

ANTHENE ECOLOGICAL CC

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SONBESIE SOLAR POWER PLANT (PTY) LTD.

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To whom it may concern:

SPECIALIST INPUT FOR THE PART 2 AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (EA): AS PART OF THE SONBESIE PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SOLAR POWER PROJECT NEAR VRYBURG IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE

1. The Ecological study/assessment as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) conducted for the Sonbesie Solar Power Plant (SPP) (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/915) on the Remaining Extent of the farm Retreat, No.671, Registration Division IN, North West Province, refers.
2. The Solar plant is said to be tendered to the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) in the latter half of 2020. However, to improve the desirability and efficiency of the proposed project, the following amendments are applied for in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended in 2017):

- Inclusion of a battery storage system

The battery storage facility will be kept in standard shipment containers with an area of approximately 2ha. The battery to be installed will be lithium-ion and no electrolytes will be transported to and handled on site. Battery cells will be assembled at the supplier factory prior to delivery to the sites. The battery storage facility will be located within the already authorized PV plant footprint area. There will be no need for the additional clearance of more than 2 ha of vegetation for the development of a new area for the battery storage facility.

- Increasing capacity of 115MWdc to up to 155MWdc

Due to new and advanced technology of panels (470W and Bi-facial) the same amount of panels may be used as specified previously but will be able to generate more megawatts on the same area. The DMRE no longer caps projects at 75MW under the RMIPPPP, which means that developers may tender for larger capacity (if the grid can accommodate it).

