

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

15 October 2020

Dear Stakeholder and Interested & Affected Party,

#### APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: AGGENEYS 1 AND 2 PV FACILITIES NEAR AGGENEYS, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

(DEA Refs: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2019 and 14/12/16/3/3/1/2020)

#### NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF THE MOTIVATION REPORTS FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

ABO Wind Aggeneys 1 PV (Pty) Ltd and ABO Aggeneys Lichtenburg 2 PV (Pty) Ltd received Environmental Authorisations (EAs) in July 2019 (DEA Ref. Nos. 14/12/16/3/3/1/2019 and 14/12/16/3/3/1/2020 respectively) for the development of solar photovoltaic (PV) energy facilities (including associated infrastructure) near Aggeneys within the Khâi-Ma Local Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province. The development of the Battery Energy Storage (BESS) for each of the solar PV energy facilities are based on the intention to bid the project as part of the Risk Mitigation Independent Power Producer (IPP) Procurement Programme and/or Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) of the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) and/or any future relevant procurement programme. Ultimately, the development of the solar PV energy facilities as well as the battery energy storage is intended to be part of the renewable energy projects portfolio for South Africa, as contemplated in the Integrated Resources Plan (IRP). For solar energy to be dispatchable it will require the additional battery energy storage applied for in this amendment.

The proposed amendments include the construction and operation of a Battery Energy Storage (BESS) for the authorised Aggeneys 1 and Aggeneys 2 PV facilities with a capacity of up to 500MW/500MWh into the project description of the Environmental Authorisations (EAs) of each of the solar energy facilities. The BESS will be developed within the development footprint, within the authorised laydown area of PV 1 and within one of the two laydown areas of PV 2, and with an extent of no more than 5ha.

Taking the above into consideration, ABO Wind Aggeneys 1 PV (Pty) Ltd and ABO Aggeneys Lichtenburg 2 PV (Pty) Ltd is requesting the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) to amend the project description of the EAs (dated 25 July 2019) as follows:

Battery	Energy	Storage	Consisting of the following components:
System			» Electrochecmical battery storage systems with a maximum height of
			3.5m; and
			» Multi-core 22kV or 33kV underground cables, to follow internal access
			roads of the PV facility, to connect the battery storage area to the on-site
			facility substation.

In terms of Condition 5 of the Environmental Authorisation dated 9 July 2014 and Regulation 31 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is possible for an applicant to apply, in writing, to the competent authority for a change or deviation from the project description to be approved.

In order to verify the potential for a change in the impacts on ecology and surface hydrology; avifauna; soils and agricultural potential; heritage; visual and social aspects as a result of the proposed amendment, specialist inputs into the amendment motivation reports have been included.

Savannah Environmental has prepared Motivation Reports in support of this Amendment Applications on behalf of the Applicants. The Motivation Reports are available for a 30-day review and comment period from Friday, 16 October 2020 to Monday, 16 November 2020 and can be downloaded from Savannah Environmental's website (<a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/energy-generation/aggeneys-1-and-2-pv-facilities/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/energy-generation/aggeneys-1-and-2-pv-facilities/</a>). The due date for written comment is Monday, 16 November 2020.

All comments received will be included in the final Motivation Reports which will be submitted to the DEFF for review and decision-making.

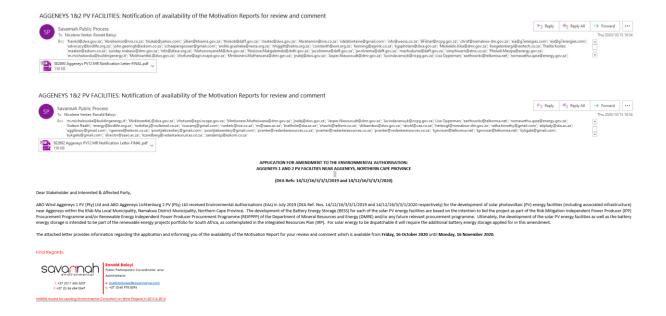
Our team welcomes your participation and looks forward to your involvement throughout this process. We also welcome you to share this information with any other parties that you feel will have interest in the project and should be part of this process (such as occupiers of directly affected or surrounding properties, interest groups, community groups etc.).

Kind regards,

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

## Proof of email – AGGENEYS 1&2 PV FACILITIES: Notification of availability of the Motivation Reports for review and comment



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## Aggeneys 1 and 2 PV Facilities, Northern Cape

#### Aggeneys 1 and 2 PV Facilities, Northern Cape

#### (DEA REFs: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2019 and 14/12/16/3/3/1/2020 respectively)

Project Names: Aggeneys 1 PV Facility Part 2 Amendment, Northern Cape Province

Aggeneys 2 PV Facility Part 2 Amendment, Northern Cape Province

Applicants: ABO Wind Aggeneys 1 PV (Pty) Ltd

ABO Wind Aggeneys 2 PV (Pty) Ltd

**Proposed Amendments:** The inclusion of the construction and operation of a Battery Energy Storage (BESS) for both the authorised Aggeneys 1 and 2 PV facilities, with a capacity of up to 500MW/500MWh into the project description of the Environmental Authorisation (EA). Each BESS will be developed within the authorised development footprint of Aggeneys 1 and 2 PV facilities, within the authorised laydown area for Aggeneys 1 and within one of the two authorised laydown areas for Aggeneys 2. Each BESS will have an extent of no more than 5ha. Each BESS will connect to the authorised on-site facility substations of the Aggeneys 1 and 2 PV facilities via underground cables.

ABO Wind Aggeneys 1 PV (Pty) Ltd is requesting the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) to amend the project description of the EAs (dated 25 July 2019) as follows:

Battery Energy Storage System

Consisting of the following components:

- » Electrochecmical battery storage systems with a maximum height of 3.5m; and
- » Multi-core 22kV or 33kV underground cables, to follow internal access roads of the PV facility, to connect the battery storage area to the on-site facility substation.

**Project Location:** ~11km south-east of Aggeneys, within ward 4 of the Khai-Ma Local Municipality and within the greater Namakwa District Municipality in the Northern Cape Province on the Remaining Extent of Bloemhoek 61.

In terms of Condition 5 of the Environmental Authorisations dated 25 July 2019 and Regulation 31 of the EIA Regulations of December 2014, as amended, it is possible for an Applicant to apply, in writing, to the competent authority for a change or deviation from the project description to be approved.

Motivation Report available for review and comment: Savannah Environmental has compiled two Motivation Reports in support of the applications for the proposed amendments for both Aggeneys 1 and 2. The Motivation Reports are available for download, review and comment on the Savannah Environmental website. Visit our website at: https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/energy-generation/. The 30-day review and comment period for the Motivation Reports is from 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020 to 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The final date to submit comments is Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

To obtain further information and register on the project database, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the project to:

Nicolene Venter

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## Downloads

### Aggeneys PV1 Facilities

Motivation Report
Appendix A - Ecological Specialist Letter
Appendix B - Avifaunal Specialist Letter
Appendix C - Soils and Agricultural Potential Specialist Letter
Appendix D - Freshwater Specialist Letter
Appendix D1 - Freshwater Specialist Letter Peer Review
Appendix E - Heritage Specialist Letter
Appendix F - Social Specialist Letter
Appendix F1 - Social Specialist Letter Peer Review
Appendix G - Visual Specialist Letter
Appendix H1 - I&AP Database
Appendix H2 - Consultation with I&APs
Appendix H3 - Consultation with Organs of State

Appendix H4 - Advertisements and Site Notices
Appendix H5 - Comments Received
Appendix H6 - Comments and Responses Report
Appendix H7 - Public Participation Plan
Appendix I - Maps
Appendix J - Environmental Team CVs
Appendix K - EAP Affirmation
Appendix L - Environmental Management Programme

Reminder Notification sent to everyone on the Project Database
(Refer to Appendix H1 - I&AP Database)

## Proof of email – Reminder Notification of availability of the Motivation Reports for review and comment period ending soon

