The Chief Executive Officer
Okahandja Town Council

RE: Notification of Proposed 20 MW Solar PV Power Plant on Osona Area Landholding (±89 ha) near Gross Barmen and Okahandja

Dear Sir/Madam,

Augite Environmental Consultants cc hereby formally notifies the Okahandja Town Council of the proposed development of a **20 MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Power Plant** ("the Project") by **JCM Power Corporation**, planned for construction in the **Osona area** on a landholding of approximately **89 hectares (±0.89 km²)**, located in close proximity to **Gross Barmen** and **Okahandja**.

The proposed development will comprise standard solar PV infrastructure and associated services, including (but not limited to) PV module arrays, inverter/transformer stations, internal access roads, perimeter security fencing, and grid interconnection components, subject to final engineering design and the relevant planning and environmental authorization processes.

This letter is issued to ensure the Town Council is duly informed of the proposed project due to its proximity to Okahandja and its potential interface with local authority planning considerations and stakeholder engagement.

Kindly **acknowledge receipt** of this letter at your earliest convenience (by email reply or signed acknowledgment), and advise whether the Town Council requires any further project information and/or wishes to nominate a focal person for ongoing liaison.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Ismael Kangueehi
Director / Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Augite Environmental Consultants cc

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Email address: kkangueehi0@gmail.com

AUGITE
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANCY CC

JCM POWER

The Regional Councillor

Otjozondjupa Regional Council

Otjozondjupa Region

OTJOZONDJUPA REGIONAL COUNCIL
02 MAR 2026
P.O. Box 1682
OTJIWARONGO
OKAHANDJA CONSTITUENCY OFFICE

RE: Notification of Proposed 20 MW Solar PV Power Plant in Osona Area Landholding (±89 ha) near Gross Barmen and Okahandja

Dear Honourable Councillor,

Augite Environmental Consultants cc hereby formally notifies your office of the proposed development of a **20 MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Power Plant** ("the Project"), planned for construction in the **Osona area** on a landholding of approximately **89 hectares (±0.89 km²)**, located in close proximity to **Gross Barmen** and **Okahandja**.

The proposed development will comprise standard solar PV infrastructure and associated services, including (but not limited to) PV module arrays, inverter/transformer stations, internal access roads, perimeter security fencing, and grid interconnection components, subject to final engineering design and the relevant planning and environmental authorization processes.

This correspondence is issued to ensure the Regional Councillor's office is duly informed of the proposed project due to its location within the region and its potential interface with regional development planning, service coordination, and stakeholder engagement requirements.

Kindly **acknowledge receipt** of this letter at your earliest convenience (by email reply or signed acknowledgment) and advise whether your office requires any further project information and/or wishes to nominate a focal person for ongoing liaison.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Ismael Kangueehi

Director / Environmental Assessment Practitioner

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ENVIRONMENTAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Proposed 20 MW Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant (±89 ha) in the Otjozondjupa Region, Namibia (Osona–Okahandja area)

1. Introduction

This Environmental Background Information Document (BID) has been prepared to support the environmental assessment and public participation process for a proposed 20 MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Power Plant on an applied area of approximately 89 hectares in the Otjozondjupa Region, in close proximity to Osona and Okahandja.

The BID provides a concise, accessible overview of the proposed activity, the receiving environment at a screening level, the applicable legislative context, and the intended environmental assessment process to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) as required under Namibia's environmental legislation.

2. Proponent

The proponent is JCM Power, an international renewable energy independent power producer developing and operating projects across Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. Publicly available information indicates JCM operates a portfolio of wind and solar assets and has delivered operational solar PV projects in Malawi, including utility-scale installations (e.g., Golomoti 20 MW and Salima).

3. Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Environmental assessment activities, including public participation and preparation of the scoping-level deliverables, will be undertaken by Augite Environmental Consultants cc as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), in accordance with the general requirements for EAPs and the procedural requirements for applications for environmental clearance.

4. Project location and access

The proposed solar power plant site is located in the Otjozondjupa Region, in the Osona–Okahandja area. The site is approximately 18 km west of Osona Village on the route toward Gross Barmen.

Access is obtained from the A1 (northbound from Windhoek), turning left onto the D1972 district road and travelling for approximately 14 km in the direction of Gross Barmen. The project area is understood to be positioned in close proximity to the A1 corridor, with site access supported by existing regional roads.

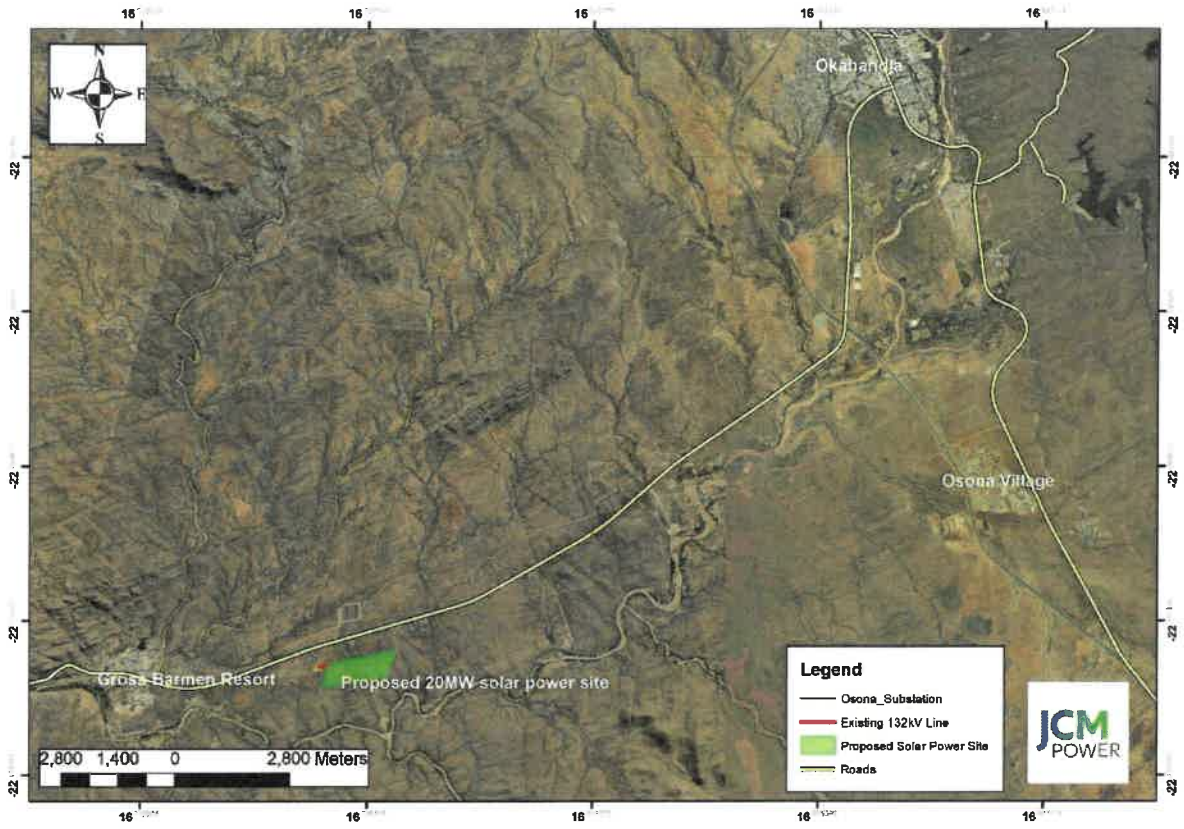

Figure 1. Location area in proportion with the surrounding towns.

5. Project description

5.1 Proposed activity

The proposed development entails the establishment of a 20 MW solar PV generating facility on an applied footprint of approximately 89 ha. The development is expected to include typical components of a utility-scale solar facility, such as:

- PV module arrays (fixed-tilt and/or single-axis tracking, depending on final design);
- inverter/transformer stations and associated electrical reticulation;
- internal access roads and firebreaks;
- boundary fencing, security and controlled access;
- temporary construction laydown, storage and contractor facilities;
- stormwater management controls (construction and operational phase); and
- grid interconnection infrastructure and/or tie-in works (subject to the final electrical design and the point of connection).

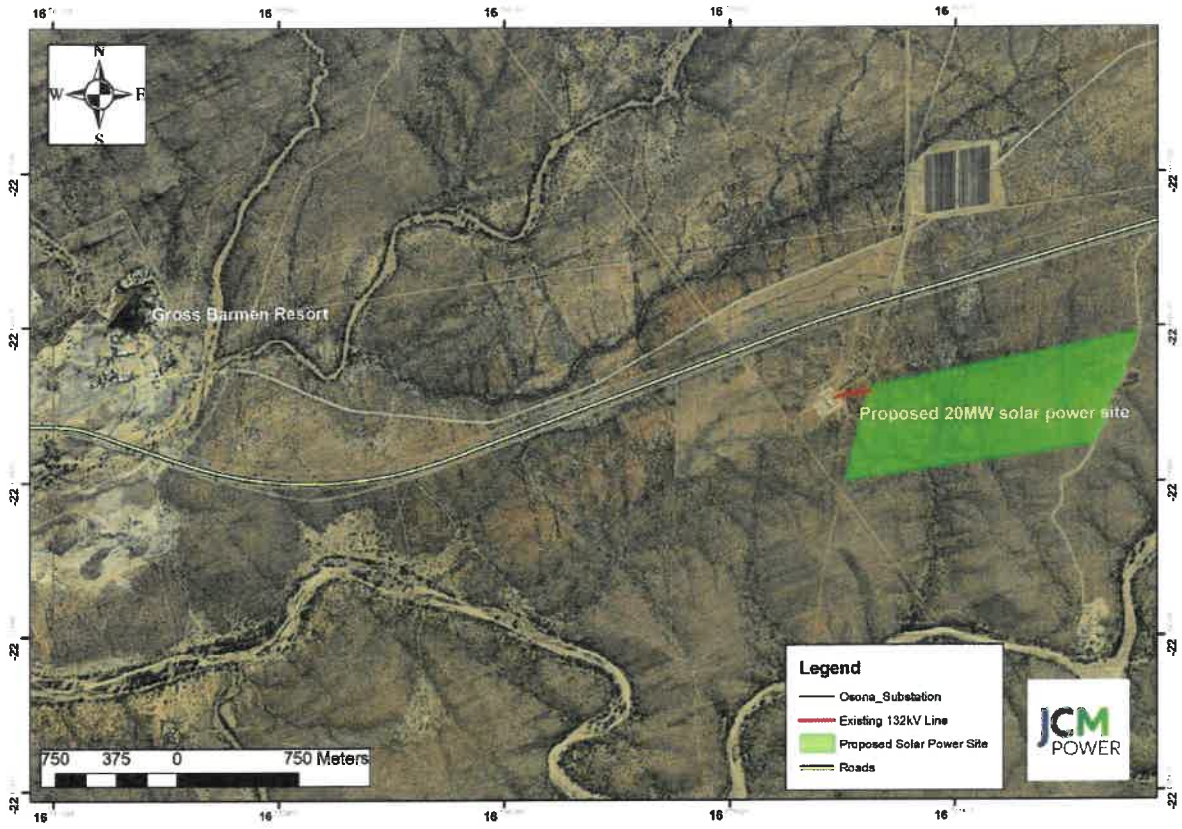

Figure 2. Location area in proportion to Gross Barmen resort.

5.2 Project phases

The activity is generally implemented across the following phases:

- Pre-construction: detailed design, site surveys, permitting, procurement.
- Construction: site preparation, civil works, PV/electrical installation, commissioning.
- Operation and maintenance: routine panel washing (where required), vegetation management, inspections, electrical maintenance, security.
- Decommissioning (end-of-life): removal of infrastructure, waste management, rehabilitation to an agreed end-state.

6. Need and desirability

The proposed solar PV facility is intended to contribute renewable electricity generation capacity, support energy security, and align with Namibia's transition toward lower-carbon power generation. Utility-scale solar projects typically provide:

- diversification of the regional energy mix,

- reduced reliance on fossil fuel-based generation and/or imports,
- potential for local employment and procurement during construction, and
- long-term rates/tariff stability compared to fuel-dependent generation (subject to commercial arrangements).

7. Legal and policy framework

7.1 Environmental Clearance Certificate requirement

In terms of Namibia's Environmental Management Act, 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the EIA Regulations (GN 30 of 2012), listed activities require an environmental assessment and the issuing of an Environmental Clearance Certificate prior to commencement. Electricity generation and related infrastructure are typically screened as listed activities, which triggers the ECC process.

7.2 Competent authority

The application for environmental clearance is submitted to the Environmental Commissioner (through the competent authority systems and processes prescribed), and the EAP conducts the required assessment and stakeholder engagement to support decision-making.

8. Receiving environment

This BID is a screening-level document; detailed baseline findings are generated during scoping (and specialist studies if required). At this stage, the site is broadly characterised as a rural/regional landscape in the Otjozondjupa Region with transport access via the A1/D1972 road network. Key environmental receptors typically considered for solar PV projects in this region include:

- terrestrial ecology (vegetation communities, protected species, habitats);
- soils and erosion potential (especially during construction);
- drainage lines/ephemeral flow paths and stormwater behaviour;
- heritage and archaeology (chance finds);
- land use compatibility and visual sense of place (viewshed from road corridors and sensitive receptors);
- traffic and road safety during construction;
- dust/noise during construction; and
- waste streams (general, hazardous, e-waste at end-of-life).

9. Environmental assessment approach

9.1 Process steps (ECC pathway)

The environmental assessment will follow the standard steps prescribed in GN 30 of 2012, including:

1. Application submission for environmental clearance;
2. Screening and scoping-level assessment, including identification of key issues;
3. Public participation, including I&AP registration and solicitation of comments;
4. Compilation of a Scoping Report and an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) (and specialist inputs if required); and
5. Submission to the competent authority for review and decision-making.

9.2 Public participation

Public participation will include:

- announcement/advertising and direct notifications (where applicable),
- an I&AP registration process and stakeholder database,
- circulation of draft findings to registered stakeholders (commensurate with the process), and
- recording and responding to stakeholder inputs in a Comments and Responses Report.

10. Key deliverables

The BID supports the start of the process. The main deliverables typically produced for submission include:

- Scoping Report (project description, receiving environment, issues, impact assessment approach);
- Environmental Management Plan (EMP) (mitigation, monitoring, roles/responsibilities, reporting);
- Stakeholder Engagement Record (I&AP register + comments and responses);
- Maps (locality map, layout concept, sensitivity constraints map where available); and
- Supporting annexures (specialist reports if triggered by screening outcomes).

11. Preliminary issues and risks register

A preliminary issues register (to be confirmed through stakeholder input and site verification) for solar PV projects commonly includes:

- vegetation clearance footprint and habitat fragmentation;
- erosion/dust during construction and stormwater control effectiveness;
- compatibility with adjacent land uses and road safety (construction traffic);
- waste management (including hazardous substances such as oils, fuels; and end-of-life e-waste);
- visual impact (especially near roads and settlements);
- heritage chance-finds procedures; and
- cumulative impacts if other energy projects are present in the area.

12. Conclusion

The proposed 20 MW solar PV plant (±89 ha) near Osona/Okahandja represents a utility-scale renewable energy development that requires an Environmental Clearance Certificate prior to implementation. The BID provides the basis for initiating the ECC process and public participation in accordance with Namibia's environmental legislation, after which scoping and the EMP will define practicable mitigation and monitoring measures to manage the project's environmental and social risks