



**EnviroSci (Pty) Ltd**  
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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 SOLAR (PV) FACILITY DEA REFERENCE 14/12/16/3/3/2/683**

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:

*It is understood that the applicant requests that the authorised access route (currently Alternative A1: Namies Suid) be amended to Alternative A2 (Poortjies South). The authorised route as per the Environmental Authorisation (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/683) is Alternative A1 (Namies Suid).*

*It is understood that the reasons for this request to lie in the following:*

- *Adjustments to the width and vertical alignment will have to be undertaken for the Namies Suid A1 route (which is 49,5km long) before safe abnormal load access can be guaranteed. There are also sections through the proposed land parcels of land that may require widening to accommodate abnormal load access. Approximately 5.3km of new road will have to be constructed within the site (Figure 1).*
- *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. The Poortjies South road, which although longer, is considered by the applicant to be the technically more feasible route in that it will require less intervention to render it suitable for the transportation of abnormal loads.*

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.

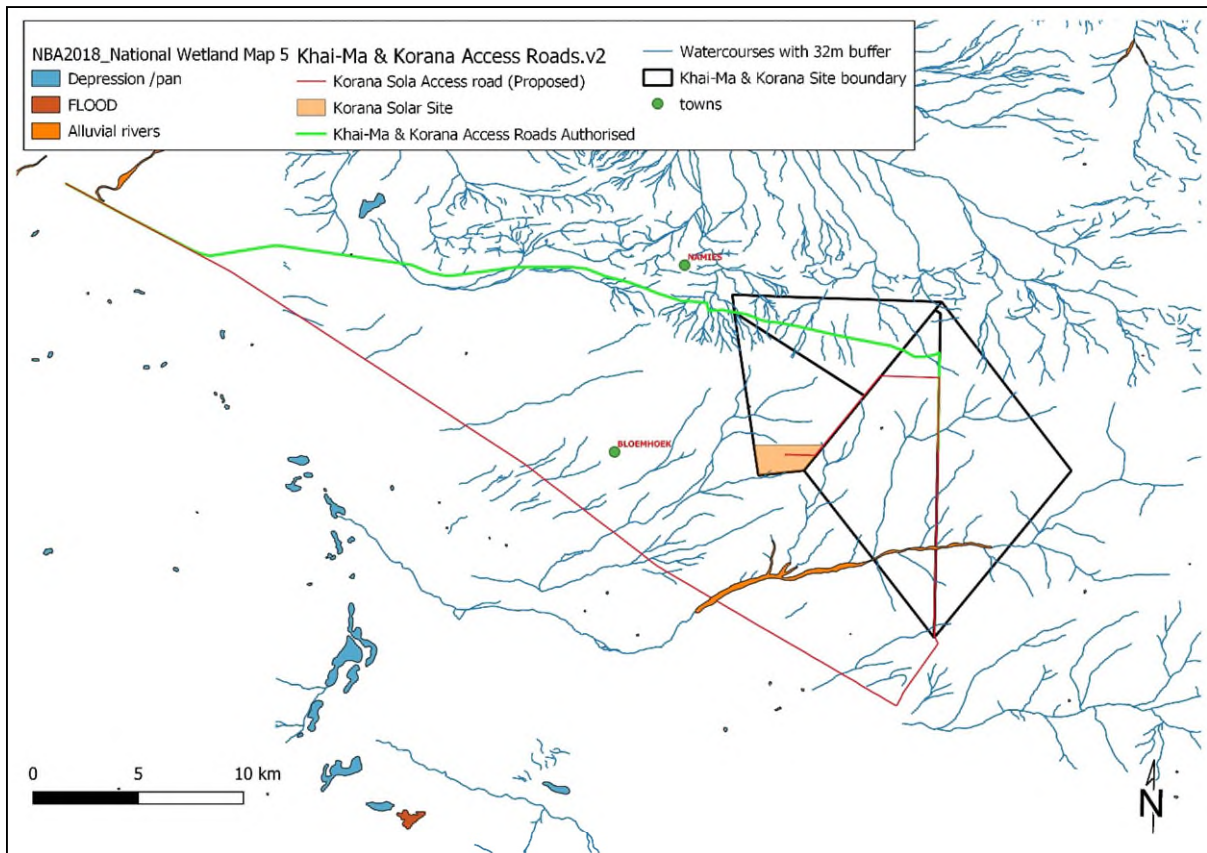
Thus, based on the findings of this study, the specialist has no objection to the approval of the proposed amendment. Similarly, in the assessment of potential cumulative impacts, no additional impacts or changes to the previously assessed impacts would be required due to the proposed amendment. Further,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