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Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
Care of Jo-Anne Thomas

Per email: Joanne@savannahsa.com

Dear Jo-Anne

ADDENDUM

Part 2 Amendment Process for the Lichtenburg 3 Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility North West Province

1. Background

This letter serves as an addendum to the Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) report for the Proposed Lichtenburg 3 PV Solar Energy Facility, North West Province (January 2019), undertaken by Lourens du Plessis (t/a LOGIS).

2. Project Description and Purpose of the Amendment Process

The authorised ABO Wind Lichtenburg 3 PV solar energy facility ('the project') is located 10km north of Lichtenburg and 7km south-east of Bakerville in the North West Province. The project is located within Ward 16 of the Ditsobotla Local Municipality and the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality in the North West Province. The development footprint of the solar energy facility is located on the Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm Zamenkomst No. 04. It is within this property that the project will be constructed and operated.

The following infrastructure was authorised for the project by DFFE, as fully assessed within the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process:

- Photovoltaic modules with a net generation (contracted) capacity of 100MW;
- On-site 88/132kV substation;
- Mounting structures (fixed tilt/static, single-axis or double-axis tracking systems) for the PV arrays and related foundations;
- DC/AC Inverters, LV/MV power transformers and internal electrical reticulation (underground cabling);
- A new 88/132kV overhead power line from the on-site substation to the Mmabatho / Watershed DS 1 88kV Power Line;
- Access and internal road network;
- Temporary laydown area;
- Auxiliary buildings (gate-house and security, control centre, office, two warehouses, canteen & visitors centre, rainwater tanks, etc.);
- Perimeter fencing; and
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), with a capacity of up to 500MW/500MWh, an

extent of no more than 5ha, and a maximum height of 3.5m¹.

The amendment being applied for through this process relates to the following:

1. consideration of Grid Connection Corridor Alternative 2 as the preferred grid connection corridor. Furthermore, it is requested that the DFFE considers an extension to this corridor such that the proposed collector substation complex on Lichtenburg 3 PV is located within the corridor;
2. a change in the location of the step-up/on-site substation;
3. change in the capacity of the step-up/on-site collector substation complex from 88/132kV to 33/132kV; and
4. a substitution of the wording, '*a new 132kV overhead power line from the on-site substation to the Mmabatho/Watershed DS 1 88kV power line*', with '*a 132kV power line from collector substation to the Eskom Watershed Substation*'.

Considering the above, the amendments are proposed within the authorised footprint of Lichtenburg 3 PV. In addition, the extension request to the grid connection corridor for Lichtenburg 3 PV is proposed within an area that was assessed by Specialists during the EIA process. The reason for the extension to this corridor is on the basis that the location of the step-up/on-site Collector Substation Complex for Lichtenburg 3 PV is being moved from its authorised location to a new location within the authorised footprint of the project. The change in the location is to collect the electricity from each of the projects at one location, the collector substation complex from which electricity will be transmitted to the Eskom Watershed Substation via a 132kV power line.

3. Conclusion and Recommendations

The reviewer has assessed the proposed amendment and has drawn the following conclusion:

The proposed amendment is **not expected to significantly alter** the influence of the project infrastructure on *areas of higher viewer incidence* (observers traveling along the roads within the region) or *potential sensitive visual receptors* (residents of homesteads in close proximity to the PV facility).

The proposed amendment is consequently **not expected to significantly influence** the anticipated visual impact, as stated in the original VIA report (i.e. the visual impact is expected to occur regardless of the amendment). This statement relates specifically to the assessment of the visual impact within a 1km radius of the project structures (potentially **high** significance), but also generally apply to potentially **moderate** to **low** visual impacts at distances of up to 3km from the structures.

In consideration of the proposed amendment, there is no (zero) change to the significance rating compared with the original Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) VIA report and no additional visual impacts are envisaged. In addition to this, no new mitigation measures are required.

The proposed amendment is expected to have a neutral effect from a visual impact perspective i.e. no advantages or disadvantages are expected.

¹ This infrastructure was authorised by the DFFE (Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1093/AM2) through a Part 2 amendment process undertaken in March 2020 for the addition of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) to the EA for the proposed project.

It is suggested that the proposed amendment be supported, subject to the conditions and recommendations as stipulated in the original EA, and according to the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and suggested mitigation measures, as provided in the original VIA report.

Feel free to contact me at any time, should you have any queries.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. du P.' with a stylized flourish.

Lourens du Plessis (PrGISc)