retained and considered in the preparation of the revised Registration Form.

A further public participation process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Norm, including notification of the proposed registration and request for comment through placement of two site notices in the vicinity of the proposed development, distribution of notification letters via email to organs of state, adjacent landowners and identified potential Interested and Affected Parties, and placement of a newspaper advertisement. Notification will include details of the proponent, a description of the proposed solar PV facility, the need and desirability of the proposed development, the location of the proposed facility, and details regarding where the Site Sensitivity Verification Report and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) can be accessed.

A 30-day registration and comment period will be provided from 31 July 2026 – 31 August 2026.

Hessequa Local Municipality, as the relevant local government authority, has been consulted as part of the registration process. Correspondence received from Hessequa Local Municipality is included in Appendix 2-5.

The following appendices are attached to Appendix 2:

- Appendix 2-1: Register of Interested and Affected Parties, July 2026

- Appendix 2-2: Correspondence with Organs of State – Initial Registration Process (Comments and Responses)
- Appendix 2-3: Competent Authority Decision – Initial Registration Process
- Appendix 2-4: Minutes of Meeting with DEADP
- Appendix 2-5: Hessequa Local Municipality Correspondence

Following completion of the public participation process, all comments received will be recorded and responded to in the Comments and Responses Report. The Registration Form and supporting documentation will be updated, where applicable, to address relevant comments received during the registration period.

CONCLUSION

In terms of the Norm:

4.15 The outcome of the relevant site sensitivity verification must be recorded by the specialist in the form of a specialist report, and collated into a final site sensitivity verification report that confirms or disputes the environmental sensitivity, as identified by the screening tool for each environmental theme identified in paragraph 2.1.2.

4.16 The specialist report must be appended to the final site sensitivity verification report and must be signed by the relevant specialist.

4.17 The final specialist report must include verifiable evidence from the specialist's site inspection, including as a minimum:

4.17.1 a map showing the specialist's GPS track in relation to the proposed footprint; and

4.17.2 at least 4 spatially representative sample site descriptions from across the inspected area that include as a minimum precise geographical coordinates of the sample site, one in situ photograph of the sample site and a habitat description of the sample site; and

4.17.3 a map identifying any areas within the corridor in which development is not permitted due to environmental sensitivity, where relevant.

4.18 A final site sensitivity verification report must be prepared by a registered environmental assessment practitioner or a registered environmental scientist and signed off by the relevant specialists, all of whom must meet the requirement of regulation 13(1) of the EIA Regulations, read in the context of this Norm.

In accordance with the requirements of the Norm, site sensitivity verification was undertaken for the proposed 1.5 MW solar PV facility and associated infrastructure, including the proposed cabling route. The outcomes of the specialist assessments and site sensitivity verification have been consolidated into the Final Site Sensitivity Verification Report, which confirms the verified environmental sensitivities of the proposed development area.

The proposed solar PV facility, associated electrical infrastructure and cabling route have been verified by the relevant specialists as being located within previously disturbed and transformed areas with low verified sensitivity in terms of terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity, fauna, flora and agricultural potential. The specialist assessments, supporting evidence and Final Site Sensitivity Verification Report are provided in Appendix 3. The verification applies irrespective of whether the electricity generated is supplied to the proposed residential development on Portion 15, the Hessequa Local Municipality electricity distribution network, or both.

The site sensitivity verification confirmed that no areas of high environmental sensitivity requiring exclusion from development were identified within the proposed development footprint or associated infrastructure areas. The proposed solar PV facility and associated infrastructure can therefore be accommodated within the assessed area while avoiding significant impacts on the identified environmental themes.

Based on the outcome of the site sensitivity verification, the specialist assessments undertaken, and the implementation of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) provided in Appendix 10, the

proposed 1.5 MW solar PV facility and associated infrastructure is recommended for registration by the Competent Authority.

A copy of the **final screening report generated by the screening tool** (which includes the coordinates of the farms), which identifies the site, the footprint of the proposed solar PV facility and the corridor in which the linear infrastructure, where relevant, will be developed must be included as **Appendix 1** of the registration form.

A copy of the **final site sensitivity verification** report must be included as **Appendix 3** of the registration form.

A **locality map** must be included as **Appendix 5** of the registration form. The map must include the following:

- the project site;
- the footprint and buffer of the proposed solar photovoltaic facility including any relevant corridor in which the linear infrastructure is to be developed, overlaid on the identified site sensitivities, including but not limited to vegetation, critical biodiversity area/s, world heritage site, etc.;
- road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s);
- a north arrow;
- a legend;
- a scale bar; and
- GPS co-ordinates of solar photovoltaic facility and infrastructure including, amongst others, power lines (strategic points along the power line), substations, battery storage areas and the access road where relevant.

Accompanying **spatial data must be submitted electronically** in shape file format (.shp) files with associated metadata, packaged as a ZIP file (.zip) using the Hartebeesthoek94 WGS84 coordinate system.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Provide a detailed description of the site involved in the registration.

Province/s	Western Cape
District Municipality/ies	Garden Route
Local Municipality/ies	Hessequa
Ward number/s	2
Nearest town/s	Albertinia
Farm name/s and number/s	Tygerfontein 347
Portion number/s	16

LIST OF APPENDICES TO BE POPULATED

		SUBMITTED	
APPENDIX 1	Final screening report	YES	NO
APPENDIX 2	Evidence of consultation	YES	NO
APPENDIX 3	Final site sensitivity verification report	YES	NO
APPENDIX 4	Landowner consent letter, confirmation of pre-negotiation and the letter of consent from Eskom	YES	NO

APPENDIX 5	Locality map	YES	NO
APPENDIX 6	Declaration of commitment by the proponent to implement the environmental management programme	YES	NO
APPENDIX 7	Declaration of independence by the EAP/ES and specialists	YES	NO
APPENDIX 8	Curriculum vitae of the EAP/ES and specialists	YES	NO
APPENDIX 9	Professional affiliation/registration certification of the EAP/ES and specialists	YES	NO
APPENDIX 10	Final environmental management programme	YES	NO