Dear Mr. Braune,

I hope this email finds you in good health.

At the outset I would like to introduce myself. I am Associate Professor Sunetra Chowdhury employed in the Electrical Engineering Department at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. I am currently the DSI/NRF-Sasol Research Chair in Energy in Power System Modelling in the Electrical Engineering Department and I am also engaged in postdoctoral and postgraduate research supervision and development. My research areas include grid integration of renewable distributed generation (DG), power system operation and grid planning, power system protection, renewable DG for grid support and ancillary services, energy management, control, and protection of microgrids, energy storage and electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

I would also like to introduce my masters student Mr. Md Shaihan Islam (ISLMDS002) who is currently pursuing his masters degree in Electrical Engineering under my supervision. His research topic is “Design and Testing of a Cost-Effective Electronic Credit Card Payment Device for Electric Vehicle Charging Station”. Through this research, he aims to develop a relatively affordable payment device that will facilitate efficient credit and debit card payments for customers charging their electric vehicles (EVs) at an EV charging station. The proposed device will be tested theoretically (via simulation) as well as practically at a real charging station, with a real EV and real purchases made using credit and debit cards.

I would therefore like to request that your esteemed office provides us with the following written permission for the use of the particular facilities as we aim to test and validate the proposed device:

• Access to the Electric Vehicle Charging Station (EVCS) at University of Cape Town Upper Campus, near North Stop.

•     Access to an Electric Vehicle (EV) that will be used as the charging vehicle during the testing of the device.

•     Access to the internal hardware and software of the EVCS on Upper Campus for research and testing.

•     Access to a debit and/or a credit card for testing the validity of the EV charging payment device

We confirm that the facilities will only be used with your written permission and that strict confidentiality will be maintained for the use of these facilities. The facilities will only be used in the context of the masters thesis and any resulting academic publications.

Kindly let us know if there’s a need for your esteemed office to sign a non-disclosure agreement with University of Cape Town before we can access the facilties. I will then liaise with our Research Office for the needful.

Please see attached Md Shaihan’s research proposal and proof of registration for your kind reference.

We look forward to your favourable response.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.