

Springbok Solar Power Plant

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2087 & AM2-4
14/12/16/3/3/1/2772 & AM1

Final Environmental Audit Report



Tilted panels on site.

Chandré de Waard
September 2025

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Springbok SPP Environmental Audit Report – September 2025

1 Introduction

Amathemba Environmental Management Consulting CC has been appointed by Springbok Solar Power Plant (RF) (Pty) Ltd to be the independent Environmental Control Officer for the Springbok Solar Power Plant construction phase. The site inspection was conducted on the 16th of September 2025. The following items should be noted:

1.1 Scope, purposes and objectives of the audit

The main objective of the audit is to respond to the need for external compliance auditing as required in terms of the condition 25 of the Environmental Authorisation (EA). The proposed development must comply with the following approved authorisations and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr):

Document Title	Document Reference Number	Date of Issue
Environmental Authorisation in terms of the NEMA (Act 107 of 1998) (as amended) for the Development of 150 MW Springbok PV Solar Facility.	DFFE Ref No: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2087 AM2 AM3 AM4	25 April 2022 8 August 2023 10 September 2023 8 July 2024
Environmental Authorisation in terms of the NEMA (Act 107 of 1998) (as amended): The Addition of 19.9 ha to the Already Authorised Development Footprint of 280 ha for the Development of 150 MW Springbok Solar Power Plant.	DFFE Ref No: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2772 AM1	10 August 2023 27 October 2023
EMPr for the Springbok PV Solar Facility	DFFE Ref No: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2087 and AM1	June 2023

1.2 Audit Methodology

The following methodology was employed for this external compliance audit:

1.2.1 Pre-audit tasks

Review of the various approvals / documents relevant to the development, namely:

- Environmental Authorisation issued by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE): Integrated Environmental Authorisation.
- Construction EMPr (CEMPr).

1.2.2 On-site audit

A site visit was undertaken on the 16th of September 2025 by Chandré de Waard. The auditor was accompanied by the Environmental Representative, Abraham Jacobs. The site inspection served to give the auditor insight into the on-site conditions and activities being executed on site. The implementation of the EMPr will be monitored on a monthly basis, as well as progress of activities, especially as it relates to the relevant approvals and the various project phases.

1.2.3 Reporting

Compilation of the audit report is based on the information obtained during the audit inspection and subsequent follow-up liaison with the representative of the holder of the EAs. An electronic copy of this report is issued to the Holder of the EA and owing to the requirements in the EA under condition 24, to be submitted to the DFFE Compliance Department by the holder.

1.3 Assumptions, limitations, and gaps in knowledge

- The assumption is made that all information received on which this audit report is based, is accurate and correct. Parties that contributed information to inform this audit were the Holder of the EA and Contractors as representatives of the Holder of the EA.
- No public consultation was undertaken as part of this audit.
- The auditor had access to all the information necessary to compile this audit report. There are no gaps in knowledge that would suggest any level of uncertainty in the findings of the auditor.

2 Expertise of Auditor

2.1 Chandré de Waard (Auditor and Author of Audit Report)

Chandré completed an Honours Degree (B.Sc. Hons.) in Environmental Management, and a B.Sc. Degree in Geology and Geography at the North-West University of Potchefstroom. Chandré is a member of the International Association of Impact Assessors of South Africa as well as the Environmental Law Association. Chandré has over ten (10) years of extensive experience in implementation and auditing of Environmental Authorisations (EAs) and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPrs) in the renewable energy, mining and oil and gas industries.

2.2 Barry Wiesner (Reviewer of Audit Report)

Barry completed a Master's in Philosophy (MPHIL) in Environmental Management at the University of Cape Town. Barry also has read a BA majoring in Archaeology and Environmental and Geographical Science and has a Higher Diploma in Education (HDE) from the University of Cape Town. He also has a Bachelor of Theology from the University of South Africa. Barry is a Green Star SA Accredited Professional and a member of the International Association of Impact Assessors. Barry has extensive site experience working as an Environmental Control Officer (ECO) at major construction sites and in conducting Environmental Audits, EIAs, BARs and the compilation of numerous Environmental Management Programs (EMPrs) over the last 24 years.

2.3 Statement of Independence

Amathemba Environmental Management Consulting CC was appointed to carry out the external compliance audit and compile this resultant Audit Report. Neither Barry Wiesner, nor Chandré de Waard in their private capacity, nor Amathemba Environmental Management Consulting CC have any material present or contingent interest in the outcome of this report, nor do they have any pecuniary or other interest that could be reasonably regarded as being capable of affecting their independence. Amathemba Environmental Management Consulting CC has no beneficial interest in the outcome of this compliance audit, other than reasonable remuneration for work performed in undertaking the audit inspection and compiling this report.

3 Requirements of Appendix 7 of EIA Regulations (2014, as amended)

As per the requirements of condition 30 in the EA, this audit report has been compiled in accordance with the requirements of Appendix 7 of the 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended. These requirements are included herewith, which contains the minimum content requirements for compliance audit reports.

Regulatory Ref # of Appendix 7	Details of Requirement	Report Section Reference
1	The environmental audit report must provide for recommendations regarding the need to amend the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan.	N/A - No amendments required at this time.
2 (a) (i)	Report on level of compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation and the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan.	Section 6

Regulatory Ref # of Appendix 7	Details of Requirement	Report Section Reference
2 (a) (ii)	Report on the extent to which the avoidance, management and mitigation measures provided for in the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan achieves the objectives and outcomes of the EMPr, and closure plan.	Section 6
2 (b)	Identify and assess any new impacts and risks as a result of undertaking the activity.	N/A - No new impacts identified additional to what has already been identified during the EIA.
2 (c)	Evaluate the effectiveness of the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan.	N/A - EMPr effective to manage impacts identified during EIA.
2 (d)	Identify shortcomings in the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan.	N/A - No shortcomings identified during this audit period.
2 (e)	Identify the need for any changes to the avoidance, management and mitigation measures provided for in the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan.	Section 6
3 (1) a	An environmental audit report prepared in terms of these Regulations must contain details of the— (i) independent person who prepared the environmental audit report; and (ii) expertise of the independent person that compiled the environmental audit report	Section 2.1
3 (1) b	a declaration that the independent auditor is independent in a form as may be specified by the competent authority;	Section 2.3
3 (1) c	an indication of the scope of, and the purpose for which, the environmental audit report was prepared;	Section 1.1
3 (1) d	a description of the methodology adopted in preparing the environmental audit report;	Section 1.2
3 (1) e	an indication of the ability of the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan to— (i) sufficiently provide for the avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity on an ongoing basis; (ii) sufficiently provide for the avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the closure of the facility; and (iii) ensure compliance with the provisions of environmental authorisation, EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan;	Section 6
3 (1) f	a description of any assumptions made, and any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge;	Section 1.3
3 (1) g	a description of any public consultation process that was undertaken during the course of carrying out the environmental audit report;	Section 1.3
3 (1) h	a summary and copies of any comments that were received during any public consultation process; and	N/A
3 (1) i	any other information requested by the competent authority.	No additional requirements are known currently.

4 Pre-Construction Requirements

4.1 Method Statements

Method statements have been provided and accepted. All currently required method statements are in place.

4.2 Additional Permitting

The additional permitting required for this project to be undertaken are in place, and consist of a Water Use Authorisation. At the time of the audit, it was assessed that required permits are in place. No further assessment of the requirements of the permits was conducted.

4.3 Documents Review

During the monthly environmental audit, the ECO will request documents that are required in terms of the EMP, which are generally required to be drafted at the beginning of the project, and result in additional documents and actions that need to be implemented and updated on a monthly basis. The table below will indicate the plans, and the possible documents that will flow out of the plans.

Plan	Resulting documents to be updated monthly, and actions to be implemented
Stakeholder Management Plan	• Appointment of a CLO. • Complaints register.
Waste Management Plan	• Registered waste service provider registration documents. • Waste register. • Waste safe disposal certificates.
Emergency Preparedness Plan	• Incidents register.
Chance-Finds Procedure	• Demarcation and fencing of burial site located toward the middle of the development footprint.
Alien and Invasive Plant Species Management Plan	• Monthly internal reports. • Regular site inspection of construction areas. • Treatment where required.
Rehabilitation Plan	• Regular site inspection during rehabilitation.
Groundwater Monitoring Programme	• Water quality results and groundwater levels where required.
Stormwater Management Plan	• Design and construction of required stormwater management infrastructure.
EMP (Department approved existing plan)	• Non-conformance reports (where required). • Written corrective action instructions (where required). • Monthly internal and external reports. • Wayleave for the access point situated off the R730.

5 Notification of commencement

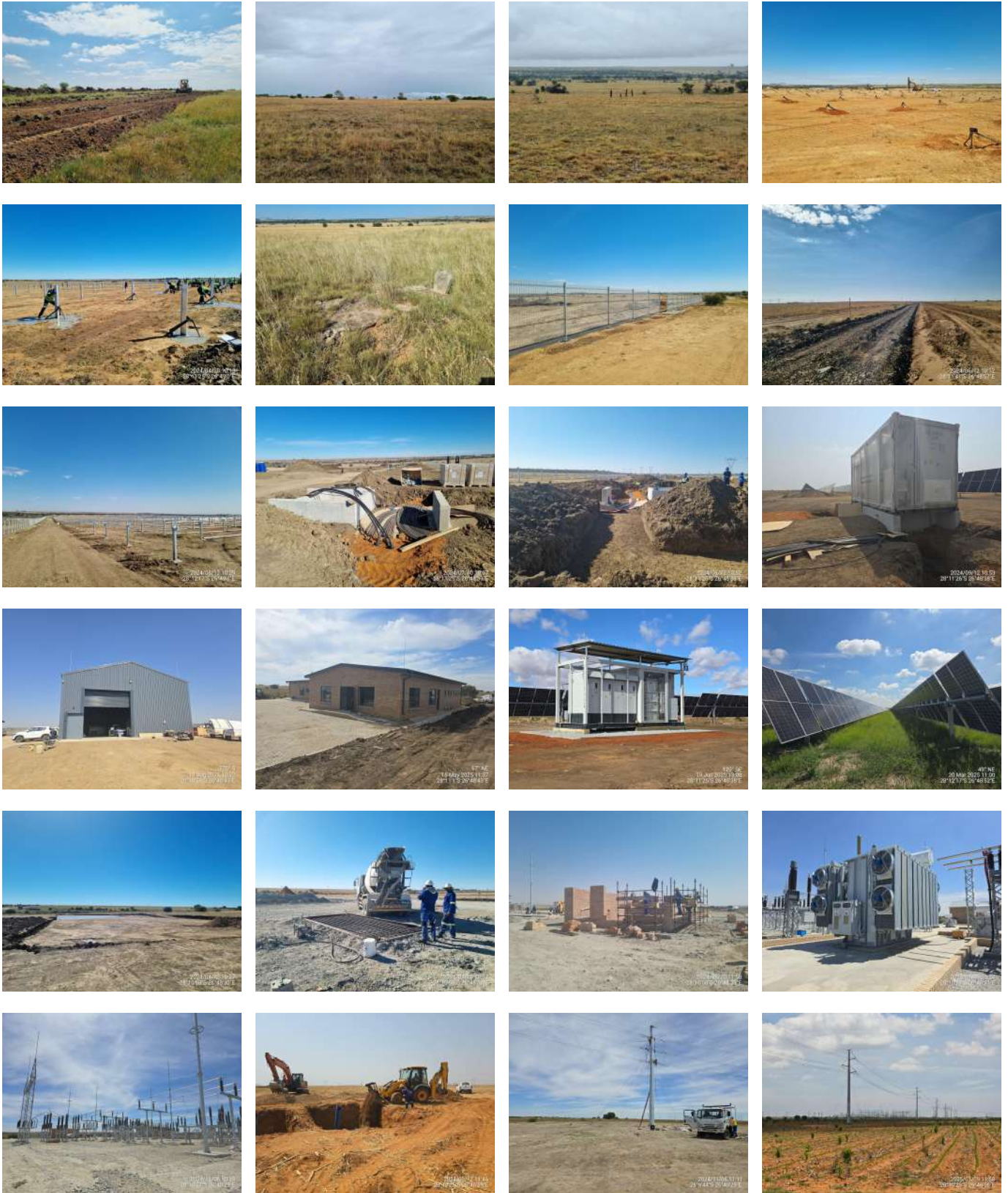
The notification of commencement of construction and the appointment of Amathemba Environmental Consulting CC, to provide ECO services, was issued on 16 November 2023.

6 Project Reflection

During the construction phase of the Springbok Solar Power Plant a combination of both commendable and challenging aspects in terms of environmental compliance throughout the lifecycle of the project has been observed. In December 2023 the pre-construction verification audit was conducted and construction activities commenced in January 2024.

Generally, good compliance was noted during civil works and mechanical installation, particularly with regard to maintaining works within the approved footprint. Notable areas of non-compliance was the poor management of alien and invasive plant species, and delayed clean up processes of excess material on site, all of which were addressed through corrective actions and follow-up interventions.

The rehabilitation phase, which commenced predominantly in May 2025 with trench backfilling, showed encouraging progress, with correct soil layer replacement, and slight vegetation growth despite not receiving minimal rainfall. During the 2024 and 2025 rainfall seasons, significant volumes of rainfall was received in the area which had led to significant vegetation growth on rehabilitated areas. Continued post-construction monitoring will be essential to ensure full recovery. Images below illustrate progress throughout the construction phase.



7 Site Inspection September 2025

Majority of the site infrastructure required during construction phase has been de-established from site, with minimal infrastructure to be removed and rehabilitation finalised within the site camp and laydown areas. The items noted during previous audits that required urgent attention to be finalised prior to final close out audits have been addressed with a few items remaining. Photographs are included in the sections below:

Closed out:

- Excess materials removed from site and areas shaped and leveled.
- Subcontractor site camp cleared and rehabilitated.
- A section of the laydown area utilised for equipment storage has been rehabilitated.
- A&IP's have been chemically treated.

Open items to be verified during the Regulation 34 audit:

- A&IP's removed and plan in place for operational phase management.
- The current site camp area still has some equipment stored that should be collected.
- The conservancy tank used during the construction phase should be removed, area backfilled and shaped.
- The equipment remaining in the temporary laydown area must be relocated to the O&M footprint or inside the warehouse.
- The site camp and laydown areas need to be completely rehabilitated.

7.1 Site Camp

- Ablution facilities' conservancy tank is still on site.
- The remaining equipment and aggregates should be removed.
- The equipment in the laydown area should be moved to the O&M.



Conservancy tank to be removed.



Equipment in laydown to be relocated.



Materials to be removed from site camp.



Materials to be removed from site camp.



Temporary road to site camp to be rehabilitated.



Container and aggregates to be removed.



Aggregates to be removed.

7.2 Roads

- All road works are completed and access to site is controlled.



Access control.



Internal road.



Perimeter road leading to O&M.

7.3 Solar PV Arrays

- All panels have been installed and the testing phase continues.
- ***Datura ferox* invasion to be controlled in the solar field.** No new invasion noted during this audit period. Previously identified plants have now dried up and should be removed. **An integrated treatment plan should be drafted for the operational phase.**



Dried out invasive plants.



Panels installed on site.



ITS in solar field.

7.4 Substation

- All works at the substation has been completed.



Rehabilitated site camp area.

7.5 Operation and Maintenance Building

- At the time of the audit minimal construction activities were executed at the O&M area that was limited to the finalisation of stormwater infrastructure.



Waste bins.



Conservancy tanks for O&M building.



O&M building.



Warehouse.



Stormwater infrastructure.



RO system.

7.6 Fauna, Flora and Heritage

- Heritage site remains fenced off and no animals spotted during this site verification audit.

7.7 Summary and Compliance Score

The overall score of compliance to the EMPr as well as findings and concerns raised during the monthly audit will be highlighted in the tables below, with the addition of compliance score. This section will serve as a tracking mechanism for outstanding actions to be implemented on site as a response to compliance to the EMPr. Open findings that have been closed during the auditing period will reflect once to indicate that they have been closed out.

Of the total 113 impact management actions audited, 92 are applicable. Of the applicable actions the resulting compliance scores are:

- 98% compliant.
- 2% partially compliant.
- 0% non-compliant.

As mentioned in the report the following concerns have been noted that require urgent attention.

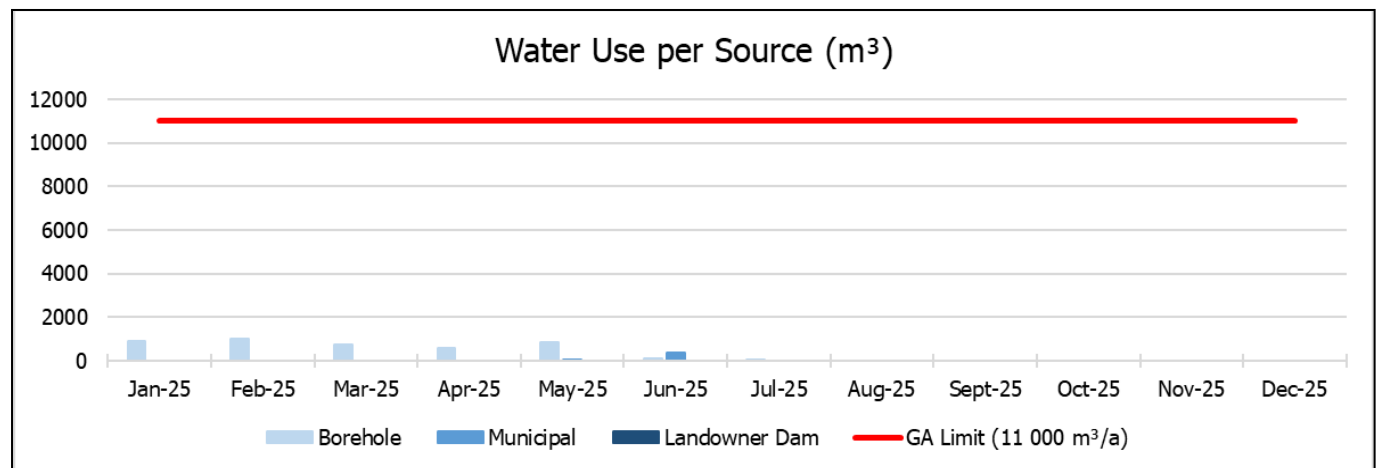
Date Issued	ECO Tracking #	EA/EMPr Condition #	Condition	Recommended Action	Status
25-Feb-2025	#0257	Generic EMP 16	Invasion of <i>Datura ferox</i> on site.	Invasive weeds to be removed immediately, using correct PPE. Ensure any signs of seeds are also removed.	Open
16-Sept-2025	#0381	Generic EMP 40	The Contractor shall ensure that all temporary structures, equipment, materials, waste and facilities used for construction purposes are removed upon completion of the project. The site cleanup shall be to the satisfaction of the Employers Representative and the ECO.	Site camp and laydown areas require to be cleared out and rehabilitated.	Open

7.8 Resource Use

The data below reflects the resource use for 2025 to date as reported from the on site EO. All construction activities have been completed and no further recording after July has been shared as the contractor de-established from site.

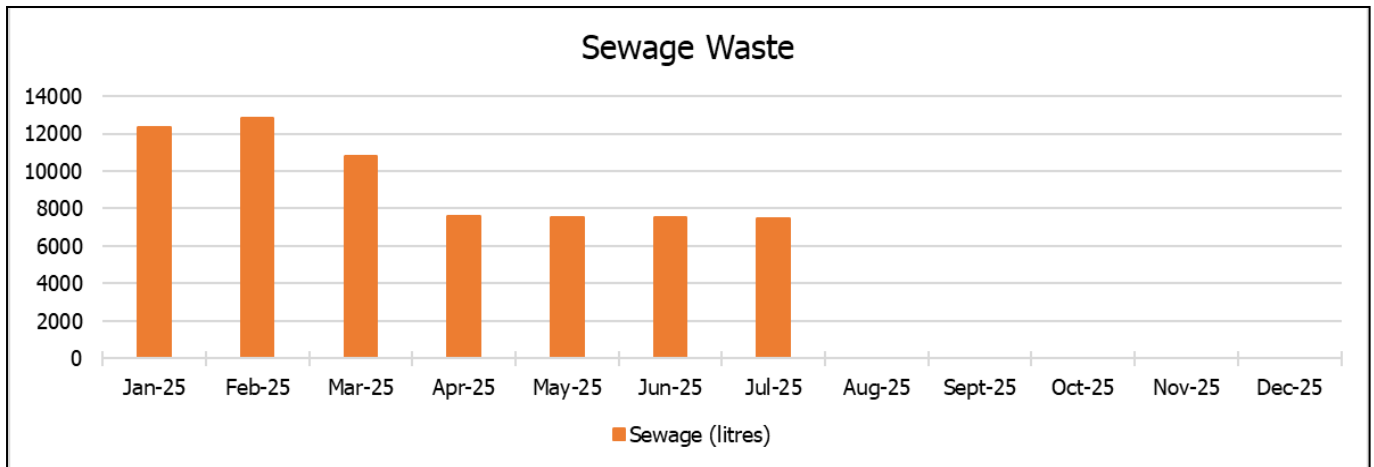
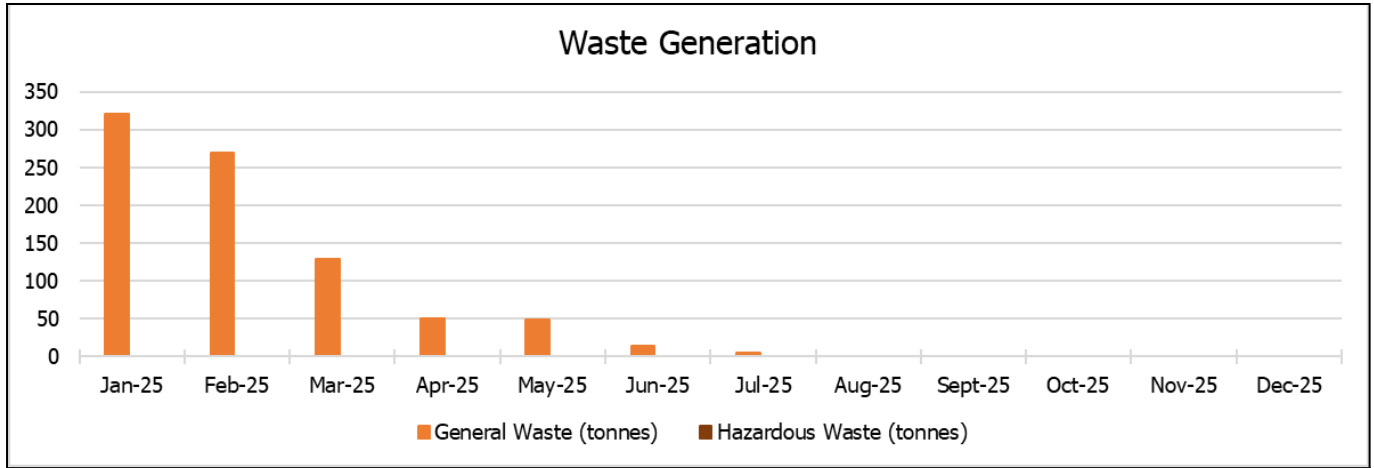
7.8.1 Water

Months	Borehole (m ³)	Municipal	Landowner Dam
Jan-25	870	0	0
Feb-25	1013,5	0	0
Mar-25	742	0	0
Apr-25	593,5	0	0
May-25	828	21	0
Jun-25	123,42	390	0
Jul-25	67	0	0
Total 2025	4237,42	411	0



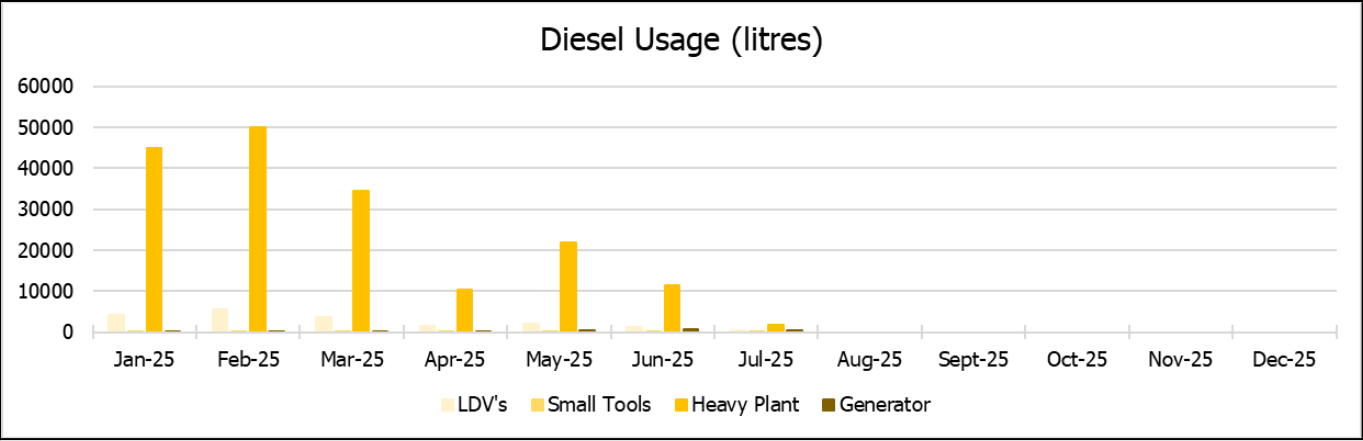
7.8.2 Waste

Months	General Waste (tonnes)	Hazardous Waste (tonnes)	Recycled (kg)	Sewage (litres)
Jan-25	320,53	0	0	12370
Feb-25	269,23	0	0	12810
Mar-25	128,62	0	0	10810
Apr-25	50,543	0	0	7590
May-25	48,062	0	0	7560
Jun-25	13,43	0	0	7530
Jul-25	5,1	0	0	7500
Total 2025	835,515	0	0	66170



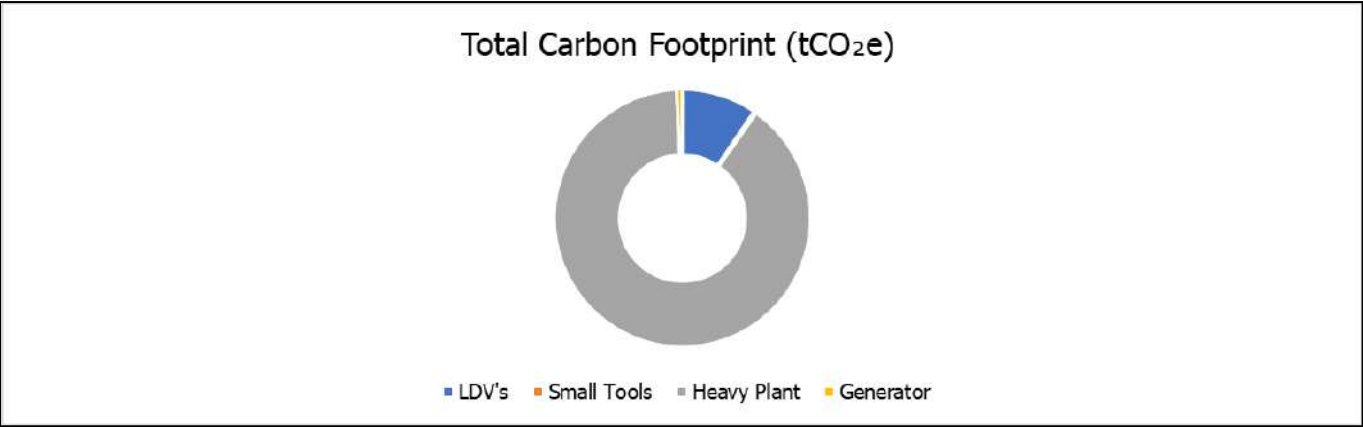
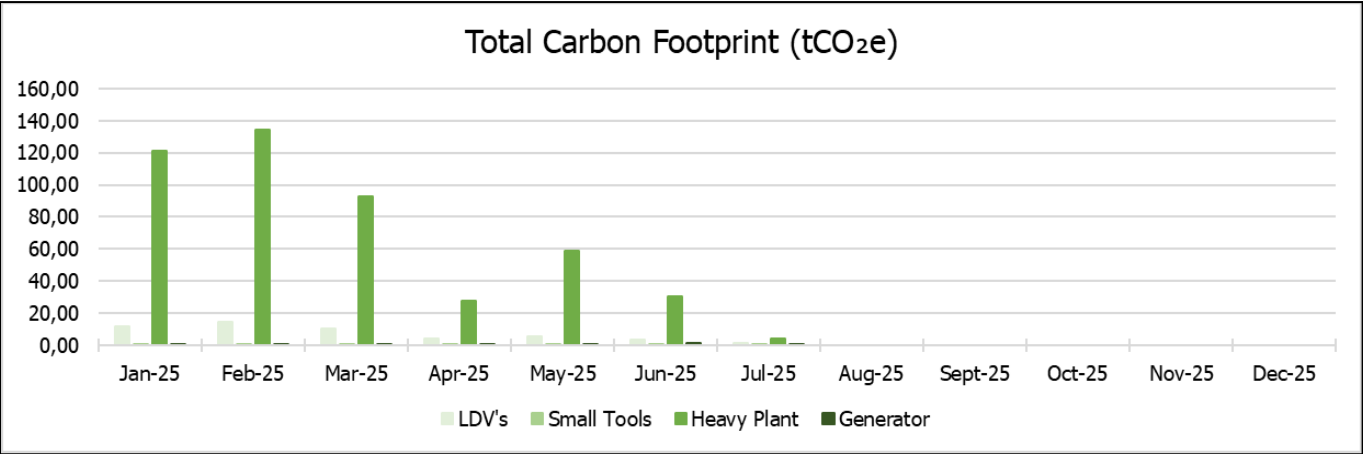
7.8.3 Diesel Consumption

Months	LDV's	Small Tools	Heavy Plant	Generator
Jan-25	4268	120	44900	58
Feb-25	5370	160	49890	28
Mar-25	3747	140	34458	11
Apr-25	1425	50	10370	11
May-25	1965	50	21940	328
Jun-25	1210	50	11265	628
Jul-25	500	50	1625	314
Total 2025	18485	620	174448	1378



7.8.4 Diesel Carbon Footprint

Months	LDV's	Small Tools	Heavy Plant	Generator
Jan-25	11,52	0,32	121,18	0,16
Feb-25	14,49	0,43	134,64	0,08
Mar-25	10,11	0,38	93,00	0,03
Apr-25	3,85	0,13	27,99	0,03
May-25	5,30	0,13	59,21	0,89
Jun-25	3,27	0,13	30,40	1,69
Jul-25	1,35	0,13	4,39	0,85
Total 2025	49,89	1,67	470,80	3,72



Below the Environmental Authorisation and Environmental Management Programme checklist results are indicated.

Thank you for your cooperation to date.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chandré de Waard'.

Yours faithfully,
Chandré de Waard (063 593 9104)

Shading Key

Compliance	✓
Partial Compliance	✓/X
Non-compliance	X
Not Applicable (N/A)	NA

8 EA Checklists

8.1 Authorised 280 Hectares and Grid Connection (14/12/16/3/3/2/2087 and AM1)

Condition	Responsible Party	✓ / X / NA	Comment
Scope of Authorisation: Condition 1-9	Applicant	✓	All conditions met.
Notification of authorisation and right to appeal: Condition 10-11	Applicant and EAP	✓	All conditions met.
Commencement of activity: Condition 12	Applicant	✓	All conditions met.
Management of the activity and submission of final layout: Condition 13-17	Applicant and EAP	✓	All conditions met.
Frequency and process of updating the EMP: Condition 18-22	Applicant	✓	All conditions met.
Monitoring, appointment and duties of ECO: Condition 23	Applicant/ ECO	✓	ECO has been appointed and monitoring continues.
Recording and reporting to the department, including final audit report: Condition 24-29	Applicant/ ECO	✓	Reports are submitted to the authorities.
Notification to authorities: Condition 30	Applicant	✓	All conditions met.
Operation of the activity: 31	Applicant	NA	Project still in construction phase.
Site closure and decommissioning: 32	Applicant	NA	Project still in construction phase.
Specific Conditions: 33-42 All these conditions are based on the specialist recommendations, the EIA and the EMP specifications. It is unusual for them to be repeated within the EA.	Applicant/ Contractor/ ECO	✓	These aspects are addressed by the practical implementation of the EMP. Some of them are only applicable to the operational phase, and some for activities which have not yet commenced. However, a few are context specific and are included below.
33: No pylons may be placed within delineated watercourses and riparian habitat.	Applicant/ Contractor/ ECO	✓	Excavations commenced on OHL, and monitoring continues.

Condition	Responsible Party	✓ / X / NA	Comment
39: Biodiversity walk through for fauna and flora prior to construction.	Applicant/ Contractor/ ECO	✓	All conditions met. No TOPS identified and compliance letter provided by specialist.
General: Conditions 43-44			
Condition 43: Copy of EA, audit reports and EMPr on site	Contractor/ ECO	✓	EA and EMPr to be printed and hard copies to be made available on site.
Condition 44: Indemnification of Authorities	Applicant	NA	Noted

8.2 Addition of 19.9 Hectares to Authorised 280 Hectares (14/12/16/3/3/1/2772)

Condition	Responsible Party	✓ / X / NA	Comment
Scope of Authorisation: Condition 1-9	Applicant	✓	All conditions met.
Notification of authorisation and right to appeal: Condition 10-11	Applicant and EAP	✓	All conditions met.
Commencement of activity: Condition 12	Applicant	✓	All conditions met.
Management of the activity and submission of final layout: Condition 13-17	Applicant and EAP	✓	All conditions met.
Frequency and process of updating the EMPr: Condition 18-22	Applicant	✓	All conditions met.
Monitoring, appointment and duties of ECO: Condition 23	Applicant/ ECO	✓	ECO has been appointed and monitoring continues.
Recording and reporting to the department, including final audit report: Condition 24-29	Applicant/ ECO	✓	Reports are submitted to the authorities.
Notification to authorities: Condition 30	Applicant	✓	All conditions met.
Operation of the activity: 31	Applicant	NA	Project still in construction phase.
Site closure and decommissioning: 32	Applicant	NA	Project still in construction phase.
Specific Conditions: 39-40 All these conditions are based on the specialist recommendations, the EIA and the EMPr specifications. It is unusual for them to be repeated within the EA.	Applicant/ Contractor/ ECO	✓	These aspects are addressed by the practical implementation of the EMPr.
General: Conditions 43-44			
Condition 43: Copy of EA, audit reports and EMPr on site	Contractor/ ECO	✓	EA and EMPr to be printed and hard copies to be made available on site.
Condition 44: Indemnification of Authorities	Applicant	NA	Noted

9 Generic EMPr Checklist

#	Aspects	Condition	✓/X/NA	Comments
Planning and Design Phase (Pre-Construction)				
1.	ECO	Appoint an independent Environmental Control Officer.	✓	ECO has been appointed and continues to monitor site conditions and the implementation of the EMPr.
2.	ESO	Appoint an internal environmental coordinator or officer to oversee day-to-day activities on site.	✓	EO is appointed and monitoring EMPr implementation on site.
3.	Inductions and Training	Staff should be educated as to the need to refrain from indiscriminate waste disposal and/or pollution of local soil and water resources and receive the necessary safety training.	✓	Minimal personnel on site have been inducted.
		Environmental awareness training for construction staff, concerning the prevention of accidental spillage of hazardous chemicals and oil; pollution of water resources (both surface and groundwater), air pollution and litter control and identification of archaeological artefacts.	✓	Minimal personnel on site have been inducted.
		Continual awareness is raised in the form of information boards, posters, newsletter or any other relevant method.	✓	Awareness is raised in the form of toolbox talks.
4.	Surveying and Demarcation	All areas to be developed and transformed should be demarcated and fenced where appropriate prior to construction phase commences.	✓	Site is fenced off, and the site office camp area is clearly marked.
		Search and rescue of animals and plant species of concern to be conducted by a qualified specialist prior to any site establishment.	✓	No species of concern has been identified.
		Construction site camps must be fenced.	✓	Construction footprint is fenced, site office camp in the process of being fenced.
5.	Environmental Authorisation	Compliance to the conditions of the environmental authorisation remains the responsibility of the holder and its representatives.	NA	Statement noted. Items in this checklist address compliance.
		Any additional permitting required for water use, removal of vegetation and relocation shall be obtained prior to construction.	✓	General authorisation in place.
6.	Construction Camps	Confirm with ECO the suitable location of site camps designated to construction offices, laydown areas and storage of equipment and materials. All equipment and material must be stored within these approved sites, as well as any oil changes and bulk storage of fuel.	✓	Locations have been established.
7.	Local Labour	Unskilled labour should be appointed from the local community in which the project operates where possible.	NA	At the time of the audit this was not assessed. Once the workforce is in full complement this can be assessed.
8.	Method Statements	Method statements to be drafted in line with the requirements of the EMPr and the proposed activities on site.	✓	Method statements in place.

#	Aspects	Condition	✓/X/NA	Comments
		Required method statements to be reviewed and approved by ECO and client.	✓	Method statements in place.
9.	Management Plans	Where required by the approved EMPr, applicable environmental management plans need to be drafted, reviewed and approved by ECO and client.	✓	Plans have been drafted as part of the approved EMPr.
Construction EMPr - Specifications and Management Plans				
10.	Site Establishment	Construction site camp will be fenced and access controlled.	✓	Construction footprint is fenced, site office camp in the process of being fenced.
		The site will be established in a low environmental sensitive area with the approval of the ECO.	✓	Locations have been established in a low sensitive area.
		A method statement must be drafted detailing the management of clearance of vegetation, storage of topsoil and potential watercourse crossings if applicable.	✓	Method statements under review.
		Any temporary laydown will be approved by the ECO and client, and rehabilitated afterwards.	✓	Topsoil has been removed from temporary sites.
		Appropriate ablution facilities will be installed at a ratio of 1 toilet to 15 persons, and emptied on a regular basis.	✓	Ablution facility available on site. Additional facilities will be acquired.
		Appropriate fire fighting equipment to be available.	✓	Fire fighting equipment is in place.
11.	Access Control and Roads	Roads will be constructed in line with the EA and EMPr requirements.	✓	Roads are being constructed and remain within the EA limits of 6-12 meters in width.
		Where temporary access is required, approval for the location of such temporary access will be obtained from the ECO and client prior to construction.	NA	No temporary access is required at this time. A designated access point has been identified and being used.
		Security guards to be placed at the main access entrance to manage unauthorised access to the site.	✓	Access is being controlled on site.
		Roads will be constructed along fencelines, property boundaries or tree belts where possible.	✓	Road following existing lines and boundary on site.
		Existing roads to be used as far as possible.	✓	Roads follow existing routes where possible.
		The access point situated off the R730 must be formalised to standard, which will in all probability be a requirement as part of the wayleave approval of the Matjhabeng Local Municipality and the Free State Department: Police, Roads and Transport.	✓	Wayleave in place.
12.	Material and Equipment Management	Materials will be delivered to, and safely secured and stored within the approved site camp.	✓	Only containers have been delivered to the site.

#	Aspects	Condition	✓/X/NA	Comments
		Any imported gravel, soil or fill material must be free of Alien and Invasive Plants (A&IPs).	✓	At the time of the assessment no A&IP's have been identified in the imported material.
13.	Soil Stockpiling	Stockpile location must be approved by ECO and client.	NA	No stockpile area has been requested yet.
		Topsoil stockpiles must not exceed 2 metres in height.	✓	Stockpiles remain below 2 meters.
		Top soil and soil stockpiles must be located so as to prevent any potential contamination.	✓	Currently soil is being spread to the side of the road where it is removed, which could potentially be contaminated and compacted. This should be monitored regularly.
14.	Bulk Fuel Storage and Refuelling	Fuel to be stored inside approved site camp with appropriate warning signs and labels.	✓	Mobile fuel bowsers have the required warning signs and lables.
		Fuel storage tanks shall be lined, bunded and where possible covered to prevent potential pollution of soil and water, and the filling of bunds with rain water.	✓	Mobile fuel bowsers are stored in lined or bunded areas.
		Spill kits and drip trays must be present at the point of storage and refuelling.	✓	Spill kits have been aquired for site.
		Refuelling shall preferably take place at the site camp bulk fuel storage location.	✓	Refuelling will be conducted with mobile fuel bowsers on site.
		Mobile refuelling with fuel bowsers must be conducted in such a manner as to prevent any spillage to bare soil.	✓	No fuel spillages noted during this auditing period.
15.	Waste Management	No burning of any waste type is permitted on site.	✓	No burning of waste took place during the assessment.
		Registered waste management services must be acquired for the management of hazardous waste on site.	✓	Waste management services acquired.
		Records of waste generation, collections and disposal must be kept for auditing purposes and safe disposal confirmation. This includes hazardous and general, where appropriate.	✓	Waste volumes being recorded.
		Litter clean up must be conducted regularly to ensure clean site areas.	✓	No litter was noted during the assessment.
		Waste bins must be scavenger and weather proof.	✓	Waste bins are scavenger and weather proof.
		A sufficient amount of waste bins/skips must be available on site.	✓	It is advised that more bins be required, although no concerns raised regarding insufficient waste bins.
		Clearly identifiable labels to be placed on bins and skips to ensure waste is separated between hazardous and general.	✓	Bins are accordingly labelled.
16.	Alien and Invasive Plant Species Management	A&IP's infestation must be prevented, and where present, be controlled and eradicated.	✓/X	Infestation of alien plants to be controlled on the solar field. No A&IP's noted along the OHL or at the switching station.

#	Aspects	Condition	✓/X/NA	Comments
		Commercial chemical control of A&IP's shall be conducted by a registered Pest Control Operator in terms of the Fertilizers, Farm Feed, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act 36 of 1947, as amended.	NA	No commercial control required yet.
17.	Water Use	Where required a water use authorisation shall be applied for prior to exercising any water uses in terms of the NWA (Act 36 of 1998).	✓	Authorisation in place.
		Water use related to construction and consumption activities shall be logged, records kept for auditing purposes and reporting of resource use.	✓	Water use is being recorded.
		Drinking water must be accessible to all personnel on site, and where tap water is not safe for consumption, it should be clearly indicated.	✓	Borehole has been equipped, however, RO system installed.
		Where possible water should be reused and consumption reduced.	✓	Water use is being monitored to reduce usage where possible.
18.	Eating Areas and Kitchens	Appropriately shaded eating areas will be available on site for all personnel to rest during breaks.	✓	Shaded eating areas and mobile kitchens have been acquired.
		No open fires are permitted on site, except the controlled fire within the fences for the site camp to prepare food.	✓	No evidence of open fires identified on site.
		The feeding of wild animals is not permitted.	✓	No evidence of wild animals being fed on site.
19.	Contaminated Water	Wash bays will be constructed at a suitable location near concrete batching plant to ensure concrete contaminated water is contained for re-use and where appropriate, disposal.	NA	No wash bays have been constructed on site.
		Sewage and grey water must be contained within the on site ablution network and conservancy tanks.	✓	No sewage spillage noted during this auditing period.
		Where an area needs to be drained of water, it should be done into a settlement area to ensure no sediment accumulates in the natural environment.	NA	No significant rainfall experienced to the extent that water needs to be drained from the immediate working areas.
20.	Hazardous Chemical Substances (HCS)	The transportation and handling of hazardous substances must comply with the requirements of the Hazardous Substances Act (Act No.187 of 1993) and associated regulations as well as SABS 0228 and SABS 0229.	✓	Transportation of HCS to site is in line with the Hazardous Substances Act (Act No.187 of 1993) and associated regulations as well as SABS 0228 and SABS 0229, and is monitored by HS representatives.
		All HCS shall be stored in secondary lined containment and MSDS's available on site to consult in the event of an emergency.	✓	HCS storage available on site.
		The disposal of any HCS and accompanying containers shall be done in accordance with the MSDS, and into on site temporary hazardous waste storage bins/skips.	✓	No disposal of HCS has occurred on site yet.

#	Aspects	Condition	✓/X/NA	Comments
21.	Lights	Lights installed on site should be turned downward to give light to the site and not create nuisance to the surrounding community.	NA	No lights have been installed on site yet.
22.	Workshops and Maintenance	No servicing of vehicles or heavy plant will be permitted on site unless an appropriately bunded and constructed workshop is on site. Ideally servicing should take place off site.	NA	No significant servicing will take place on site.
		Where an emergency occurs and on site servicing is required, measures to prevent any contamination of the environment must be implemented.	NA	No emergency requiring servicing has occurred on site yet.
		If an emergency results in a spillage, the necessary steps must be taken on site to ensure that the cause of spillage is identified and fixed, and spillage contained.	NA	No emergency incident have occurred on site that resulted in a spillage.
		Drip trays will be used for small on site servicing to ensure any waste hydrocarbons are contained.	✓	All mobile plant have been allocated with drip trays.
23.	Noise	Noise levels will be kept to acceptable levels as regulated by Noise Regulations.	✓	No noise related complaints have been received.
		No sound amplification equipment may be used other than for emergency situations.	NA	No sound amplification equipment will be used on site.
24.	"No-Go" Areas	No work will be conducted within "no-go" areas unless required for the completion of the works and permitted by relevant authority and ECO, and appropriate assessments have been conducted. A method statement for such work should be approved by the ECO and client.	✓	No-go areas have been identified during the EIA phase, and designs have been accordingly drafted to ensure no-go areas are avoided. This will be monitored on site.
		"No-go" areas shall be demarcated or fenced and clearly marked to ensure access to such areas are limited.	✓	Heritage site has been fenced off.
25.	Fire Management	A designated person shall be appointed and be responsible to ensure immediate and appropriate actions in the event of a fire.	✓	Emergency preparedness plans are in place.
		Basic fire fighting equipment shall be available on site.	✓	Fire fighting equipment in place.
26.	Concrete Batching and Cement Work	Spillages of cement and concrete shall be cleaned immediately and reused in the batching process.	NA	No concrete batching plant will be established on site.
		Location of the batching plant must be indicated in designs and approved by ECO prior to establishment.	NA	No concrete batching plant will be established on site.
		The batching plant will have a wastewater settlement bay where all concrete wastewater generated on the plant will pass through. All water shall be contained and reused where appropriate.	NA	No concrete batching plant will be established on site.
		Cement shall be stored in a weatherproof location to avoid contamination of the environment.	NA	No concrete batching plant will be established on site.

#	Aspects	Condition	✓/X/NA	Comments
		Suitable screening and containment shall be in place to prevent windblown contamination associated with bulk cement silos, loading and batching.	NA	No concrete batching plant will be established on site.
		Where excess concrete cannot be reused, it shall be disposed of at the local municipal landfill site.	NA	No concrete batching plant will be established on site.
27.	Emergency Preparedness	Management plans for fires and accidental spillages must be in place.	✓	In place as part of the approved EMPr.
28.	Health and Safety	Proper and adequate safety precautions shall be observed on site in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act (Act 85 of 1993).	✓	Although site activities are minimal, an HSE representative is available on site, with a HSE plan drafted.
		No unauthorised firearms are permitted on site.	✓	Monitored by HSE representative.
29.	Community Relations	Information boards shall be erected and maintained, and include contact details for complaints by members of the public in accordance with details provided by the Employers Representative.	✓	Information boards located at the substation site camp and entrance gate.
		The complaints register shall be accessible to the local community.	✓	Complaints register is in place. It is recommended that a hard copy be allocated at the security gate for complaints from the community.
		Appoint a Community Liaison Officer for the project.	✓	CLO has been appointed for the project.
30.	Protection of Fauna, Flora and Natural Features	Except to the extent necessary for the carrying out of the Works, flora shall not be removed, damaged or disturbed nor shall any vegetation be planted.	✓	Imported material has been cleared and a notable improvement noted.
		No poaching of any kind will be permitted. Regular inspection along fences should be conducted to remove any snares.	✓	Fence line inspection conducted weekly.
		No domesticated animals will be allowed on site.	✓	At the time of the audit no domesticated animals were on site.
		Low speed limits to be maintained to avoid collisions.	✓	Speed limit sign posted at entrance gate.
		Only trained personnel will be allowed to remove and relocate snakes or bees on site.	✓	Competent and trained person on site. Eskom standard to be adhered to for the OHL and Switching Station.
		Appropriate bird diverters will be installed along the overhead powerline in accordance with the specialist study.	✓	The installation of bird diverters has commenced on the OHL. Avifaunal monitoring to be completed in line with approved monitoring plans.
31.	Watercourses	Work in watercourses shall only be allowed with the required water use authorisation.	✓	Required authorisation in place.
		Watercourses shall be protected against spillages and pollution of any kind. Where such incidents occur, immediate clean up of the watercourse and surrounding area should take place.	✓	No impact to watercourses noted as a result of OHL works.
		Water quality shall be monitored and maintained, where applicable.	NA	Not required as works did not take place within watercourses, only near the buffer areas.

#	Aspects	Condition	✓/X/NA	Comments
		Appropriate stormwater infrastructure should be installed to enable continued flow of water and biota movements, where applicable	NA	No watercourses were affected as a result of the development.
		There must not be any impact on the long-term morphological dynamics of watercourses.	✓	No impact to watercourses noted as a result of OHL works.
32.	Erosion and Sediment Control	All reasonable measures to limit erosion and sedimentation due to the construction activities shall be implemented.	✓	Currently minimal activities are being executed on site, and this will be monitored as the activities progress. No erosion has been identified.
		Areas cleared for development shall be actively managed to prevent any erosion channels from forming.	✓	No erosion has been identified along the currently cleared roads.
		Movement and construction activities of any kind over stabilised areas shall be avoided and restricted, and repaired where impacted.	NA	No stabilised areas exist on the project footprint yet. This will be monitored during and after construction.
33.	Aesthetics	Reasonable measures shall be implemented to ensure that construction activities do not have an unreasonable impact on the aesthetics of the area.	✓	No aesthetics have been impacted beyond what has been approved during this auditing period.
34.	Dust	Reasonable measures shall be taken to minimise dust generated from the construction activities.	✓	A method statement detailing measures for dust management has been drafted.
		Water suppression should be employed to control dust emissions, and such water must be logged and recorded.	✓	No evidence of dust emissions during this audit.
		Clearance of areas for the purposes of executing the activities, should only be cleared once the works are about to commence, and areas should not be cleared unnecessarily.	✓	To date only site laydown areas and roads have been cleared. The rest of the site remains covered in vegetation.
35.	Pollution	All reasonable measures shall be taken to minimise any pollution of streams and inconvenience to or interference with the public (or others) as a result of the execution of the Works.	✓	No incidents of this nature have occurred on site, and a complaints register is in place.
		Washing of vehicles and machinery should not take place within 50m from any watercourse. All machinery should be regularly checked for leaks. No runoff shall enter any watercourse.	NA	No machinery will be washed on site.
36.	Archaeology and Palaeontology	During the construction phase a chance-find procedure should be applied should substantial fossil remains be exposed by excavation or discovered within the development footprint.	✓	A chance-find procedure is in place.
		In the event that a significant feature be identified, work in the immediate area shall be ceased, the responsible heritage management authority notified and a specialist shall be contacted to identify and where required removed such feature.	NA	No new features have been identified during the construction phase to date.
		If it is decided to retain the burial site, and its exact size has been determined it should be fenced off permanently by means of a wire fence or brick wall, with a buffer zone of at least 100m.	✓	During this auditing period the burial site was visited and has been barricaded. It will be fenced off at 100m from the centre of the site.

#	Aspects	Condition	✓ /X/ NA	Comments
37.	Working Hours	Working hours as per local by-laws shall be adhered to. If any works are to take place outside of permitted hours, the ECO and the Employers Representative and all Interested and affected parties such as neighbours or land users are to be notified.	✓	Due to minimal activities work hours remain within local permitted times.
38.	Excavation and Trenching	During excavation topsoil and subsoil must be stockpiled separately.	✓	Topsoil is stockpiled in-situ of road clearing.
		No trenches shall be left open and exposed overnight, and backfilling should take place as soon as possible.	✓	Trenches are being excavated and are accordingly barricaded.
		Where excess soil remains after backfilling, the overburden shall be removed to a site as agreed to by the Employers Representative, and where required by the Local Authorities.	NA	Construction phase is still in progress, and the removal of excess soil will be addressed at a later stage of the project.
39.	Stormwater Management	A stormwater management plan in line with the specialist requirements shall be drafted and implemented.	✓	Stormwater management plan is in place.
40.	Site Clean Up an Rehab	The Contractor shall ensure that all temporary structures, equipment, materials, waste and facilities used for construction purposes are removed upon completion of the project. The site cleanup shall be to the satisfaction of the Employers Representative and the ECO.	✓ /X	Site camp and laydown areas require to be cleared out and rehabilitated.
		A suitably qualified person shall be employed to conduct rehabilitation after construction activities have ceased. Areas as identified by the ECO shall be rehabilitated to the satisfaction of the ECO and Employers Representative. The rehabilitation plan shall be approved by the ECO.	✓	Rehabilitation Plan in place.
41.	Temporary Site Closure (Site closed for a period exceeding one week)	A checklist procedure shall be carried out by the Contractor in consultation with the ECO and the following among others shall be included: -Fuels, flammables and hazardous materials are stored and locked in adequately lined and ventilated storage areas. -Any spillages are cleaned and disposed of. -All waste streams are removed from the site. -Fire extinguishers are available and serviced. -Emergency contact numbers are accessible. -All excavations are secured. -Fences, barriers and security are in place. -Scaffolds and pipelines storage secured. -Materials and equipment are securely stored. -Bunds and drip trays are cleaned and empty. -Slopes and stockpiles at stable angles. -Structures vulnerable to high winds are secured.	✓	The site has been adequately secured prior to the December break site closure.

APPENDIX 1: DECLARATION

THE INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL OFFICER (ECO)

I, C de Waard, as the appointed independent environmental control officer ("ECO") hereby declare that I:

- act/ed as the independent ECO in this audit report.
- regard the information contained in this report to be true and correct.
- do not have and will not have any financial interest in the undertaking of the activity, other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the NEMA, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2017 and any specific environmental management Act; and
- have and will not have no vested interest in the activity.

Signature of the ECO:



Name of company:

Amathemba Environmental Management Consulting CC

Date: **16th September 2025**