

Via eMail:
Ms. Sara Eyckmans (sara.eyckmans@gmail.com)

Hamburg, October 10th, 2016

Re.: Siemens' involvement in Morocco's renewable energy projects in Western Sahara

Dear Ms. Eyckmans,

Thank you for your correspondence dated September 26, 2016, on the issue of Siemens Wind Power's engagement in Morocco and Western Sahara. As you correctly point out, this is one of the many areas worldwide where Siemens is active. Although no new contracts have yet been signed, Siemens Wind Power and Renewables Division has been asked to provide wind power products and technology.

We are of the view that helping regions to develop their renewable energy capacity is a constructive and worthwhile way to bring both short-term benefits (e.g. local jobs and infrastructure improvements) as well as long-term benefits (including greater energy security). Western Sahara is one of the world's poorest and most under-developed regions, and we believe that enhancements to roads, sanitation, educational facilities, and power infrastructure can all serve to improve the lives of people in this area.

We also believe that wind farms are fundamentally different from, say, mines, which extract finite resources in an irreversible way. The wind in Western Sahara, in contrast, is a renewable source of energy, and the operation of wind farms in no way diminishes it.

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Sitz der Gesellschaft: Berlin und München, Deutschland; Registergericht: Berlin Charlottenburg, HRB 12300, München, HRB 6684
WEEE-Reg.-Nr. DE 23691322

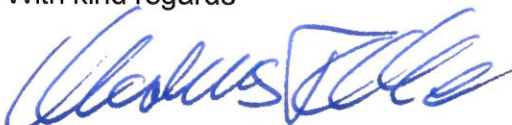
Your questions that deal with the legal and political status of Western Sahara deal with matters of international public law. It is, therefore, the responsibility of the subjects of international public law (such as international bodies, states and others) to deal with these matters. The views of NGOs are, of course, also of great value. Companies like ours, on the other hand, refrain as a matter of policy from taking positions or making judgements on such issues.

Nonetheless, we do support the stated position of the German government which has expressed its hope for a peaceful and consensual resolution to the outstanding issues in Western Sahara, and its support for the United Nations plan for the self-determination of the Saharawi people.

During our previous involvement in Western Sahara, we worked with local organizations and groups to ensure that our involvement provided tangible community benefits. We will continue to act in compliance with all applicable laws, and with the commitment that human rights are respected in projects in which we are involved. We will also continue to seek ways to ensure that local populations benefits from our engagement in respective regions.

We would be pleased to remain in constructive dialogue with you on this matter.

With kind regards



Dr. Markus Tacke,
CEO Siemens Wind Power and Renewables