



**EnviroSci (Pty) Ltd**  
Reg No 2018/462716 /07

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**To whom it may concern**

**AQUATIC ASSESSMENT OPINION OF THE APPLICATION TO AMEND THE PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD OPTIONS FOR THE KORANA WIND ENERGY FACILITY DEA REFERENCE 14/12/16/3/3/2/680**

EnviroSci (Pty) Ltd was appointed to review the proposed amendment against the previous aquatic impact assessment compiled and submitted by the same lead author as the undersigned. The initial Aquatic Impact assessment was undertaken to inform the EIA that was conducted on behalf of Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa, by Savannah Environmental. The following amendment description was supplied by Savannah:

*As the WEF has been authorised, the applicant requests that the preferred access route (currently Alternative A1: Namies Suid) be amended to Alternative A2 (Poortjies South). The authorised route as per the Environmental Authorisation is Alternative A1 (Namies Suid).*

*Adjustments to the width and vertical alignment will have to be undertaken for the Namies Suid, 49,5km long access before safe abnormal load access can be guaranteed. There are also sections through the proposed land parcels of the proposed that may require widening to accommodate abnormal load access. Approximately 5.3km of new road will have to be constructed within the site.*

*The Poortjies South access road is longer (63km) but has a more suitable vertical and horizontal alignment for abnormal load access. There is only one corner that may require horizontal re-alignment within the current road reserve (Figure 1).*

*The amendment to the preferred access route alternative specifications is not a listed activity and will not trigger any new listed activities as the both access routes will fall within the originally authorised footprint of the facility and have not deviated from the initial routes presented within the EIA.*

*In overview, the applicant would like to amend the authorised Alternative in the Environmental Authorisation to Alternative 2 (Poortjies South) in that Alternative 2 is the most feasible option from technical and feasibility perspective for the Khai-Ma Wind Energy Facility and the adjacent Korana Wind Energy Facility.*

However based on the description above when compared to the previous impact assessments, the overall risk, with mitigation were already low. Therefore the significance of the impact on the aquatic environment would remain low after mitigation during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the project component amendment. This is based on the fact that the aquatic systems are ephemeral and only carries flows after heavy rainfalls.

In conclusion, the final impact of the proposed amendment on the aquatic environment with mitigation will remain unchanged from the original impact assessment, i.e. it will remain of low significance.

Thus, based on the findings of this study, the specialist has no objection to the approval of the proposed amendment. Similarly, in the assessment of potential cumulative impacts, no additional impacts or changes to the previously assessed impacts would be required due to the proposed amendment. Further, no changes to the original mitigations or EMPr considerations are required.

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

Yours Sincerely



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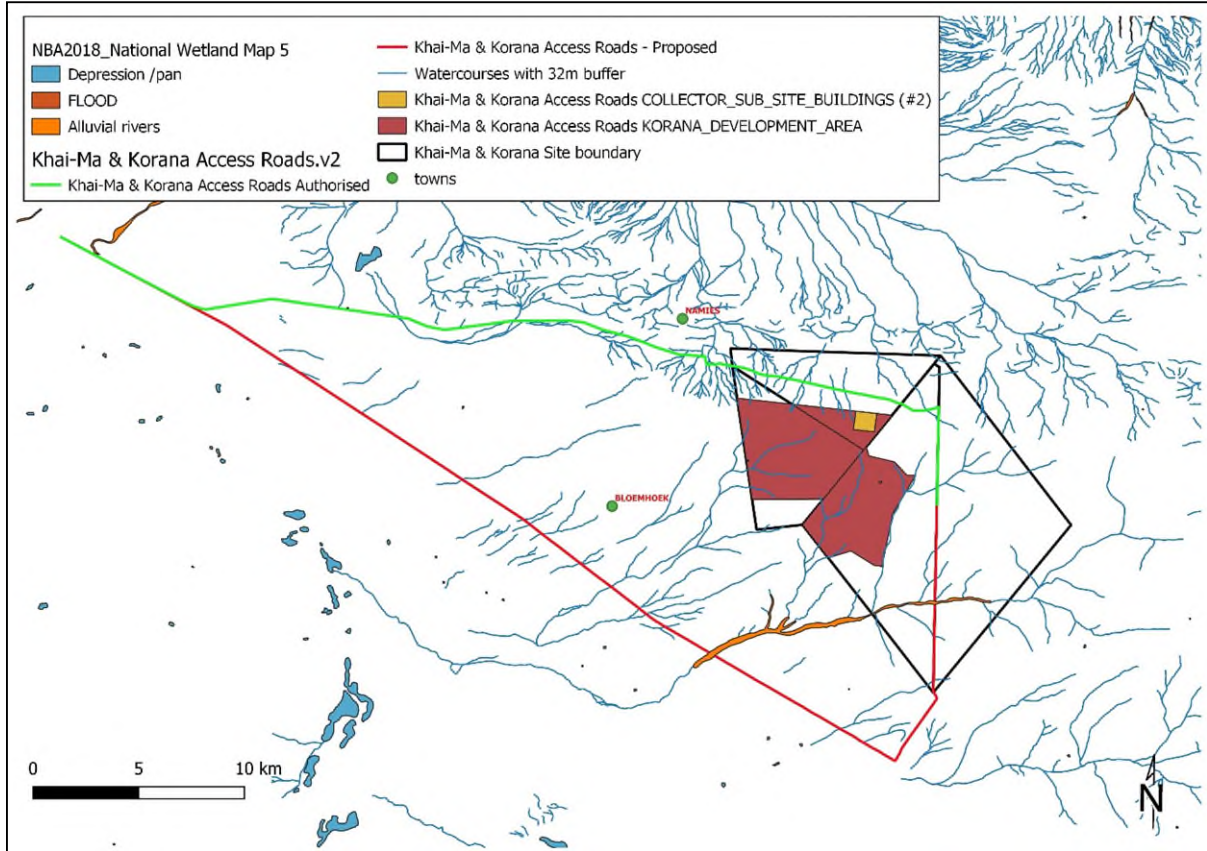


Figure 1: Proposed project activities in relation to mapped (2018) aquatic spatial information as verified by field observations