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# **Tony Barbour**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT AND RESEARCHER**

10 Firs Avenue, Claremont, 7708, South Africa  
(Tel) 27-21-761 2355 - (Fax) 27-21-761 2355 - (Cell) 082 600 8266  
(E-Mail) [tbarbour@telkomsa.net](mailto:tbarbour@telkomsa.net)

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### **SPECIALIST STATEMENT-AMENDMENT**

#### **SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: BLOEMSMOND SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY 3**

**AUGUST 2020**

#### **1.1 INTRODUCTION**

CapeEAPrac was appointed by Bloemsmond Solar 3 (Pty) Ltd to manage the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed Bloemsmond 3, a 100 MW PV Solar Energy Facility (SEF). The proposed development site is located in the Kai! Garib Local Municipality (KGLM), approximately 30 km south west of Upington and 16 km north east of Keimoes in the Northern Cape Province. Tony Barbour Environmental Consulting was appointed by CapeEAPrac to undertake a specialist Social Impact Assessment (SIA) as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. The SIA Report was submitted in July 2019.

CapeEAPrac have been appointed to facilitate an application to amend the Environmental Authorisation for the Bloemsmond Solar 3 project. The applicant intends to include an up to 500 Megawatt Hour (MWh) Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) within the authorised footprint on the SEF project, adjacent to the on-site substation.

#### **1.2 SPECIALIST STATEMENT**

Based on a review of the project information was provided by CapeEAPrac<sup>1</sup>, and the specialists knowledge and understanding of the site and the social issues, the following findings are made.

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<sup>1</sup> Information provided by CapeEAPrac included: Battery Energy Storage Technical Reports, layout plans and Google Earth KMZ showing the position of the BESS within the Authorised footprint.

***Impact on nature and or significance of social impacts***

Based on the review of the information provided by CapeEAPrac, the inclusion of the proposed BESS adjacent to the on-site substation will not impact on nature or significance any of the social impacts (negative and or positive) identified and assessed by the SIA (2019).

***Result in additional social impacts***

Based on the review of the information provided by CapeEAPrac, the inclusion of the proposed BESS adjacent to the on-site substation will not result in any additional social impacts (negative and or positive).

***Need for additional management and or mitigation measures***

Based on the review of the information provided by CapeEAPrac, the inclusion of the proposed BESS adjacent to the on-site substation will not require additional management and or mitigation measures to be identified and or implemented.

Tony Barbour,  
Environmental Consultant and Researcher  
August 2020