VCC Estate, North View Building, 170 Peter Brown Drive, Montrose, Pietermaritzburg 3201 PO Box 707, Msunduzi 3231 KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Phone +27 33 347 1600 Fax +27 33 347 5762 Email info@sivest.co.za www.sivest.co.za



Savannah Environmental Pty Ltd

5 Woodlands Drive Office Park Cnr Woodlands Drive and Western Service Road Woodmead

SE2206 Aggeneys 1 Your reference: **Amendment Review** Our reference:

> Date: 16th October 2020

ATTENTION: GIDEON RAATH

By Email

RE: PEER REVIEW OF THE SPECIALIST AMENDMENT IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE FRESHWATER REPORT FOR THE AGGENEYS 1 SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY.

Having reviewed the above specialist amendment impact statement letter, and associated original report I find that it provides a description of the project and the freshwater environment within which the project will unfold. The original review of the freshwater report was concluded on 01 April, 2019 and the following comments were made.

- 1. The terms of reference are acceptable;
- 2. The methodology is clearly explained and acceptable:
- 3. The findings are based on acceptable evidence;
- 4. The mitigation measures and recommendations are appropriate;
- 5. No apparent shortcomings are identified;
- 6. The reference literature is appropriate;
- 7. No site-inspection was carried out as part of this peer review;
- 8. The report is well-written and easy to understand.

It can be concluded in considering the freshwater report that the process and assessment followed was adequate, providing a fair indication of the impacts likely to arise as a result of the project.

Further to the initial review, the client has indicated that they wish to include a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), and the specialist has undertaken an amendment impact statement to address the potential

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changes to the impacts related to the amendment application. In reviewing the impact statement the following comments can be made:

- 1. The Terms of Reference of the impact statement are appropriate.
- 2. The methodology of the initial report is still appropriate, and no additional work is required to assess the impacts.
- 3. The findings of the impact statement are valid and appropriate.
- 4. The mitigation measures originally proposed initially are still appropriate.
- 5. The literature initially referenced is still appropriate
- 6. The impact statement is easy to read and understand.
- 7. There are no perceived shortcomings, and the impact statement addresses the potential impacts of the amendment well.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

I, Stephen Burton, as authorised representative of SiVEST SA Pty Ltd hereby confirm my independence as a specialist and declare that neither I nor SiVEST SA have any interest, be it business, financial, personal or other, in any proposed activity, application or appeal in respect of which SiVEST SA was appointed as freshwater impact assessment specialists in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), other than fair remuneration for work performed. This declaration is specifically in connection with the review of the Specialist Impact Statement related to the original Freshwater Report for the Proposed Aggeneys 1 Solar Energy Facility.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on telephone (033) 347-1600 or alternatively, (083) 795-2804.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Burton (Pr. Sci. Nat.)

Environmental Scientist, Faunal & Wetland Specialist

SiVEST Environmental Division