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Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
Care of Lisa Opperman

Per email: Lisa.o@savannahsa.com

Dear Lisa

**ABO Wind Lichtenburg 1 PV (Pty) Ltd
Proposed Lichtenburg 1 PV Solar Energy Facility (SEF)
North-West Province**

ADDENDUM

This letter serves as an addendum to the original Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) report for the Proposed Lichtenburg 1 PV SEF.

ABO Wind Lichtenburg 1 PV (Pty) Ltd is proposing the construction and operation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) of up to 500MW/500MWh within the authorised footprint of the solar PV facility, on a site located 12km north of Lichtenburg and 5.5km south-east of Bakerville in the North West Province. The project is located on the Remainder of the Farm Portion 4 of the Farm Houthaaldoorns No. 2 and Portion 6 of the Farm Zamenkomst No. 4, within the Ditsobotla Local Municipality in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality in the North West Province. The general purpose and utilisation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is to save and store excess electrical output as it is generated, allowing for a timed release when the capacity is required. BESS systems therefore provide flexibility in the efficient operation of the electricity grid through decoupling of the energy supply and demand.

The development area of the battery energy storage area is ~5ha and is proposed within the authorised laydown area assessed the development footprint of the battery energy within the authorised laydown area will be up to 5ha. The following infrastructure is associated with the BESS:

- Electrochemical battery energy storage systems (including either Lead Acid and Advanced Lead Acid, Lithium ion, NiCd, NiMH-based batteries; High Temperature (NaS, Na-NiCL₂, Mg/Pb-Sb) batteries or Flow batteries (VRFB, Zn-Fe, Zn-Br)).

It is the Developer's intention to bid the solar PV facility and the battery energy storage as part of the Risk Independent Power Producer (IPP) Procurement and/or Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) of the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) and/or any future relevant procurement programme. Ultimately, the development of the solar PV facility as well as the battery energy storage is intended to be part of the renewable energy projects portfolio for South Africa, as contemplated in the Integrated Resources Plan (IRP).

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The addition of the BESS is not expected to significantly alter the area of potential visual exposure and is therefore **not expected to significantly alter** the influence of the SEF on *areas of higher viewer incidence* (observers traveling along arterial/main or major secondary roads within the region) or *potential sensitive visual receptors* (residents of homesteads in close proximity to the SEF).

In consideration of the proposed addition of the BESS, there is no (zero) change to the significance rating compared with the original Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) VIA report and no additional visual impacts are envisaged. In addition to this, no new mitigation measures are required.

The proposed amendment is expected to have a neutral effect from a visual impact perspective i.e. no advantages or disadvantages are expected.

It is therefore suggested that the proposed amendment allowing for the addition of the BESS be supported, subject to the conditions and recommendations as stipulated in the original Environmental Authorisation, and according to the Environmental Management Programme and suggested mitigation measures, as provided in the original VIA report.

Feel free to contact me at any time, should you have any queries.

Kind regards,



Lourens du Plessis (PrGISc)