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D G Paterson

Savannah Environmental
Attention: Ms Tebogo Mapinga
PO Box 148
Sunninghill 2157

18th April 2016

Dear Ms Mapinga,

KAROSHOEK SOLAR PARK (ADDITIONAL CSP FACILITIES ON SITES 1.3, 1.4, 3, 4 and 5 NEAR UPINGTON, NORTHERN CAPE): SOIL, LAND USE, LAND CAPABILITY AND AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL SCOPING REPORT

As part of the peer review process, I was requested to review the report prepared by Mr Jaco Jansen of Savannah Environmental, concerning the soils and associated agricultural potential on the specific sites within the project area (report dated September 2015).

The main conclusion of the report was that, due to various factors, it would in all probability not be necessary to carry out any more detailed soil investigations. This is supported by the fact that the prevailing rainfall in the vicinity is very low (<200 mm per annum), coupled with very high summer temperatures. When the fact that the soils occurring across the site seldom have more than 400 mm effective depth onto underlying rock and calcrete, and have a sandy texture, this conclusion is clearly supported.

The only potential significant impact as far as the soil resource is concerned is the potential for increased wind erosion if disturbed, but this impact is addressed in the report, along with a range of mitigating factors.

I can thus conclude that the report accurately represents the soils occurring, as well as the general environmental situation in that part of the Northern Cape Province, and that the conclusions drawn are sensible and can be accepted.

Yours sincerely,

A small, square image containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'DG Paterson'.

DG Paterson (PhD)

Senior Researcher, ARC-Soil, Climate and Water
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