



19 July 2016

To whom it may concern

AQUATIC ASSESSMENT PONTENTIAL CUMULATIVE IMPACTS DECLARATION - BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY NEAR SUTHERLAND

Scherman Colloty and Associates (SC&A) was approached by EOH Coastal and Environmental Services on to assess the potential impact of the above project, layout amendment submitted early April 2016 and now to include a cumulative impact section into the report. Based then on the proposed layout supplied on 15 April 2016, the developer has taken cognisance of the recommendations made in the report in order to further reduce the potential impact on the aquatic environment. The following table summarises the cumulative impact assessment as per the DEA comments that has now been included in the report – see below

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS FOR THE PROPOSED WEF

DEA Comment	Action	Yes/No	Proof in Report
Due to the number of similar applications in the area, all the specialist assessments must include a cumulative environmental impact statement. Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined and where possible the size of the identified impact must be indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.	Is a cumulative impact statement included in the report?	Yes	See Section 8 – Impact 8
	Are cumulative impacts clearly defined?	Yes	See Section 8 – Impact 8
	Has the size of the identified cumulative impact been indicated in the report?	Yes – within the constraints of the assumptions provided and that the mitigations are addressed	See Section 8 – Impact 8
Identified cumulative impacts significance rating must be rated with significance rating methodology approved with the acceptance of the scoping report.	Do the cumulative impacts include a significance rating as per the assessment methodology?	Yes	See Section 8 – Impact 8
Detailed cumulative impact assessments must be provided in the EIAr for all specialist studies conducted. The specialist studies must provide proof that other specialist reports that was conducted for renewable energy projects in the area were reviewed and indicated how the recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions have been taken into consideration when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.	Does the report provide proof that other specialist reports conducted for renewable energy projects in the area were reviewed and indicate how the recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions have been taken into consideration?	Yes, as the aquatic report author has worked on 9 of the 14 projects that surround this application, and thus has a good understanding of study area, aquatic ecosystems and their function / importance within the region and how the mitigations within each of the projects can be used to minimise the overall impacts of each of the projects	See Section 8 – Impact 8 This section also includes the studies that the author has conducted in the past

Therefore, proposed layout for the facility would still seem to have limited impact on the aquatic environment as the proposed structures for the most part have either avoided the delineated watercourses and wetlands with the exception of a number of water course crossings. Use of any existing roads will further support this conclusion that this project will not add to any cumulative catchment related impacts, particularly with regard the two wetland crossings. This is due to the wetlands concerned are already being impacted upon by the surrounding, roads dams and farming activities. Thus based on the findings of this study no objection to the authorisation of any of the proposed activities inclusive of the alternatives is made

Please don't hesitate to contact me directly should you have any further queries.



Signature of the specialist:

Dr Brian Colloty of Scherman Colloty and Associates

Name of company / specialist:

19 July 2016

Date: