

Hopefield Solar Project Comments			
Name & Surname	Organisation	Date	Comments
Kathy Lewis		2025/04/07	Requested Specialist reports
Andre DeVilliers	Weskussakekamer	2025/04/08	Registration request as I&AP
Vera Du Toit	Resident	2025/04/17	Negative impact on fynbos
			Where will water be sourced for the Hydrogen facility
			Permanent structures for workers not supported. It must be clearly stipulated that workers will leave after the project construction is completed
			No preferences given to Hopefield residents for work, what is in it for Hopefield?
			The development is not 3km from town, its 900m
			The biodiversity study must be amended to include different seasons, day & night. Will the renosterveld in the area be completely destroyed?
			The huge number of solar panels to be transported by trucks, the local roads will be destroyed. What mitigation measures are in place to cover these impacts?
			Hydrogen plant is mentioned briefly, more information required.
			The project will change the quiet & peacefulness sense of place of the town; this is not supported
			How can impact studies be amended if this is the first planned development of this size?
John Van Zyl	Resident	2025/04/17	Objects to the proposed project on the proposed land to be used
Elaine Ruck	Private		concerned about water shortage
			impacts on roads due to high number of trucks
			risk of lithium & hydrogen explosion
			Concerned about the number of people brought in for work, possible squatter situation may develop which will remain after the project is completed

			Concerned about potential environmental impact
			Fire fighting facilities
			Concerned about hoe projects/approvals are handled. Short notice for meetings
Dolf van Hansen	Die Boo Smous		Potential impact on town
			Social Problems
			Traffic will be an issue
			Lack of information
Gabrielle Andrew	Tourism Operator		The registration process is a strategy to complicate and slow down objections
Henlie Fourie		2025/04/20	
Esme Smuts	Resident	2025/04/17	project location is an issue, it's too close to the town
			concerned over temporary housing for workers, where will it be and when will they be removed
			increase in traffic from heavy vehicles
			safety risk over hydrogen facility
Elma Liebenberg		2025/04/17	
Jacques va der Westhuizen	Hotel Owner	2025/04/17	Claity on whether the solar project will connect into the national grid or only used for the hydrogen facility
			Is the project 900MW or 2000MW?
			Concerned about the traffic impact
			The project is 900m away from town
			Concerned about the change in the sense of place of the town
			The spatial framework meeting emphasized keeping Hopefield rural,safe and a flower town
			Potential impacts on the tourism industry that is based on the rural nature of the town

			Concerned about the town's biggest employers which rely on clean and healthy natural environment, which is at risk with the proposed development
Angus & Gill Stewart	Resident	4/20/25	How will the project affect the beautiful own of Hopefield
			How will workers be accommodated
			Will one phase be completed before starting a new phase?
			Estimated time to complete each phase
			Will transport be provided for workers
Cedric Brown	Resident	4/20/25	The proposed project is located too close to town, raising concerns for resident safety and wellbeing
			The combination of solar and hydrogen infrastructure so close to a residential zone presents safety risks that have not been sufficiently addressed
			Traffic & noise pollution from heavy vehicles will negatively affect the residents' daily lives
			The introduction of outside labour poses a threat to the safety of the peaceful town
			No clarity is provided on the future of temporary workers once the project is completed. Hopefield does not have enough accommodation for contractors
			The installation of over 2million panels will drastically alter the rural character of the town. Many residents moved to Hopefield for its rural character which will be permanently compromised.
			The proposed project site is zoned for agricultural use, proceeding with industrial scale development will violate land use regulations
			Short notice on meetings/notification
			The knock-on effect if something were to go wrong with 8ha of batteries has severe consequences for any environment, especially for a town of 8000 people.

Rowayda Mudariki	Resident	4/20/25	The proposed project is fully supported. The project will provide much needed opportunities for the people of Hopefield
			Please address issues of fire risk for nearby properties
			Concerns over glare from solar panels
			Address concerns of employment of locals and skills development of the youth
			Attention and support must be given to community projects
Justin Armstrong	Resident	4/20/25	Changes in the character of the town, crime. Hopefield is a quiet town and should not be changed
			Clarity on workers accommodation, squatters are a big no
			What happens to all the workers from outside after the project is completed
			More clarity on safety aspect of the proposed development
			Environmental impact has to be fully understood.
Glen Albrecht	Resident	4/17/25	The proposed project will be detrimental to the town as the site is home to a unique biosphere of extremely rare plants found in the Fynbos Kingdom which must be protected.
			The timing of the Biodiversity study (November) was off as this was dry season and many plants species were dormant and not flowering, likely resulting in inaccurate assessment
			Potential increase in crime associated with huge project is a concern
			The project is located 900m from the town and not 3km away as stated
			The power generated will be used in the hydrogen facility and not connected to the grid, this must be clarified
			Biodiversity assessment was done for 900MW and not the proposed development size. Please clarify.
Eugene Taylor	Resident	4/17/25	will the 3000ha of Fynbos be removed for this project
			what provisions are made to protect the wildlife

			Any health & safety risks for people living nearby, especially those with respiratory conditions
			Hydrogen is highly flammable, what safety measures are in place in the event of fire
			the hydrogen facility is too close to town
			there is a rumour that 2500 workers will be brought in for construction phase, along with temporary housing, can this be confirmed? What happens to those workers after project completion?
			will there be job opportunities for Hopefield residents
			will the water required for hydrogen production impact local farmers
			will there be enough water required for the proposed facility
			How many ships will be used to export hydrogen to Europe and what is the estimated tonnage per shipment?
			will the roads be upgraded to accommodate increased traffic during construction and future exporting phases?
			when is the project expected to start?
James Suter	Resident	4/22/25	security and traffic concerns during construction phase
			visually disruptive
			more info on project plans must be provided
			safety risks regarding unforeseen disaster
			What happens to all the workers from outside after the project is completed
			natural landscape and biodiversity will be compromised
Charmaine Petersen	Neighboring farm	4/18/25	concerned about environmental impacts
Amanda Palvie	Resident	4/20/25	the proposed project is not in the best interest of the people of Hopefield
Merina Beukes	Resident		what are the plans for roads
			how far will the site boundary be from Tuinstreet

			what are the dust, noise and security mitigation measures
			will local labour be considered? Have crime and labour relations associated with influx of labourers from out of town been considered
			Concerns over the SAPS capacity to deal with current situation, additional people will mean the SAPS will be overstretched.
Ronelle van Zyl	Resident		the PPP must not be split, its confusing in its current state
			Biodiversity & Heritage studies were done in one day, this is not enough
			The PPP meeting held in Hopefield was too short notice
			Reports must be made available to the community for consideration