GreenCape

CASE STUDY

Municipal pioneering

in utility own-build renewable energy generation

Abbreviations, units & glossary

BAC	Bid Adjudication Committee
BCR	Benefit Cost Ratio
BEC	Bid Evaluation Committee
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
BOM	Bill of Materials
BSC	Bid Specification Committee
CCT	City of Cape Town
CLO	Community Liaison Officer
COD	Commercial Operating Date
CPPPM	Corporate Project, Programme and Portfolio Management
DBO	Design, Build & Operate
DoEL	Department of Employment & Labour
DEE	Department of Electricity and Energy
DMRE	Department of Mineral Resources & Energy
DWS	Department of Water & Sanitation
EAF	Energy Availability Factor
EGD	Electricity Generation and Distribution
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPC	Engineering, Procurement & Construction
ERA	Electricity Regulation Act
GIA	Grid Impact Assessment
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
IPP	Independent Power Producer
IRR	Internal Rate of Return
Km	Kilometres
kWh	Kilowatt hour
LTC	Lesedi-Technoserve Consortium
MFMA	Municipal Finance Management Act (Act No. 56 of 2003)
MSDF-EMF	Municipal Spatial Development and Environmental Management Framework
MW	Megawatt
MWh	Megawatt hour
NERSA	National Energy Regulator of South Africa
O&M	Operations & maintenance
PPA	Power Purchase Agreement
PV	Photovoltaic
RoD	Record of Decision
SCBA	Socio Cost Benefit Analysis
SCM	Supply Chain Management
SEM	Sustainable Energy Markets
SMME	Small, medium & micro-sized enterprises
SSEG	Small Scale Embedded Generator/Generation
VFM	Value for Money
Loadshedding	A term for planned, rotational power outages in South Africa to prevent a total blackout of the national electricity grid

1 Summary

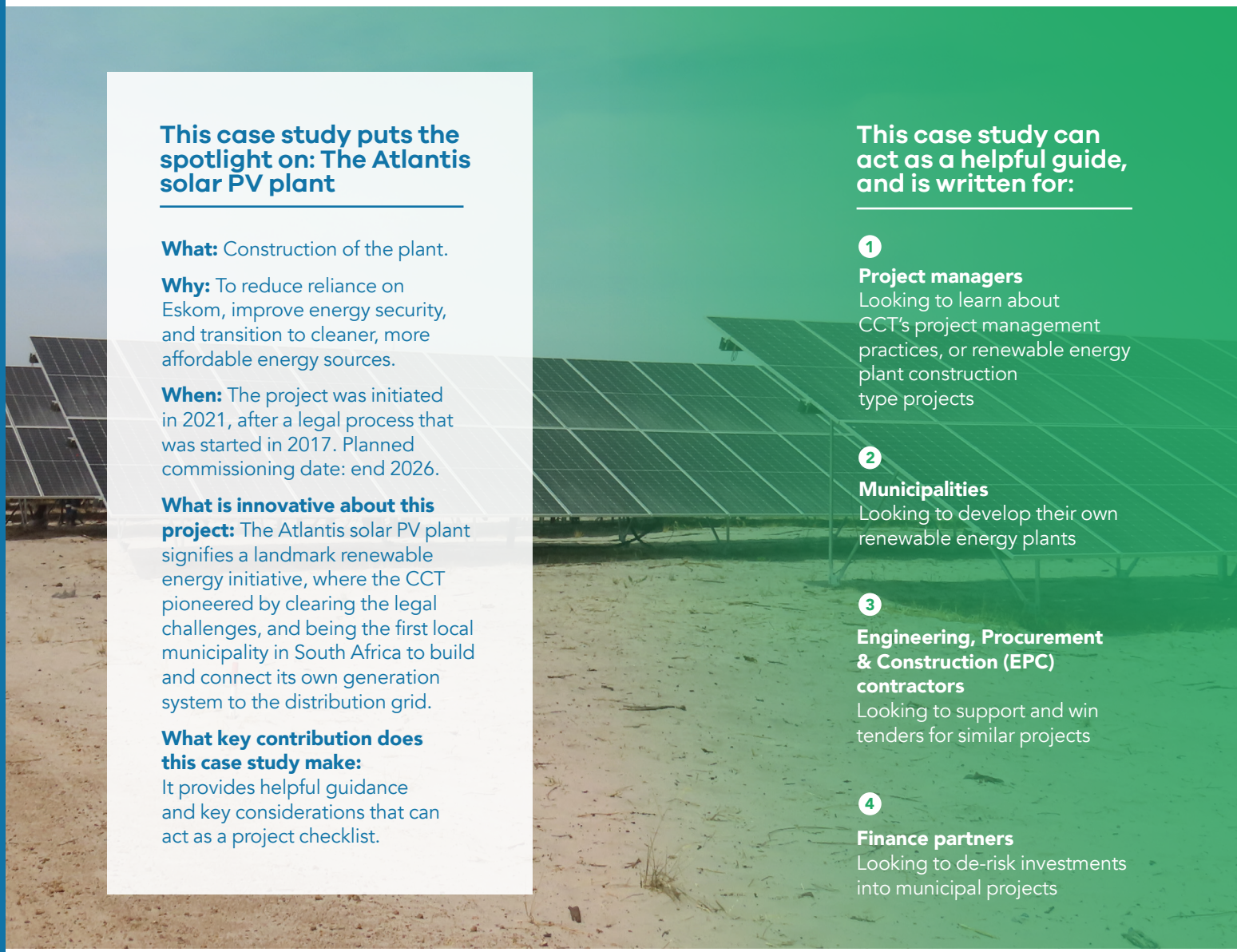
A case study of the City of Cape Town's Corporate Programme and Project Management framework, governance and stage-gate reviews as seen through the development of the 7MW ground-mounted solar photovoltaic plant in Atlantis.

About the municipal innovation case study series

Local, and especially, metropolitan municipalities are playing an increasingly important role in South Africa's energy transition. As they take on new responsibilities, adopt emerging technologies, and explore different ways of working, there is much to learn from the practical experiences of those proactive in shaping local energy systems. Accordingly, the City of Cape Town (CCT) is continuously planning and implementing a range of innovative[1] initiatives that reflects its commitment to harnessing new energy supplies, alleviating energy poverty and optimising energy use.

In this context, innovation is understood to be a critical lever in operating a future-fit energy utility business and enabling action by residents, businesses and partners.

This present case study on the **CCT's Atlantis solar photovoltaic (PV) plant** forms part of a series that explores innovative initiatives taking place within the Energy Directorate.



This case study puts the spotlight on: The Atlantis solar PV plant

What: Construction of the plant.

Why: To reduce reliance on Eskom, improve energy security, and transition to cleaner, more affordable energy sources.

When: The project was initiated in 2021, after a legal process that was started in 2017. Planned commissioning date: end 2026.

What is innovative about this project: The Atlantis solar PV plant signifies a landmark renewable energy initiative, where the CCT pioneered by clearing the legal challenges, and being the first local municipality in South Africa to build and connect its own generation system to the distribution grid.

What key contribution does this case study make: It provides helpful guidance and key considerations that can act as a project checklist.

This case study can act as a helpful guide, and is written for:

1. **Project managers** Looking to learn about CCT's project management practices, or renewable energy plant construction type projects
2. **Municipalities** Looking to develop their own renewable energy plants
3. **Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) contractors** Looking to support and win tenders for similar projects
4. **Finance partners** Looking to de-risk investments into municipal projects

[1] The CCT adopts the ISO 56001 definition of innovation, as the realisation of a new or significantly improved product, service, process, business model, or method that creates value for the organisation and its stakeholders.

Atlantis solar PV project highlights

- The Atlantis solar PV plant is the first implemented utility-scale renewable energy generation project in South Africa to be **owned and operated by a metropolitan municipality**.
- **A robust stage-gate review system and clear strategic project alignment are essential for replicating success** in future municipal renewable energy projects, ensuring financial control, value delivery for end customers.
- Whilst there were significant legal, environmental and technical engineering aspects to consider throughout the project due to its novelty, **the CCT's adherence to project management best practices allowed the project to adapt** to respond to identified risk and unforeseen events.
- The CCT functions, uniquely, as **both the project developer and the project off-taker** for the Atlantis solar PV plant.
- The use of appropriate, well-considered evaluation instruments to inform decision-making, such as **multi-criteria analysis, and risk-based decision evaluation**, proved useful in informing decisions.
- The Atlantis solar PV plant project demonstrates that **a municipality can successfully take on the role of an Independent Power Producer (IPP) for its own grid**, amidst the challenges discussed in this study, while serving as a "blueprint".
- The value of conducting pilots goes beyond the delivery on key project milestones, as the unique learnings help to **inform a blueprint for replicating** similar projects.

2 Introduction

Pilot perspective

Strategically, the Atlantis solar PV plant project functions as a pilot, enabling the CCT to generate insights to:

- Determine whether the NEC4 Design, Build and Operate (DBO) contract template used during procurement was effective and suitable as a model for similar future infrastructure projects.[2]
- Identify underlying challenges and test key assumptions to inform whether the CCT should further invest in utility owned generation as a means to diversify the CCT's energy mix, shield customers from tariff increases, mitigate climate change and stimulate the green economy.

Background

Growing national and international pressure is pushing municipalities to consider mechanisms for reducing reliance on fossil-fuel produced energy and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Locally, rising Eskom tariffs and increasing uncertainty of supply (caused by loadshedding) is providing further motivation for considering alternative means for securing energy supply.

With plans to meet 35% of Cape Town's energy demand from renewables by 2030, the CCT has actively been evaluating possible avenues towards enabling a more decentralised, sustainable energy future. The CCT has several options to diversify its energy mix, including buying electricity from private IPPs, encouraging widespread uptake of small-scale embedded generation (SSEG), and building its own generation plants. To move beyond theory and understand which approaches are truly viable, running pilot projects has been essential for informing future decisions. With this in mind, the CCT has actively been evaluating opportunities and sites to establish a renewable energy project in order to gain practical knowledge in this specialised engineering domain.

In 2021, the CCT officially started planning on its first "own-build" renewable energy initiative, the construction of Atlantis solar PV plant. Initially linked to the CCT's carbon emissions and net-zero carbon targets (net-zero carbon municipal buildings by 2030), it soon became about more; with an emphasis on reducing reliance on Eskom, improving energy security (including affordability, reliability, carbon neutrality and resilience considerations) and stimulating the green economy to unlock greater socioeconomic benefits.

Construction started during the last quarter of 2024, and is expected to be completed by the end of April 2026. For the first 18-months of operation, the plant will be operated and maintained by the appointed contractor, Lesedi-Technoserve Consortium. Thereafter it will be handed over to the CCT who will function as the plant operator and off-taker.

It is often argued that governance processes can hinder innovation. While governance is intended to ensure accountability, stability, and transparency, these very goals can create friction with the messy, risky, and iterative nature of innovation. In the case of the CCT's Atlantis solar PV plant pilot project, however, project governance and adherence to best practice was recognised as an enabler.

As such, this case study reflects on key aspects of the project management, governance and stage-gate review processes that assisted the project team in navigating unforeseen challenges. Whilst there is some discussion of the technical and engineering considerations, this is not covered in as much detail.

For readers interested in the technical details of similar projects, refer to this case study.

[2] The contracting strategy for the Atlantis solar PV plant project is detailed further in the risk mitigation section further down in this document.

3 Project context

Project ideation for the CCT to build its own generation plant started as early as 2017 when the CCT explored ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by incrementally replacing Eskom's coal-based electricity with renewable energy. Early feasibility studies revealed significant legal hurdles, primarily the interpretation of section 34 of the Electricity Regulation Act (ERA), which historically required ministerial determination and the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) concurrence before licensing new generation capacity.

The CCT argued this interpretation infringed on its constitutional mandate to provide reliable municipal electricity, especially amid Eskom's loadshedding crisis. In the same year, the CCT launched a landmark court case seeking clarity, contending that ministerial approval was only necessary for national procurement, not municipal projects. The dispute, however, was deemed an intergovernmental matter requiring political resolution rather than judicial intervention.

The breakthrough came in October 2020 when, under pressure from the worsening energy crisis, the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) amended ERA regulations to allow financially sound municipalities to procure or build generation capacity without prior ministerial determination.

This policy shift signaled the green light for CCT to proceed with the Atlantis solar PV plant, which the CCT chose to **own and operate, allowing it to evaluate this business model** (rather than solely relying on private IPPs).

The CCT's pioneering legal challenge was instrumental in driving this regulatory reform, paving the way for municipal energy autonomy and setting a precedent for other South African municipalities to develop their own generation projects.

Project overview

- **Location:** Atlantis, ~40km north of Cape Town, Western Cape
- **Technology:** Ground-mounted solar PV panels, integrated with a battery energy storage system (BESS)
- **Ownership:** CCT
- **Investment payback period:** 12 years
- **Capacity:** 7MW[3] (equivalent to 4 550 households), expandable to 10MW
- **BESS battery size:** 5MW/10MWh
- **Solar PV panels:** 12 850
- **Total area:** 15 ha (equal to 21 rugby fields)
- **CAPEX:** R200 000 000 (including grid connection cost)
- **OPEX:** R3 500 000 (projected per annum)
- **Cost per kWh:** R0.55
- **Construction period:** Oct 2024 – April 2026
- **Project lifespan cost saving:** ~R400 000 000 (calculated on the weighted average difference between Eskom rates (R1.50/kWh) and the plant (R0.55/kWh))
- **Construction jobs & community investment:** 295 (as of Feb 2026) with many being green jobs that include skills transfer and the majority being locally sourced
- **Operational jobs:** 12 permanent jobs during the operational phase provided
- **Greenhouse gas emissions:** 12 524 tonnes of CO_2e emissions avoided per annum

[3] The original planned capacity when the project was initiated was 10MW – but an unexpected increase in the cost of solar panels led to a project adjustment.

Project management and governance

The CCT adopts a rigorous corporate project, programme, and portfolio management (CPPPM) framework that incorporates predefined stages alongside stage gate reviews as a form of governance to appropriately manage infrastructure projects at different levels of complexity. By applying structured, multi disciplinary checks at key points in a project's life cycle, the CPPPM framework assisted the project team on Atlantis solar PV project to apply the required level of scrutiny to identify risks early, strengthen strategic alignment, and ensure that technical, financial, regulatory and procurement requirements were properly addressed. The following diagram illustrates the key stages and gates of the CPPPM governance framework, as they apply to the Atlantis Solar PV plant project setup.

"The quality checks embedded in the CPPPM stage gate framework ensured that the right level of scrutiny was applied at key points in a project's life cycle, ensuring that the project team on Atlantis solar PV project applied the appropriate level of scrutiny to identify risks early." – Marlyn Hendricks, CCT Project Manager

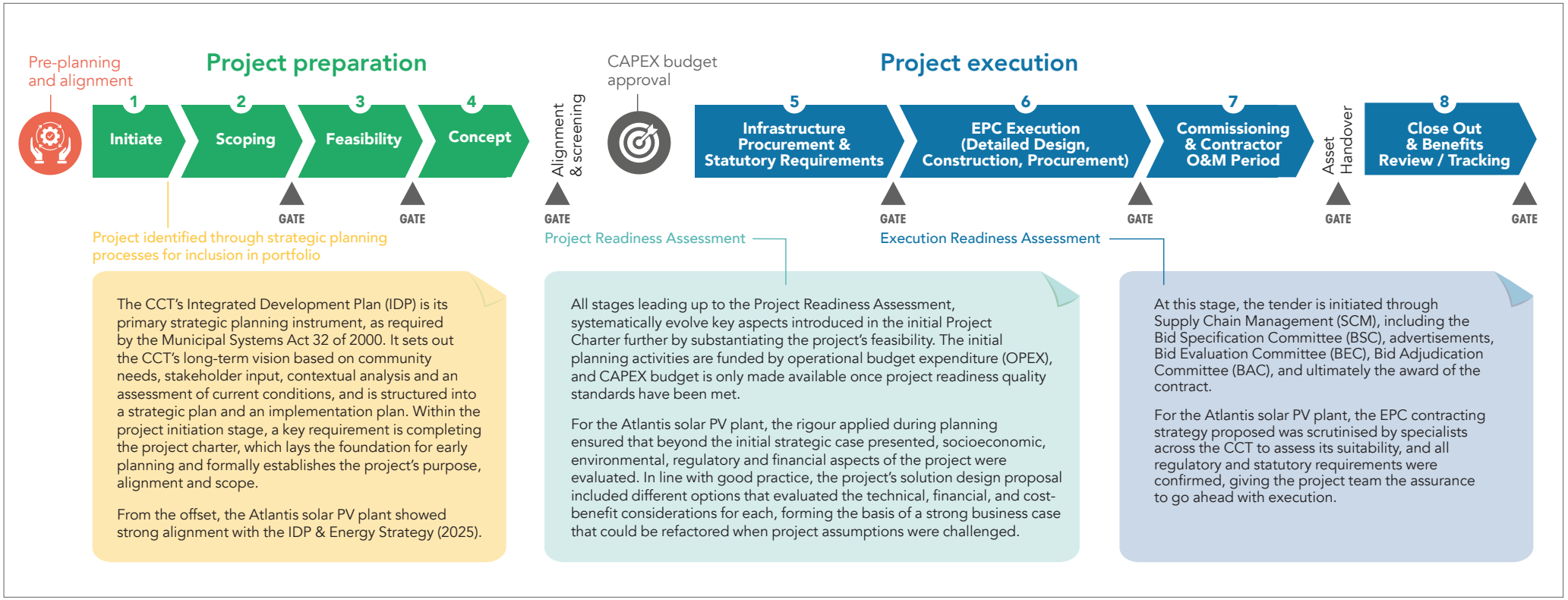


Figure 1: Project governance framework, adapted for the Atlantis solar PV plant project stages. (Source: City of Cape Town Energy Directorate)

4 Looking back: A review of key events & lessons learned

A chronological review of the key events (expected and unexpected) that occurred throughout the lifecycle of the Atlantis solar PV plant project provides a foundation from which to extract valuable learnings.

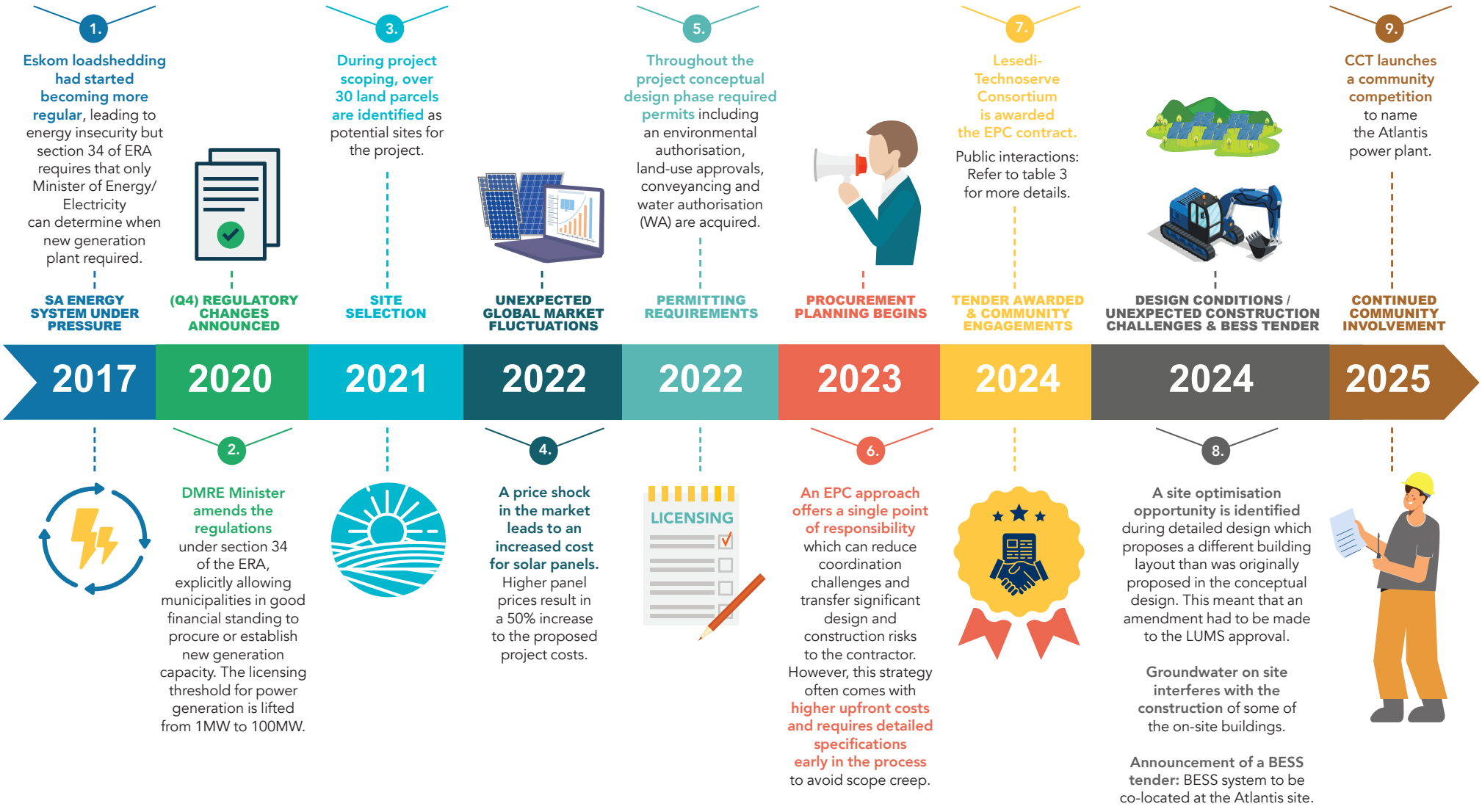


Figure 2: Timeline of the Atlantis solar PV plant project including pre-project, project preparation and project execution phases

A review of key events and lessons learned

The following section provides a chronological review of the key events (expected and unexpected) that occurred throughout the lifecycle of the Atlantis solar PV plant project provides a foundation from which to extract valuable learnings.

Table 1: Key project milestones and responses from the project preparation and execution phases of the CCT's CPPPM framework

EVENT/PHASE	CCT RESPONSE	KEY LEARNINGS
2017 – 2020: South African energy system is under pressure: Eskom loadshedding had started becoming more regular, leading to energy insecurity but Section 34 of ERA requires that only Minister of Energy/ Electricity can determine when new generation plant required.	CCT files a landmark case (with hearing in May 2020) arguing that section 34 should only apply when national government was the entity procuring power. The legal proceedings start a wider discussion between CCT, relevant regulatory bodies and stakeholders in the national (and international) energy sector, catalysing critical policy and regulatory changes and clarifying ambiguity and highlighting issues in the governance arena.	New learnings for legal proceedings, as the court determines that this is a political rather than legal issue.
2020: (Q4) Regulatory changes announced: DMRE Minister amends the regulations under section 34 of the ERA, explicitly allowing municipalities in good financial standing to procure or establish new generation capacity. The licensing threshold for power generation is lifted from 1MW to 100MW.	The changes in the regulatory environment provide the green light for CCT to kick off project planning for the Atlantis solar PV project.	Even though the outcome of the 2020 court case filed by CCT was unsuccessful, the proactive approach taken by CCT could have contributed to the political pressure that led to the changes
2021: Site selection: During project scoping, over 30 land parcels are identified as potential sites for the project.	The project team applies multi-criteria decision analysis to inform site selection based on the following criteria, such as that the site must be CCT owned land, vacant, a greenfield site, within ~2kms of required infrastructure and generally suitable. A site in Atlantis is selected.	For optimal site selection, a well-developed multi-criterion decision evaluation tool is critical. The CCT's GIS databases also played a critical role in allowing for the determination of a suitable site
2022: Unexpected global market fluctuations: A price shock in the market leads to an increased cost for solar panels Higher panel prices result in a 50% increase to the proposed project costs.	The CCT conducts a SCBA to determine if the Atlantis solar PV plant project is in the public interest and VFM with new cost estimates. Technical and financial feasibility studies confirmed affordability compared to Eskom tariffs and validated socio-economic benefits (job creation, green economy stimulus). Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and land acquisition were completed early, reducing regulatory risk.	The CCT conducts thorough option analysis with the options evaluated against estimated CAPEX and OPEX costs, risks associated with each option, estimated COD and financial benefits and associated impacts.
2022: Permitting requirements: Throughout the project conceptual design phase required permits, including an environmental authorisation, land-use approvals, conveyancing and water authorisation (WA) are acquired (table 2).	A well-defined project scope and experience of project members ensure that permitting requirements are known upfront, while the appointment of an experienced consulting firm ensured a smooth permitting process, minimising project delays linked to permitting dependencies.	Permitting can be a lengthy and often delay-filled process. Proactive engagement with relevant authorities created project awareness and prevented possible bottlenecks.
2023: Procurement planning: An EPC approach offers a single point of responsibility, which can reduce coordination challenges and transfer significant design and construction risks to the contractor. However, this strategy often comes with higher upfront costs and requires detailed specifications early in the process to avoid scope creep.	The project team weighs the potential benefits of an EPC contracting strategy against alternatives such as traditional design-bid-build or design-build, considering local regulatory requirements, procurement policies, and the need for transparency and accountability in public infrastructure delivery.	The EPC contract strategy is an effective risk mitigation strategy that can ensure better quality output due to the provider performing the full scope of works (for example, hand-offs can be difficult to manage between suppliers). There is a need for strong contract management and contingency planning for supply chain delays.

EVENT/PHASE	CCT RESPONSE	KEY LEARNINGS
2024: Tender awarded: Lesedi-Technoserve Consortium is awarded the EPC contract.	The appointed EPC becomes the single point of responsibility, responsible for design, construction and operation of the facility. The CCT includes contingencies in the overall project CAPEX budget.	This approach is more costly upfront but shields the CCT from unforeseen financial risks during construction.
2024-2025: Ongoing community engagements and public interactions: Refer to table 3 for more details.	Between May and July of 2024, five stakeholder engagements take place in the local community. Throughout the construction process community awareness activities like the handing out of information pamphlets, and a community-based Solar Plant Naming Competition took place to include the community every step of the way.	Extensive stakeholder engagement remains vital to build and sustain local support.
2024: Detailed design: An optimisation opportunity is identified during detailed design.	Amendment was requested on the LUMS approval to allow the site plan to be updated to cater for the improved design.	Even though the design change required that the LUMS approval be amended, the identified design change could be accommodated to allow for site layout optimisation.
2024: Unexpected construction challenges: Groundwater on site interferes with the construction of some of the on-site buildings.	A 24hour/day pump is required on site for the duration of the build.	The EPC contract strategy meant that the contractor was responsible for unforeseen events, mitigating the financial impact on the CCT.
2024: Announcement of a BESS tender: BESS system to be co-located at the Atlantis site.	Energy insecurity remains an unpredictable risk and the CCT has learned valuable lessons from the project to date, inspiring demand for more additional projects of an innovative nature.	Co-location of an 5MW/10MWh BESS introduces complexity but future-proofs the Atlantis generation plant. Good project governance of pilot projects ensures that enough data is captured to assess the feasibility of scaling solutions.
2025: Continued community involvement: CCT launches a community competition to name the Atlantis power plant.	The CCT is making concerted efforts to improve the livelihoods of those living in Atlantis and to drive investment and job creation in the area.	Giving the community the opportunity to name the plant creates a connection and sense of local ownership of the plant.

In summary

Having provided a high-level overview of the project and its key learnings, the following sections offer a deeper exploration of specific aspects of the project that present valuable insights, which can be incorporated into a blueprint for infrastructure projects of a similar nature.

5 Permitting requirements

The project required a number of permits (as well as consultations) including environmental authorisation, land-use approvals, conveyancing and a water use license and more (see table 2).

The success of obtaining all required permits with no delays could be attributed to the following factors;

- The CCT ensured a clear and well defined project scope with a basic design. This ensured that all permitting requirements were documented and understood.
- The CCT ensured a prompt start of the approval process to account for possible delays.
- Proactive engagement with the relevant competent authorities. This created project awareness, built relationships and pre-empted possible bottlenecks.
- The CCT appointed an experienced professional consulting team (JG Afrika) to assist with the permitting process.

In addition to the permits that were required to be obtained above, internally within the CCT, the relevant internal technical units had to be engaged for grid network studies, and continuously consulted throughout the conceptual and detailed design phase to support a thorough technical impact assessment.

Table 2: Permit requirements for the Atlantis solar PV plant (and project permit checklist)

Permit	Responsible authority	Start date	Approval date
Environmental Authorisation	Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning	April 2021	April 2022
Land Reservation	City of Cape Town	May 2021	May 2022
Land Use Management System (LUMS) approval	City of Cape Town	June 2022	February 2023
General Authorisation (water)	Department of Water and Sanitation	September 2022	January 2023
Heritage approval	Heritage Western Cape	January 2023	March 2023
Wayleave approvals	Various	June 2024	October 2024
Construction Permit	Department of Employment & Labour	July 2024	August 2024
Building Plan Approval	City of Cape Town	August 2024	November 2024
Section 34 Determination	Minister of Electricity & Energy	March 2025	July 2025
National grid code compliance confirmation	Eskom/NERSA	TBD	TBD

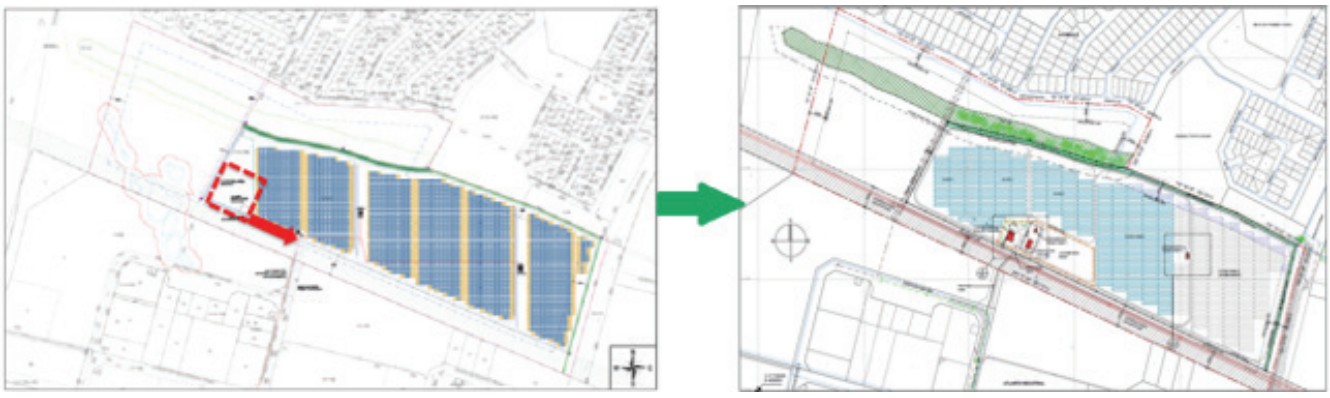


Figure 3: Proposed plant site plans: Changes to the site development plan after permitting, including shifting of the on-site buildings from the western boundary towards the site entrance. These changes triggered amendments to the LUMS approval. Project design changes are not uncommon at all, and can be accommodated through permitting amendments.

6 Risk mitigation

The project team had to choose between two possible contracting options for project delivery, i.e. Single BID EPC, or Multiple BID contracts (aka, design-bid-build and design-build).

An EPC approach offers a single point of responsibility, which can reduce coordination challenges and transfer significant design and construction risks to the contractor. However, this strategy often comes with higher upfront costs and requires detailed specifications early in the process to avoid scope creep.

The CCT had to weigh these benefits against alternatives such as traditional design-bid-build or design-build options, considering local regulatory requirements, procurement policies, and the need for transparency and accountability in public infrastructure delivery.

Ultimately, the CCT settled on an EPC contracting strategy for this project. The NEC4 DBO contract[4], which was chosen for this project, is a single integrated contract covering the full lifecycle of an asset, including design, construction, and long-term operation, intended to improve performance, manage risk, and support efficient delivery.

A single contractor is responsible for:
- Designing the facility;
- constructing the facility; and
- operating it for a defined period after completion.

Unforeseen challenges during the construction of the plant, which included the need to bring in a 24hr/day electric pump to remove groundwater at a significant cost, ultimately validated the CCT's approach, with the EPC contract shielding the CCT form this unforeseen cost.

Responding to shocks

During 2022, a sudden and unexpected price shock (an increase of about 50%) in the global market for solar panels occurred causing a major increase in the cost of the project, compared to the initial cost estimate on which financial feasibility was based. To determine if the project is still feasible, an option analysis was performed to evaluate potential alternative pathways to deal with the reality of increased costs.

The following options were identified and evaluated:
- Reduce to 7MW and 10MW for consistency with BESS.
- Obtain additional funding base on the latest cost estimate.
- Appoint an IPP, lease the land & sign a power purchase agreement (PPA).
- Defer for 24 months until price recovery.
- Cancel project.
- Test market & withdraw if tender is higher than budgeted amount.

These options were then considered against the following criteria; estimated CAPEX & OPEX costs; risks associated with each option, estimated COD and financial benefits and associated impacts. Options 1, 3 and 6 emerged as the best options in the face of these criteria with the investment committee ultimately electing option 1.

[4] The NEC4 DBO contract allows the customer, in this case the CCT, to procure a more integrated, whole-life project delivery solution. The NEC4 DBO contract is for the appointment of a single contractor to design, build and operate/maintain the client's asset over a defined period.

7 Community benefit & involvement

With any project of this nature, community buy-in is critical. This is especially true for Atlantis; a community with a challenging history and municipal mistrust that dates back to the apartheid era. Public engagement has been a cornerstone of the success of the project as community members were impacted by the construction of the plant, and will continue to be impacted during the operation of it in their immediate environment. Engagements facilitated through the EPC, Lesedi-Technoserve Consortium which has an established reputation within the community has built trust in, and public acceptance of, the project. Additionally, a key consideration for the SCBA that was conducted during the project feasibility stage to support the financial case, considered the social value of the project.

The Atlantis solar PV plant project has demonstrated a robust commitment to both community integration and sustainable development, evidenced by a planned schedule of interactions and economic milestones. Public participation was carefully managed through targeted and broad engagement sessions held in May and July 2024 (see inclusions in figure 2). These meetings, which included Sub-Council members, local business forums, and the wider Atlantis community, served to introduce the project, outline procurement processes, and detail expected employment opportunities. Crucially, the process included advertising for a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) position in July 2024, establishing a dedicated point of contact to ensure continuous and effective communication throughout the project's lifecycle.

The project's socio-economic value is tightly linked to its schedule, with the EPC contract awarded in March 2024, leading to construction beginning in October 2024. This phase immediately initiated opportunities for local job creation and priority procurement for small, medium, and micro-sized enterprises (SMMEs) based in Atlantis, with RFQs planned from July 2024 onwards. Looking ahead, the project is a pivotal step in the CCT's energy transition, with the goal of achieving first power transmission by end 2026. Furthermore, the project's long-term value is cemented by the parallel development of a BESS, with a tender issued in October 2024, reinforcing the Atlantis area's role as a hub for green economy investment and securing a more reliable energy supply for Cape Town.

Table 3: A summary of public engagement activities linked to the project

Date	Stakeholders involved	Goal of interaction
03 May 2024	**Sub Council 1 members** (Local political representatives) and the project team (the CCT's Sustainable Energy Markets (SEM) and Lesedi-Technoserve Consortium	Project overview and engagement planning. The primary goal was to introduce the project formally to local political leadership, provide an overview of the scope and timeline, and discuss the most effective strategies for engaging with the broader community and local businesses.
09 May 2024	**Ward committee members** (local community representatives)	Pre-public introduction. The goal was to brief the Ward Committee members, who represent various sectors within the community, on the project details before the main public engagements. This ensured they were equipped to address initial community queries.
16 May 2024	**Targeted public** Local business forums and local vendors/ contractors (SMMEs)	Detailing economic opportunities. The specific goal was to inform the local business sector about the project's procurement processes, specific work packages available (e.g., site clearing, fencing, security), and the procedures for local businesses to register and bid on these opportunities. This session focused heavily on the project's direct socio-economic benefits.
06 July 2024	B**roader Atlantis community** (general public)	General project introduction and job awareness. The goal was to introduce the project to the community at large, highlighting the overall benefits, timeline, and most importantly, the types of employment opportunities (skilled, semi-skilled, general labour) that would be created during the construction and operation phases.
09 - 26 July 2024	**CLO recruitment** The position for a permanent CLO was advertised on the project website & contractor's recruitment page	The CLO's role is to act as the main point of contact for the community and provide project updates.

Future plans & scaling

The project team busy executing the installation of a 5MW/10MWh BESS on the Atlantis solar PV plant site.

Once the plant has been commissioned, the appointed EPC contractor will conduct O&M for a period of approximately 18-months before handing the plant over to the CCT. Notably, the plant has been designed to accommodate an expansion up to 10MW, and based on the plant's performance and proven cost saving, expansion could be a future option.

Key learnings from this project are being absorbed into the CCT, and are considered especially relevant in terms of a proposed 70MW solar PV plant project at Paardevlei, currently in the project preparation phase.

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GreenCape and the CCT would also like to thank all the stakeholders who contributed information and insights towards the production of this case study. Images in this document were taken during the construction phase of the project.

Images: Bruce Sutherland (City of Cape Town) and Nicholas Fordyce

For more information and support contact:

GreenCape: info@greencape.co.za
021 811 0250

City of Cape Town: SustainableEnergyMarkets.Enquiries@capetown.gov.za

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