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GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

NO. 2466

8 September 2022

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998)

CONSULTATION ON THE INTENTION TO EXCLUDE THE DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION BASED ON COMPLIANCE WITH AN ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT INSTRUMENT

I, Barbara Dallas Creecy, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, hereby consult on the intention to exclude the development and expansion of solar photovoltaic facilities, including any associated activity or infrastructure, from the requirement to obtain environmental authorisation. The exclusion is provided for in terms of section 24(2)(e) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), subject to compliance with an adopted environmental management instrument as set out in the Schedule.

Members of the public are invited to submit written comments or input, within 30 days from the date of the publication of this Notice in the *Government Gazette*, to any of the following addresses:

By post to: Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
The Director-General
Attention: Dr Dee Fischer
Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001

By hand at: Reception, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, Pretoria.

By e-mail: dfischer@dffe.gov.za

Any inquiries in connection with the Notice can be directed to Dr Dee Fischer by phone at 012 399 8843 or by mail at dfischer@dffe.gov.za.

Comments or input received after the closing date may not be considered.

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment complies with the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013). Comments received and responses thereto are collated into a comments and response report which will be made available to the public as part of the consultation process. If a commenting party has any objection to his or her name, or the name of the represented company/ organisation, being made publicly available in the comments and responses report, such objection should be highlighted in bold as part of the comments submitted in response to this Government Notice.



BARBARA DALLAS CREECY
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SCHEDULE

1. Definitions

In this Schedule a word defined in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) or the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended has the same meaning, and unless the context indicates otherwise —

“Adoption Regulations” means the Regulations laying down the procedures to be followed for the adoption of spatial tools or environmental management instruments contemplated in section 24(2)(c) and (e) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 published under Government Notice No. 542 in *Government Gazette* No. 42380 of 5 April 2019;

“Agricultural Specialist Assessment Protocol” means the Agricultural Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements of Environmental Impacts on Agricultural Resources by Onshore Wind and/or Solar Energy Generation Facilities where the Electricity Output is 20MW or more, published under Government Notice No. 320 in *Government Gazette* No. 43110 of 20 March 2020;

“competent authority” means the organ of state that would have been designated by section 24C of the Act with considering an application for an environmental authorisation in respect of a listed or specified activity;

“Listing Notice 1” means the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014 published under Government Notice No. R. 983 in *Government Gazette* No. 38282 of 4 December 2014, as amended from time to time;

“Listing Notice 2” means the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 2 of 2014 published under Government Notice No. R. 984 in *Government Gazette* No. 38282 of 4 December 2014 as amended from time to time;

“Listing Notice 3” means the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 3 of 2014 published under Government Notice No. R. 985 in *Government Gazette* No. 38282 of 4 December 2014 as amended from time to time;

“proponent” means a person that intends to undertake an activity contemplated in paragraph 4 of this Schedule and is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions set in this Schedule;

“Renewable Energy Development Zones Notice” means the procedures to be followed when applying for environmental authorisation for the development of large scale wind and solar photovoltaic energy generation activities when occurring in geographical areas of strategic importance, published under Government Notice No. 114 published in *Government Gazette* No 41445 of 16 February 2018 and Government Notice No. 142 published in *Government Gazette* No. 44191 of 26 February 2021;

“screening tool” means the National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool as adopted in Government Notice No. 678 published in *Government Gazette* No. 46867 of 06 September 2022;

“Strategic Transmission Corridors Notice” means the geographical areas of strategic importance for the development of electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure and of procedures to be followed when applying for or deciding on environmental authorisations for large scale electricity transmission or distribution development activities when occurring in geographical areas of strategic importance, published under Government Notice No. 113 in *Government Gazette* No. 41445 of 16 February 2018, Government Notice No. 383 published in *Government Gazette* No. 44504 of 29 April 2021 and Government Notice No. 145 in *Government Gazette* No. 44191 of 26 February 2021;

“the Act” means the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998); and

“the EIA Regulations” means the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, published under Government Notice No. R. 982 in Government Gazette No. 38282 of 4 December 2014, as amended from time to time.

2. Context

- 2.1 The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment developed a screening tool to identify environmental sensitivities of a specific site/location related to various identified environmental themes. Environmental sensitivities are rated as “very high”, “high”, “medium” or “low”. The screening tool is accessible at <https://screening.environment.gov.za>.
- 2.2 The screening tool is to be adopted as an environmental management instrument as provided for in the Act and the Adoption Regulations.
- 2.3 Section 24(2)(e) of the Act enables the Minister to exclude activities identified in terms of sections 24(2)(a) and (b) of the Act from the requirement to obtain an environmental authorisation based on compliance with an environmental management instrument adopted in the prescribed manner.

3. Exclusion

- 3.1 Based on the environmental sensitivity as identified by the screening tool, the activities contemplated in paragraph 4 of this Schedule are excluded from the requirement to obtain an environmental authorisation prior to commencement—
 - 3.1.1 when developed in areas of “low” or “medium” environmental sensitivity for the following environmental themes as identified by the screening tool:
 - 3.1.1.1 Terrestrial biodiversity;
 - 3.1.1.2 Aquatic biodiversity;
 - 3.1.1.3 Agriculture;
 - 3.1.1.4 Cultural heritage;
 - 3.1.1.5 Palaeontology resources.
 - 3.1.1.6 Civil aviation; and
 - 3.1.1.7 Defence;
 - 3.1.2 when the areas are confirmed to be of “low” or “medium” environmental sensitivity through a site sensitivity verification inspection as contemplated in paragraph 5 of this Schedule for the following themes:
 - 3.1.2.1 Terrestrial biodiversity inclusive of fauna, flora, avifauna and ecosystems;
 - 3.1.2.2 Aquatic biodiversity;
 - 3.1.2.3 Agriculture;
 - 3.1.2.4 Cultural heritage;
 - 3.1.2.5 Palaeontology resources; and
 - 3.1.3 based on compliance with the requirements contained in paragraphs 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10.2 of this Schedule.

4. Activities

- 4.1 The activities which are the subject of this exclusion relate to the development or expansion of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a solar photovoltaic installation, where such development or expansion triggers—
 - 4.1.1 Activity 1 or Activity 36 of Listing Notice 1; or
 - 4.1.2 Activity 1 of Listing Notice 2;

and any associated activity identified in Listing Notice 1, 2 or 3 necessary for the realisation of such facilities.

5. Site Sensitivity Verification

- 5.1 A proponent must ensure that a site sensitivity verification inspection is undertaken to confirm that the environmental sensitivity of the development footprint is as identified by the screening tool.
- 5.2 The site sensitivity verification must be undertaken–
- 5.2.1 on the site and for the development footprint on which the development or expansion is proposed to take place;
 - 5.2.2 by specialists, registered as professionals by their relative registration bodies, with demonstrated expertise in the field for which they are undertaking the verification. The following environmental themes relevant to the development or expansion of solar photovoltaic installations that require verification are:
 - 5.2.2.1 Terrestrial biodiversity inclusive of fauna, flora, avifauna and ecosystems;
 - 5.2.2.2 Aquatic biodiversity;
 - 5.2.2.3 Agriculture;
 - 5.2.2.4 Cultural heritage; and
 - 5.2.2.5 Palaeontology resources; and
 - 5.2.3 utilising any desk top information available, including any fine scale data available from the provincial department responsible for the environment or the relevant local municipality, where available.
- 5.3 Where additional information identified in paragraph 5.2.3. has been used in the verification process, this information is to be included in the site sensitivity verification report and a map indicating the sensitivities superimposed on the development footprint is to be attached.
- 5.4 It is advised that, when undertaking the site sensitivity verification, that verification includes a buffer around the proposed development footprint, to allow for slight adjustments without the need to resubmit the request for registration contemplated in this Schedule. The buffer must be clearly indicated and must envelope the proposed solar photovoltaic facility and infrastructure.
- 5.5 The outcome of the site sensitivity verification must be recorded in the form of a report that confirms or disputes the environmental sensitivity, as identified by the screening tool for each environmental theme identified in paragraph 5.2.
- 5.6 The site sensitivity verification report must be prepared by a registered environmental assessment practitioner and signed off by the relevant specialists, all of whom must meet the requirements of regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations.
- 5.7 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.

6. Application of the exclusion

- 6.1 This exclusion applies where the proposed development or expansion of a solar photovoltaic installation, including any associated activities contemplated in paragraph 4, are to occur entirely–
- 6.1.1 in areas of “medium” or “low” environmental sensitivity and is confirmed to be such by the site sensitivity verification inspection for the environmental themes as identified in paragraph 5.2; or
 - 6.1.2 in areas where the site sensitivity verification for a specific theme identifies that the “very high” or “high” sensitivity rating of the screening tool is in fact “medium” or “low” sensitivity.

with the exception of linear infrastructure which is necessary and that forms an integral part of such activity, in which case such infrastructure can be in areas of “very high”, “high”, “medium” or “low” environmental sensitivity.

7. Registration

- 7.1. At least 15 days prior to the expected commencement date of the proposed development or expansion, the proponent must register or re-register the proposed facility and infrastructure with the competent authority.
- 7.2. The following documents must be submitted for registration or re-registration:
- 7.2.1. a completed and signed registration form contemplated in Appendix A, or re-registration form contemplated in Appendix B, prepared by an environmental assessment practitioner;

- 7.2.2. the screening report for the proposed site, inclusive of the development footprint, generated by the screening tool, to be attached as Appendix 1;
 - 7.2.3. the site sensitivity verification report identified in paragraph 5.5, to be attached as Appendix 2;
 - 7.2.4. the written consent of the landowner or person in control of the land to undertake such activity on that land as contemplated in regulation 39 of the EIA Regulations, to be attached as Appendix 3;
 - 7.2.5. confirmation from the agricultural specialist, that the “allowable development limits” set for solar photovoltaic technology on agricultural land does not exceed that as prescribed in the Agricultural Specialist Assessment Protocol to be attached as part of Appendix 2;
 - 7.2.6. an environmental management programme compiled by the environmental assessment practitioner and signed off by the relevant specialists, to be attached as Appendix 5; and
 - 7.2.7. the signed declaration of commitment by the proponent to implement the environmental management programme, to be attached as Appendix 6.
- 7.3. The registration of the facility and infrastructure will expire if commencement does not occur within 3 years of the date on which the competent authority registered the facility, in which case the process as identified in paragraphs 5 and 7 of this Schedule must be repeated.

8. Re-registration

- 8.1. Re-registration of the facility and infrastructure is required when-
- 8.1.1. there is a change of ownership of a registered solar photovoltaic installation which occurs prior to construction or prior to the completion of the construction of the installation¹; and
 - 8.1.2. the development footprint of the facility and infrastructure is to be amended and would fall outside of the verified buffer².
- 8.2. In the case of re-registration due to a change of ownership, the original registration number is retained by the new owner.
- 8.3. Re-registration is not required if a change of ownership occurs after the construction of the facility and infrastructure is completed.
- 8.4. In the case of a change of ownership, the following documents must be submitted to the competent authority within 30 days upon finalisation of such change for confirmation by the competent authority to reconfirm the registration number:
- 8.4.1. A re-registration form contemplated in Appendix B completed by the new owner; and
 - 8.4.2. a signed declaration of commitment by the new owner to implement the environmental management programme contemplated in paragraph 7.2.6.
- 8.5. Where there is a change of the development footprint of the solar photovoltaic installation which would fall outside of the verified buffer, the requirements in paragraphs 5 and 7 of this Schedule are applicable³ and must be complied with.

9. Processing of registration

- 9.1. Within 10 days of receipt of the correctly completed registration form and supporting documentation described in paragraph 7 of this Schedule, the competent authority must register the proposed development or expansion and provide the proponent with a registration number.

10. Transitional Arrangements

- 10.1. An application for environmental authorisation for activities contemplated in paragraph 4 of this Schedule submitted in terms of the EIA Regulations, the Renewable Energy Development Zone Notice, or the Strategic Transmission Corridors Notice in the case of any associated activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, which is pending on the date of coming into effect of this Notice, must be finalised in accordance

¹ The re-registration in this case is required to update the information on the records of the competent authority and to ensure that the new owner declares his/her intention to implement the mitigation measures in the environmental management programme.

² Where the development footprint is amended and remains within the buffer considered as part of the site sensitivity verification, re-registration is not required.

³ It is not intended that the site sensitivity verification and the site sensitivity verification report are to be undertaken for the entire site, but just for the area which has not yet been assessed.

with the procedures of the EIA Regulations, the Renewable Energy Development Zone Notice or the Strategic Transmission Corridor Notice, or may be withdrawn.

- 10.2. A valid environmental authorisation issued in terms of the EIA Regulations or the Renewable Energy Development Zone Notice, or the Strategic Transmission Corridors Notice in the case of any associated activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, is deemed to have been complied with and is regarded as fulfilling the requirements contained in this Schedule, unless the development or expansion so authorised in such environmental authorisation has not commenced or is not yet finalised, in which case the environmental management programme approved as part of such environmental authorisation must be complied with.

APPENDIX A – REGISTRATION FORM

Registration form to request registration for *Solar photovoltaic (PV) installation exclusion* as required in terms of paragraph 7 of the Schedule.

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

PROJECT TITLE

--

1. This form must always be used when requesting registration in terms of the *Solar PV installation exclusion*, which allows for the exclusion from the requirement to obtain an environmental authorisation from the competent authority for listed and specified activities identified in paragraph 4 of the Schedule.
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.
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., Arial 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 personal information of landowners.
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 screening@environment.gov.za.
7. Maps must be produced using the Hartebeesthoek94 WGS84 coordinate system. Spatial data in shape file (.shp) format with associated metadata, packaged as a ZIP file (.zip), must be included in the supporting documentation. This must be provided electronically (in the form of a USB).

Departmental Details (example provided is for the national competent authority, where the provincial department is the competent authority, the details hereunder should be changed as relevant):

Postal address:

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
 Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
 Private Bag X447
 Pretoria
 0001

Physical address:

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
 Environment House
 473 Steve Biko Road
 Arcadia

For online submissions of forms, the process outlined in the document for the submission of documents to the Integrated Environmental Authorisations Chief Directorate must be followed. The document is obtainable on the departmental website on this link: https://www.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations. The portal for the uploading of applications and documents is (<https://sfiler.environment.gov.za:8443/>).

Queries must be directed to the Directorate: Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support at:
 Email: ElAdmin@dffe.gov.za

COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Identified competent authority to consider the registration form:

--

DETAILS OF THE PROPONENT

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

Name of the proponent
 (Company/ Trading Name):
 Name of contact person for
 proponent:
 Responsible position, e.g.
 Director, CEO, etc.:
 Company Registration
 Number:
 Physical address:
 Postal address:
 Postal code:
 Telephone:
 E-mail:

	Cell:	

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP) INFORMATION

Company of
 Environmental
 Assessment Practitioner:
 EAP name:
 EAP Qualifications:
 Professional
 affiliation/registration:
 Physical address:

Postal address:			
Postal code:		Cell:	
Telephone:			
E-mail:			

The appointed EAP and relevant specialists must meet the requirements of regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations and must sign the declaration of independence included in 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 and each specialist is required. The Curriculum Vitae of the EAP and specialists must be included in Appendix 8.

PROJECT INFORMATION AND MAPS

Please provide a **detailed** description of the project including the MWs applicable/proposed:

--

A copy of the final screening report generated by the screening tool which identifies the site and the development footprint of the proposed solar PV installation must be attached as Appendix 1 of the registration form.

A copy of the final site sensitivity verification report must be submitted as Appendix 2 of the registration form.

A locality map must be attached as Appendix 4 of the registration form. The map must include the following:

- the project site;
- the proposed development footprint and of the solar photovoltaic installation and associated activities and infrastructure overlaid on the identified site sensitivities, including but not limited to vegetation, wetlands, watercourses, heritage sites, critical biodiversity area/s, world heritage site, etc. including the buffer considered as part of the site sensitivity verification;
- 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 installation 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).

SITE DESCRIPTION

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

Province/s	
District Municipality/ies	
Local Municipality/ies	
Ward number/s	

Nearest town/s	
Farm name/s and number/s	
Portion number/s	

LIST OF APPENDICES

		SUBMITTED	
APPENDIX 1	Final screening report	YES	NO
APPENDIX 2	Site sensitivity verification report	YES	NO
APPENDIX 3	Landowner consent letter	YES	NO
APPENDIX 4	Locality map	YES	NO
APPENDIX 5	Environmental management programme	YES	NO
APPENDIX 6	Declaration of commitment by the proponent/developer to implement the environmental management programme	YES	NO
APPENDIX 7	Declaration of independence of the EAP and specialists	YES	NO
APPENDIX 8	Curriculum vitae of the EAP and specialists	YES	NO

APPENDIX B – RE-REGISTRATION FORM

Form to request re-registration for *Solar photovoltaic (PV) installation exclusion* as required in terms of paragraph 8 of the Schedule.

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

PROJECT TITLE

--

1. This form must always be used when requesting re-registration in terms of the *Solar PV installation exclusion*, which allows for the exclusion from the requirement to obtain an environmental authorisation from the competent authority for listed and specified activities identified in paragraph 4 of the Schedule.
2. All fields must be completed in full. The submission of incomplete information will lead to the re-registration being returned for inclusion of the missing information.
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., Arial 10).
4. Unless protected by law, all information contained in and attached to this re-registration form, will become public information on receipt by the competent authority other than personal information of landowners.
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 screening@environment.gov.za.
7. Maps must be produced using the Hartebeesthoek94 WGS84 coordinate system. Spatial data in shape file (.shp) format with associated metadata, packaged as a ZIP file (.zip), must be included in the supporting documentation. This must be provided electronically (in the form of a USB).

Departmental Details (example provided is for the national competent authority, where the provincial department is the competent authority, the details hereunder should be changed as relevant):

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Queries must be directed to the Directorate: Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support at:
Email: ElAdmin@dffe.gov.za

COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Identified competent authority
to consider the re-registration
form:

--

DETAILS OF THE PROPONENT

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

Name of the proponent (Company/ Trading Name):			
Name of contact person for proponent:			
Responsible position, e.g. Director, CEO, etc.:			
Company Registration Number:			
Physical address:			
Postal address:			
Postal code:		Cell:	
Telephone:			
E-mail:			

LIST OF APPENDICES

		SUBMITTED	
APPENDIX 1	Final screening report	YES	NO
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APPENDIX 3	Landowner consent letter	YES	NO
APPENDIX 4	Locality map	YES	NO
APPENDIX 5	Environmental management programme	YES	NO
APPENDIX 6	Declaration of commitment by the proponent/developer to implement the Environmental management programme	YES	NO
APPENDIX 7	Declaration of independence of the EAP and specialists	YES	NO
APPENDIX 8	Curriculum vitae of the EAP and specialists	YES	NO

APPENDIX 1:
FINAL SCREENING REPORT

APPENDIX 2:

SITE SENSITIVITY VERIFICATION REPORT

APPENDIX 3:
LANDOWNER CONSENT LETTER

APPENDIX 4:

LOCALITY MAP

APPENDIX 5:
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (EMPr)

APPENDIX 6:**DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT BY THE PROPONENT/DEVELOPER TO COMPLY WITH AND IMPLEMENT THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (EMPr)**

I, _____, hereby declare that:

- I am the proponent/developer in this registration;
- I have appointed an Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to act as the independent EAP for this *Solar PV installation exclusion* registration/re-registration;
- I have taken all reasonable steps to verify whether the EAP and specialists appointed are independent and have relevant expertise, including knowledge of the Act, the EIA Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I have provided the EAP and specialists with access to all information at my disposal that is relevant to the registration;
- I am responsible for implementing the EMPr;
- I am responsible for the costs incurred in complying with the EMPr, including but not limited to –
 - costs incurred in connection with the appointment of the EAP or any person contracted by the EAP;
 - costs incurred in respect of the undertaking of any process required in terms of the EMPr; and
 - costs associated with implementing the avoidance and mitigation measures contained in the EMPr;
- I hereby indemnify the Government of the Republic of South Africa, the competent authority and all its officers, agents and employees, from any liability arising out of the content of any registration/re-registration, any procedure or any action which I as the proponent or the EAP is responsible for in terms of the EMPr;
- I will not hold the competent authority responsible for any costs that may be incurred in proceeding with an activity prior to obtaining confirmation of registration/re-registration;
- I have performed all obligations as expected from a proponent/developer in terms of the EMPr;
- I have read the completed registration/re-registration form and supporting documents and hereby confirm that the information provided is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct;
- All the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct;
- I have not commenced with the project as described in the registration form and will not commence until a registration number has been received; or⁴
- I have not commenced with development of any installation or infrastructure for which re-registration is required; and
- I am fully aware of my responsibilities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and failure to comply with these requirements may constitute an offence. I am aware of what constitutes an offence in terms of the Notice and that a person convicted of an offence is liable to the penalties as contemplated in section 49B of the Act.

Proponent/developer (Name and Surname) _____

Name of Company (If Applicable) _____

⁴ Delete whichever is not applicable

Designation _____

Signature⁵ _____

Date _____ **Place** _____

Commissioner of Oaths _____

Designation _____

Signature _____

Date _____ **Place** _____

Commissioner of Oaths Stamp

⁵ This registration form must be signed by the proponent/developer.

APPENDIX 7:**DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER
OR SPECIALIST****Declaration of EAP/Specialist**

I, _____, declare that –

- I act as the independent environmental assessment practitioner/specialist in this *Solar PV installation exclusion* registration process;
- I have expertise in conducting environmental impact assessments and specialist assessment, including knowledge of the Act, the EIA Regulations, guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity and professional knowledge in the relevant environmental theme for which I am the specialist;
- I will comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No.107 of 1998) *Solar PV installation exclusion* and all other applicable legislation;
- I have performed the work relating to the *Solar PV installation exclusion* registration process in an objective manner;
- I have taken into account, to the extent possible, the requirements of the *Solar PV installation exclusion*, matters listed in regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations when preparing this registration process; and the reports relating to this registration process;
- I have disclosed to the proponent/developer all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing this registration process; and the objectivity of any site verification, report, plan or document to be prepared by myself to support the registration process, unless access to that information is protected by law, in which case, I have indicated that such information exists and will be provided to the competent authority as part of the registration process; and
- I have performed all obligations as expected from an environmental assessment practitioner/specialist in terms of the *Solar PV installation exclusion*.

Disclosure of vested Interest (delete whichever is not applicable)

- I do not have any vested interest (either business, financial, personal or other) in the proposed activity proceeding other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the *Solar PV installation exclusion*;
- I have a vested interest in the proposed activity proceeding, such vested interest being:

Signature of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner/Specialist

Name of Company (if applicable)

Date

Undertaking under Oath or Affirmation

I, _____, swear under oath / affirm that all the information submitted or to be submitted for the purposes of this registration is true and correct.

Signature of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner/Specialist

Name of Company (if applicable)

Date

Signature of the Commissioner of Oaths

Date

APPENDIX 8:
**CURRICULUM VITAE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER AND
SPECIALIST**

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