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28 August 2019 533767

Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Department of Environmental Affairs Private Bag X447 Pretoria 0001

Attention: Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

MOTIVATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM PAYMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION **APPLICATION FEE**

Eskom Holdings SOC Limited (Eskom) proposes to install Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESSs) at various (existing) distribution substations throughout South Africa to:

- Strengthen the electricity distribution network and address current voltage and capacity constraints;
- Integrate a greater amount of renewable energy [in this case Sere Wind Energy Facility (WEF)] into the electricity grid; and
- Reduce the requirement for investment in new conventional generation capacity (i.e. gas, nuclear, coal) and new distribution substations and powerlines to strengthen networks.

The BESS project will strengthen the electricity distribution network from Sere WEF to the West Coast area, and make the generated electricity dispatchable.

SRK Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SRK) has been appointed by Eskom to undertake the Basic Assessment (BA) processes for the proposed BESSs at the Paleisheuwel Substation and the Skaapvlei Substation along the West Coast in the Western Cape.

As the applicant is a state-owned enterprise, we understand that Eskom is exempt from paying the fee for the Environmental Authorisation application.

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Yours faithfully,

SRK Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd

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Amy Hill

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