

Solar Energy plant near Augrabies (Comments by National Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, Branch: Spatial Planning Land Use Management Services).	<i>Response by Environmental Consultant</i>
The following issues must be addressed	
The solar plant should comply with the toolkit D16 pre application check list of the PSDF, from the documents supplied it was not mentioned or highlighted that it was used;	<i>The environmental consultants for the project will be submitting toolkit D16 to Northern Cape Provincial Planning as part of the Land Use Application. Almost all the information requested in this toolkit is already in the Basic Assessment, but it would need to be re-formatted for the toolkit D-16. It has been agreed that this does not need to be done prior to decision by Department of Environment Affairs (See Augrabies PV Basic Assessment Appendix J-8-4).</i>
Must comply with the District and local SDF the document;	<i>Noted.</i>
The boundary mapping for Augrabies National park has caused incorrect mapping for the PSDF and other related documents this must be corrected;	<i>Correct. This correction needs to be made by the Northern Cape Provincial Government and its consultants and the National Department of Environment Affairs.</i>
On the PSDF SPCs the area is in the buffer area, and also agriculture area;	<i>Noted. But the PSDF designation was influenced by a mapping error. It is an agricultural area. Please refer to correspondence in the Augrabies PV BAR report Appendix E6-15 and J-8-3 and J-8-4. More detail will be submitted with Toolkit D-16.</i>
The correct name of the department is National Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, Branch: Spatial Planning Land Use Management Services;	<i>Noted.</i>
Must comply with the Northern Cape Planning Development Act 7 1998 ;	<i>Noted.</i>
COHSTA change to COGHSTA;	<i>Noted.</i>
The solar plant site should be in SPC Fi according	<i>Noted.</i>

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to the Kai !Garib local municipality's SDF;	
The Beneficiaries of the project were not listed only the benefits the society will have in terms of the less pressure from Eskom and also benefits of limited employment. The farm owner will get a supplementary income;	<p><i>Beneficiaries of the project would include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Less pressure to Eskom;</i> • <i>The farm owner would get rental income for the use of the land;</i> • <i>Limited employment;</i> • <i>Project proponents;</i> • <i>People living in the coal mining areas (such as Limpopo) would benefit from less increase in air pollution as compared with coal burning power generation.</i> • <i>Global beneficiaries: Fractional contribution towards reducing increases in rate of global carbon emissions.</i>
The solar plant site 2 is in the National parks view shed protection area therefore site 1 is preferred;	<p><i>Both alternative sites are within the Augrabies National Parks viewshed protection area, but a project at site 2 would be visible from the National Park and thus site 1 is preferred.</i></p>
Application for rezoning has it been done? (check the mixed use area polices in the Kai !Garib SDF);	<p><i>An application for re-zoning will be submitted at the appropriate stage in the project process, but has not yet been done.</i></p>
The development impact on a broader scale seems to be below the actual delivery as the solar plant unreasonably raised expectations of the affected community;	<p><i>The public participation process communicated realistically, but rumours of job opportunities unreasonably raised expectations.</i></p>
The PSDF conducted municipalities' development potential, Augrabies and other surrounding towns in the municipality are low in development, therefore a motivation on how to mitigate the development problems in the municipality is needed.	<p><i>The project will make a modest contribution towards the development of Augrabies and in particular towards diversifying commercial activity, which is currently almost all agricultural.</i></p>
To be noted	
The plant is 22 kilovolt (kv);	<p><i>The transmission line will be 22 kilovolt (kV)</i></p>

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The panels will be 3 metres high and cover 20 hectares;	<i>These are maximum dimensions.</i>
The visual impact assessment was conducted and concluded that site 1 is less visible from the National Park than site 2, therefore site 1 is the preferred site;	<i>Correct</i>