

Directorate: Forestry Management (Other Regions) P.O. Box 2782, Upington, 8800, Tel 054 338 5909, Fax 054 334 0030

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Date:

15 November 2013 **F13/11/2/219**

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ATTENTION:

Mr. Rosenthal (E-mail: Mail@PhilipRosenthal.com)

RE: COMMENTS ON BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT FOR THE PROPOSED SOLAR ENERGY PLANT NEAR AUGRABIES, NORTHERN CAPE (DEA REF: 14/12/16/3/3/1/453)

1. DEPARTMENTAL MANDATE

- 1.1 The Directorate: Forestry Management (Other Regions) in the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) is mainly concerned about the potential impact on protected tree species. See the National Forests Act, Act 84 of 1998 (NFA) as amended, section 12(1)(d) read with s15(1) and s62(2)(c).
- 1.2 The list of protected tree species was published in GN 716 of 7 September 2012. Some of the nationally declared protected tree species are known to occur in the vicinity of Augrabies and may include the following: Acacia erioloba (Camel thorn); Boscia albitrunca (Shepherd's Tree) and Euclea pseudebenus (Ebony tree) No protected tree may be cut, destroyed or disturbed without a license.
- 1.3 The DAFF is also responsible for the administration of the National Veld and Forest Fires Act, Act 101 of 1998 (NVFFA) as amended. Please take note of roles and responsibilities in terms of the NVFFA.

2. COMMENTS ON BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

- 2.1 Kindly ensure that you assess the anticipated impact on protected tree species (if any) and give an indication of how many protected trees would be destroyed as a result of the proposed development.
- 2.2 Please take note of the Flora Permit requirement in terms of the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act, Act 9 of 2009 (NCNCA) administered by the provincial Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC). The NCNCA contains schedules of protected and specially protected fauna and flora which are subjected to permitting requirements.

Yours truly,
Jacoline Mans
Chief Forester: NFA Regulation

