12 July 2018

To whom it may concern

AQUATIC OPINION – HOTAZEL SOLAR PHOTO-VOLTAIC PROJECT, NORTHERN CAPE

Scherman Colloty and Associates (SC&A) was approached by CapeEAPrac on behalf of ABO Wind Hotazel PV (Pty) Ltd to assess the potential impact of the Hotazel Solar PV project on the aquatic environment. Figure 1 indicates the affected property and the site layout, transmission line, and substation alternatives.

The author of this letter has reviewed the available biodiversity assessments, project information, and has conducted assessments within the region in the recent past (July 2014- October 2017). Figure 2 indicates the locality of the project components in relation to water bodies identified in the studies above and contained within any National databases (e.g. National Wetland Inventory ver 5.2 2018) within the study region. Further from Figure 2, the project site contains no aquatic elements and is not connected to any within the regional catchment (D41K – Ga-Mogara River).

Figure 1: The Google Earth satellite image of the study area and project component alternative (site options and transmission line/substation options)

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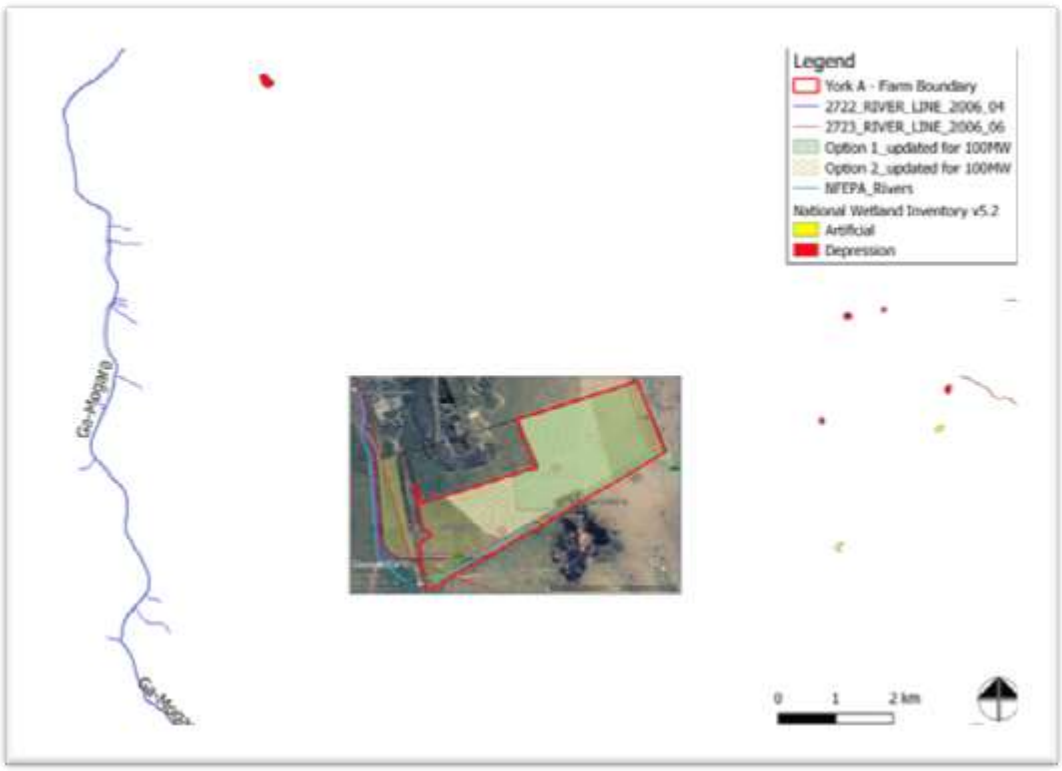

Figure 2: The study area and project component alternatives, and any waterbodies identified within previous studies, available databases and 1:50 000 spatial data.

Figure 3 indicates spatial data related to the Northern Cape Critical Biodiversity Area map, which substantiates that no aquatic related areas are associated with the study area.

Figure 3: The project components in Northern Cape Critical Biodiversity Area map (Holness & Oosthuysen, 2016).

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Lastly it was determined that the site and associated infrastructure, regardless of the alternatives or options, would not have any direct impact on local or regional aquatic waterbodies. This included, rivers, springs, depressions and floodplain wetlands.

It is however recommended that best practice principles are still applied with regard to the prevention of any erosion and sedimentation through the provision of adequate stormwater management, as well as that the proponent must make allowance for water conservation principles to reduce the water demand of the project (i.e. rain water harvesting as intended).

Yours Sincerely

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