

Memo



Stantec

To: Beatrice Ashby
Samsung Renewable Energy

From: Rob Nadolny / Mark Kozak
Stantec Consulting Ltd.

File: 160960577

Date: June 4, 2012

Reference: Grand Renewable Energy Park – Renewable Energy Approval Package – Water Assessment and Water Body Report (October 2011)

This memo addresses MOE's comment of June 1, 2012, related to the above-referenced report. MOE's comment is provided below, followed by the project response.

MOE Comment:

<p>The description of activities for the solar farm is very sparse in both sections 3.4 and 4.5 and it is difficult to determine whether measures will be effective without the impacts (on waterbodies) being identified.</p>	<p>At the time that the Water Report was written, the only access road mapping available is shown in Figure 4.2. The road does not cross, and is not located within 120 m of a water body. Additionally, although solar panels will be located within 120 m of 3 reaches designated as water bodies, all impacts can be mitigated using standard mitigation measures as presented in Section 4.5. Since all information has been presented in a manner consistent with information presented for the Wind Project and Transmission Project, it was determined that no further discussion was warranted.</p>
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Your response "At the time that the Water Report was written, the only access road mapping available is shown in Figure 4.2" suggests that you consider the Water Assessment and Water Body aspects of the submission to be complete without detail of the solar portion of the facility. You indicate that the road does not go within 120m. of a water body but that the solar panels do. It would seem logical that there would be a road associated with the construction and deployment of solar panel arrays and therefore it would seem that a road would encroach (and may or may not cross) on the same 3 reaches that the solar panels do. Without any detailed information, it is not possible to determine whether the solar layout, impacts and mitigation are adequate.

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Project Response:

As described in Sections 2.2.7 and 2.2.8 of the Construction Plan Report, three types of access will be required for the solar farm: solar farm main access and collector substation road, solar unit access roads, and solar row laneways.

The solar farm main access and collector substation road as shown in Figure 4.2 of the Water Assessment and Water Body Report is located more than 120 metres from any water body.

Two types of access (as described in Section 2.2.8 of the Construction Plan Report, and below) are proposed to be located within 120 metres of the water bodies in question (indicated as Gran-m, Gran-n, Gran-p and Ward-b on Figure 4.2 of the Water Assessment and Water Body Report). As described in Section 2.2.8 of the Construction Plan Report, the following describes the other two types of solar farm access that may be located within 120 metres of a water body:

- Laneways - Three (3) metre wide access roads (laneways) will be used between each row of solar panels (within each solar unit) and will be unimproved and will not require construction preparation other than general site grading. These access roads will be seeded with native grassland species following construction.
- Solar Unit Access Roads - Four (4) metre wide access roads will be constructed surrounding each solar unit component of the Project. These roads will consist of engineered fill/onsite crushed materials.

Potential effects, mitigation measures and net effects associated with construction of these access roads and laneways in relation to surface water features and aquatic habitat are described in Section 3.1.2.2 of the Construction Plan Report and Sections 3.4, 4.5 and 5.1 of the Water Assessment and Water Body Report.

Potential effects, mitigation measures and net effects associated with these access roads and laneways during operation in relation to surface water features and aquatic habitat are described in Section 5.2.2.2 of the Design and Operations Report. Monitoring requirements and contingency plans are described in Section 6.1.3 of the Design and Operations Report.

In conclusion, given that all three water bodies are located outside of the boundary of the solar farm (including all access roads and laneways), it can be confirmed that:

- No access roads or laneways for the solar farm will cross (or will be located within 30 metres of) the water bodies that are located within 120 metres of the Project; and
- Potential effects, mitigation measures and net effects and monitoring requirements described in the reports referenced above apply to the solar access roads and laneways.