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Environmental Authorisation Amendment for the Bloemsmond 1 PV development located on Portion 5 and 14 of the Farm Bloemsmond 455 in the Kai !Garib local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province

The Bloemsmond 1 development received environmental authorisation on 26 April 2016 (DEA Ref. 14/12/16/3/3/2/815). Subsequently, a Part 1 amendment has been authorised to increase the maximum generation capacity of the facility to 100MW.

The applicant wishes to amend the Environmental Authorisation to include an up to 500MWh Battery Energy Storage System, which will cover up to 4ha adjacent to the on-site substation, within the authorised footprint of this development.

The significance of all agricultural impacts on this site are low due to the very low agricultural potential of the site. There are no new agricultural impacts related to this proposed amendment. It will not change the nature or significance of any of the impacts assessed in the original study. There are no agricultural advantages or disadvantages related to it. The amendment does not require any changes or additions to the agricultural impact mitigation measures that were recommended for the authorised development, and therefore no changes to the EMPr are required. The agricultural impact of the amended project will therefore be identical to the impact for the authorised development that was assessed in the original specialist assessment report.

Therefore, from an agricultural impact point of view, the amendment should be authorised.

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