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Att: **Thalita Botha**

25 February 2019

**RE: Request by DEA Biodiversity for a wetland delineation on the Allepad PV site**

This statement letter is in reference to the comments received from DEA Biodiversity dated 16 November 2019 by Savannah Environmental on the Allepad PV project near Upington in the Northern Cape and in particular the request that a wetland delineation be conducted on the site. In response to the request, Savannah Environmental have requested comment on the need for such a study from 3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions who have conducted the terrestrial ecological study at the site to inform the current EIA process.

The eastern section of the site includes a large drainage system with a relatively well-developed shrub and tree layer. This area was demarcated as a sensitive area in the ecological impact assessment for the development and due to the issues with avoiding impact to the drainage line, the entire area was deemed unsuitable for development. The closest footprint area would be from the Allepad PV One development which is located more than 1km from the main channel of the drainage line. There are also some smaller washes which feed into the main channel, but the closest of these is more than 350 from the footprint of the Allepad PV One development. As such it is clear that there would be no impact from the Allepad PV One development on either the main channel or the less well-developed washes. There are no wetland or drainage features within the rest of the site.

Based on the above considerations, a wetland delineation would not provide a useful adjunct the current study. It is clear that there would be no impact from the development on the drainage system in the east of the Allepad site and a wetland delineation is therefore not necessary to ensure that the wetland features of the site are protected from impact.

Prepared by Simon Todd

Director - 3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions

25 February 2019

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Todd'.

Pr.Sci.Nat

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