

Dr. Neville Bews & Associates

Social Impact Assessors

Committed to building high trust environments

P. O. Box 145412
Bracken Gardens
Alberton
South Africa
1452

Tel: +27 11 867-0462
Fax: +27 86 621-8345
Mobile: +27 82 557-3489
Skype: neville.bews
Email: bewsco@netactive.co.za

URL: <http://www.socialassessment.co.za/>

07 January, 2017

Attention: Pamela Sidambe

Savannah Environmental Pty Ltd

5 Woodlands Drive Office Park

Cnr Woodlands Drive and Western Service Road

Woodmead

**Re: Peer review of the basic Social Impact Specialists Report for the Proposed
Realignment of the MN73 Road to Accommodate the Solar Energy Facilities near
Paulputs Substation, Northern Cape Province**


Having reviewed the above report I find that in essence it provides a description of the project and the social environment within which the project will unfold. It also provides an indication of the social impacts that are likely to arise as a result of the proposed project and suggests appropriate optimisation and mitigation measure. The review was concluded on 07 January, 2017 and the following comments are 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 with recommendations being suggested;
5. No apparent shortcomings are identified;
6. The reference literature is appropriate;
7. No site-inspection was carried out as part of the peer review;
8. The article is well-written and easy to understand. Certain suggestions were made in an effort to strengthen the report.

It can be concluded in considering the SIA scoping report that that the process and assessment followed was adequate providing a fair indication of the social impacts likely to arise as a result of the project. Attached is a schedule, in accordance with Appendix 6 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998). Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, indicating the level of compliance of the report in respect of this regulation.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

I, Neville Bews, as authorised representative of Dr Neville Bews & Associates hereby confirm my independence as a specialist and declare that neither I nor Dr Neville Bews & Associates have any interest, be it business, financial, personal or other, in any proposed activity, application or appeal in respect of which Dr Neville Bews & Associates was appointed as social 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 Basic Social Impact Report for the Proposed Realignment of the MN73 Road to Accommodate the Solar Energy Facilities near Paulputs Substation, Northern Cape Province.

Signed: 

Date: 07 January, 2017

Proposed realignment of the MN73 road to accommodate the solar energy facilities near the Paulputs Substation, Northern Cape Province

Appendix 6: Specialist reports	Check	Comment
A specialist report prepared in terms of these Regulations must contain-		
(a) details of-		
(i) the specialist who prepared the report; and	Section 1.3 Page 14	
(ii) the expertise of that specialist to compile a specialist report including a curriculum vitae;	Appendices c	
(b) a declaration that the specialist is independent in a form as may be specified by the competent authority;	Appendices c	
(c) an indication of the scope of, and the purpose for which, the report was prepared;	Section 1.2 Page 13	
(d) the date and season of the site investigation and the relevance of the season to the outcome of the assessment;	Not applicable	
(e) a description of the methodology adopted in preparing the report or carrying out the specialised process;	Section 2 Page 17-22	
(f) the specific identified sensitivity of the site related to the activity and its associated structures and infrastructure;	Section 4 and 5. Pages 31-57	
(g) an identification of any areas to be avoided, including buffers;	None	
(h) a map superimposing the activity including the associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the site including areas to be avoided, including buffers;	Figure 1 Page 15 Figure 7 Page 44 Figure 8 Page 46	
(i) a description of any assumptions made and any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge;	Section 2.5 Page 22	
(j) a description of the findings and potential implications of such findings on the impact of the proposed activity, including identified alternatives on the environment;	Sections 5.3 & 6 Pages 57-60	
(k) any mitigation measures for inclusion in the EMPr;	Sections 5 & 6 Pages 46-75. Appendix C	
(l) any conditions for inclusion in the environmental authorisation;	None	
(m) any monitoring requirements for inclusion in the EMPr or environmental authorisation;	Appendix C	
(n) a reasoned opinion-		
(i) as to whether the proposed activity or portions thereof should be authorised; and	Section 6 Pages 58-60	
(ii) if the opinion is that the proposed activity or portions thereof should be authorised, any avoidance, management and mitigation measures that should be included in the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan;	Sections 5 Pages 48-57 Appendix A	
(o) a description of any consultation process that was undertaken during the course of preparing the specialist report;	Sections 2.3 Page 19 & Appendix B	
(p) a summary and copies of any comments received during any consultation process and where applicable all responses thereto; and	Appendix B	
(q) any other information requested by the competent authority.	None	