

**Appendix E4 – Correspondence with Organs of State:
DARD (Provincial)**

From: Jack Morton <mortonj@dard.gov.za>
Sent: 08 September 2020 08:46
To: Vivienne Thomson <vivienne@enviroafrica.co.za>
Subject: FW: Mail delivery failed: returning message to sender
Importance: High

Thanks have received it.

Just to keep you up to speed with the process that the applications will follow:

- 1.I will hand the applications over to one of my officials to investigate.
- 2.He will present his findings at our next meeting that is on 16 September 2020 3. After the meeting I will compile a recommendation letter to National Department in Pretoria for signature by our Chief Director.
- 4.After I receive the signed recommendation it will be sent to Pretoria for the final letter from the Delegate of the Minister.
5. Unfortunately the National Department is the only authorised entity to give an letter / approval / permit regarding applications and they will only consider an application after receipt of a recommendation from the provincial recommendation committee.

Hope this give you an understanding into the process.

Regards

Jack

Vivienne Thomson

From: Vivienne Thomson <vivienne@enviroafrica.co.za>
Sent: 20 August 2020 09:09
To: 'mortonj@dard.gov.za'
Subject: FW: Visserspan Solar PV Facility - Project 4 (Ref. No. 14/12/16/3/3/1/2156)
Attachments: Application Form - Project 4.pdf

Importance: High

Dear Jack

Please see email below. Please note I am working from home and am available on my mobile 'phone number.

Thank you,
Vivienne Thomson



EnviroAfrica

Environmental Consultant

EnviroAfrica cc

p: +27 21 851 1616 m: +27 82 464 2874

f: +27 86 512 0154

a: Unit 7, Pastorie Park, Reitz St, Somerset West, 7130

P.O. Box 5367, Helderberg, 7135

w: www.enviroafrica.co.za e: vivienne@enviroafrica.co.za

Please consider the environment and only print this mail if necessary.

From: Vivienne Thomson <vivienne@enviroafrica.co.za>
Sent: 14 August 2020 09:11
To: 'jack@fs.agric.za' <jack@fs.agric.za>
Subject: FW: Visserspan Solar PV Facility - Project 4 (Ref. No. 14/12/16/3/3/1/2156)
Importance: High

Dear Mr. Morton

Please find attached, the application form for the above project, together with the website location of the full DBAR and all appendices: All documents as, originally made available during the public participation process, are still relevant and are also still available on EnviroAfrica's website at www.enviroafrica.co.za / projects / for public participation (then scroll down to the required project).

Please let me know if you require any other documentation to be able to comment on the above project.

Thank you,
Vivienne Thomson



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Vivienne Thomson

From: Vivienne Thomson <vivienne@enviroafrica.co.za>
Sent: 20 August 2020 09:05
To: 'mortonj@dard.gov.za'
Subject: FW: Proposed Visserspan Solar PV Facilities - Projects 1 to 4

Importance: High

Dear Mr. Morton

On 24 March 2020, I was contacted telephonically by Ms. Thembi Nyoka from the national Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) who requested that I send you the application forms for the four separate applications (reference number below) on the farm Visserspan Farm No. 40, near Dealesville, Free State Province. The farm falls within REDZ 5. The four projects are:

Visserspan Solar PV Facility - Project 1 (Ref. No. 14/12/16/3/3/1/2153);
Visserspan Solar PV Facility - Project 2 (Ref. No. 14/12/16/3/3/1/2154);
Visserspan Solar PV Facility - Project 3 (Ref. No. 14/12/16/3/3/1/2155);
Visserspan Solar PV Facility - Project 4 (Ref. No. 14/12/16/3/3/1/2156).

I explained to Ms. Nyoka that the application forms are quite large (between 3 to 4 MB each) but that the draft basic assessment report (DBAR) and all associated draft appendices (including the specialist *Botanical Impact Assessment* and specialist *Soil, Land Use and Agricultural Potential Survey*) are actually available on EnviroAfrica's website.

I will send you the application forms for the four projects in separate emails subsequent to this one, together with the website location of the full DBAR and appendices. Please let me know if you require any other documentation from me.

Lastly, please note that the public participation period for these projects ended on 19 July 2020 (the comment period had been extended three times due to the lockdown). I have tried to mail you this information before - to the email address Ms. Nyoka gave me but they were undeliverable. I also tried calling the Free State Department but the telephonic calls were not answered. Today, I spoke to Ms. Nyoka again and as a result, am attempting to email you again ... I respectfully request your comment as soon as possible.

Thank you,
Vivienne Thomson



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Vivienne Thomson

From: Vivienne Thomson <vivienne@enviroafrica.co.za>
Sent: 20 August 2020 08:57
To: 'Jack Morton'
Cc: 'thembin@daff.gov.za'
Subject: RE: Urgent request: Visserspan Solar Projects 1 to 4

Dear Jack

Thank you for your response. I will forward you five emails after this one (one cover email and the subsequent four containing the application forms for each of the four projects).

Thank you again,
Vivienne Thomson



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Please consider the environment and only print this mail if necessary.

From: Jack Morton <mortonj@dard.gov.za>
Sent: 19 August 2020 14:35
To: Vivienne Thomson <vivienne@enviroafrica.co.za>; thembin@daff.gov.za
Subject: RE: Urgent request: Visserspan Solar Projects 1 to 4
Importance: High

Afternoon Vivienne,

Please send the application to mortonj@dard.gov.za as our emails have changed. Our old email address is still functional but we do not always receive our mails.

Thanks

Jack



Jack Morton Pr Tech Eng
Land Use Management
Department of Agriculture & Rural Development
Private Bag X02
BLOEMFONTEIN
9300
Email: mortonj@dard.gov.za
Tel: +27 (0)51 861 8369
Fax: +27 (0)51 861 8556
Cell: +27 (0)60 978 3260
<http://fsagric.fs.gov.za>

From: Vivienne Thomson [<mailto:vivienne@enviroafrica.co.za>]
Sent: Monday, 17 August 2020 10:20
To: thembin@daff.gov.za
Cc: jack@fs.agric.za; jack@fs.agric.gov.za; jack@agric.gov.za
Subject: Urgent request: Visserspan Solar Projects 1 to 4
Importance: High

Dear Thembi

Please see below, the most recent undeliverable message received from Mr Jack Morton's email address at the Free State Department of Agriculture. In my last attempt, after you and I spoke telephonically on 14/08/2020, I sent M Morton (and copied you) five emails related to the Visserspan Solar Projects 1 to 4 but as per the attached files, the emails could not be delivered.

Please note that I am getting desperate since I have sent numerous emails to the address you gave me (as well as various variations on Mr Morton's email address) in an attempt to get a comment from the Free State Department of Agriculture. I have also tried several telephonic calls to the Department but as mentioned to you during our past few telephonic calls, I do not get through.

Please do you have Mr Morton's direct contact number for me, or any advice as to how I can take this further? I have tried to contact Mr Morton via email on 08/06/2020; 31/07/2020; 03/08/2020 and 14/08/2020 (all emails were returned as undeliverable).

I would appreciate any help.

Thank you,
Vivienne Thomson



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-----Original Message-----

From: websense@nda.agric.za <websense@nda.agric.za>

Sent: 16 August 2020 09:13

To: vivienne@enviroafrica.co.za

Subject: Undelivered Mail Returned to Sender

This message is from the Forcepoint email protection system, Forcepoint Email Security at host agrimx2.nda.agric.za.

The attached email could not be delivered to one or more recipients.

For assistance, please contact your email system administrator and include the following problem report:

<jack@fs.agric.za>: connect to 155.240.125.1[155.240.125.1]:25: Connection timed out

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