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SAHRA Case No.: 5750

9 October 2020

RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION FACILITY ON PORTION 1 OF THE FARM AVONDALE 410, //KHARA HAIS LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, ZF MGCWU DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE - Project name: AVONDALE 1 SOLAR PARK

FOR ATTENTION: NATASHA HIGGIT

Dear Madam,

The Avondale 1 Solar Park (SAHRIS Case No.: 5750) received Environmental Authorisation (EA) on 11 December 2014. An application for an amendment on the EA was submitted to the department for a condition to be removed and was granted on 18 April 2016. An application for an EA Amendment was submitted for an extension of the EA on 11 December 2017 and was issued on 9 May 2017. A third application for an amendment on the EA was submitted on 24 May 2019 for a change in the installation technology of the PV Solar Plant and was granted 13 June 2019.

The Risk Mitigation Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme (RMIPPPP) was issued on 23 August 2020, which plans the commissioning of solar PV technology capable of commercial operation before end 2020. The purpose of Avondale Solar Park is to add new capacity for the generation of renewable electric energy to the national electricity supply in compliance with the RMIPPPP. To participate in this round of the RMIPPPP, the project company needs to adhere to an extensive list of requirements.

This list of requirements includes, amongst others, comments from SAHRA. SAHRA provided an Interim Comment on the initial HIA in 2014 requesting clarification on the project scope as well as the assessment of a 132kV power line noted in the initial BID Document. The power line was then included in the assessment and a revised HIA was uploaded in 2015 but comment was not issued on this updated document. The applicant requests the re-perusal of this Case to obtain Final Comment from SAHRA.

Please don't hesitate to contact AGES should there be any further queries.

Kind Regards,

Ms. E Grobler
Environmental Assessment Practitioner