C R LUBBE

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28 August 2020

The Director(s) Postmasburg Solar PV Energy Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd. 101 Block A, West Quay Building 7 West Quay Road Cape Town, 8000

Dear Sir(s)

POSTMASBURG SOLAR PV ENERGY FACILITY 2 (PTY) LTD.: APPLICATION TO AMEND ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Postmasburg Solar PV Energy Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd is located on the remaining extent of the farm Kapstewel 436, north of the town Postmasburg in the Northern Cape. An EIA was conducted during 2014 to construct a 75 Megawatt PV facility and associated infrastructure. An Environmental Authorisation was received for the project under Reference 14/12/16/3/3/2/698.

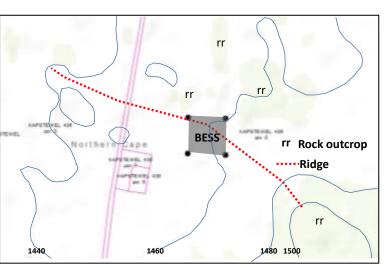
I was the specialist who conducted the agricultural study for the impact assessment.

Postmasburg Solar PV Energy Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd is now applying for an amendment to the EA to include a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) within the authorised footprint, covering up to 3.9 ha next to the onsite substation.

As the Agricultural Specialist during the original EIA process, I was requested to study the particulars of the BESS and provide an opinion on whether this inclusion will result in any additional or increased agricultural impacts within the proposed site and surrounding area.

I have ensured that:

- 1. The BESS will indeed be placed within the authorised footprint and that no additional agricultural land will be involved or lost;
- 2. The construction of the BESS will have no additional influence on erosion or drainage patterns on site. The slope is flat (2-3%) and the BESS will be located on higher local elevation with no defined drainage lines. The placement in relation to the drainage pattern and rock outcrops is shown in the figure on the right.
- 3. During construction, spillage of fuel or concrete is possible, as with the construction of all other components of the facility. Mitigation measures prescribed will be the same in this case.



4. It is likely that the batteries will require solid foundations like concrete pads or steel decks, which is not different from the foundations for the auxiliary buildings and the substation. Mitigation measures and management practices were included in the original study.

I hereby confirm that the BESS

- will not change or increase the nature or severity of any of the agricultural impacts originally identified and reported in 2014;
- Will have no additional impacts to those identified previously in my study; and
- Will not require any additional management outcomes or mitigation measures for the agricultural environment.

From an agricultural view point, I recommend that the EA is amended to include the BESS.

Yours faithfully

Christo Lubbe

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