

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS: PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC (SOLAR) ENERGY FACILITIES ON BADENHORST DAM
FARM NEAR DE AAR, NORTHERN CAPE.**

**DEA AND NEAS REF. NO`S: PV2: 14/12/16/3/3/2/504; DEA/EIA/0001751/2013; PV3: 14/12/16/3/3/2/483; DEA/EIA/0001750/2013
PV4: 14/12/16/3/3/2/506; DEA/EIA/0001752/2013; PV5: 14/12/16/3/3/2/485; DEA/EIA/0001753/2013**

COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT 1

This Comments and Response Report reflects the comments submitted during the Draft Scoping Report public comment period (from **30 April 2013** until **10 June 2013**). The Interested and Affected parties (I&APs) raising each comment is listed next to the particular issue to ensure that the environmental authorities can see how often an issue was raised and by whom.

LIST OF I&AP SUBMISSIONS:

Ref.	Name	Organisation	Date Received	Method
1.	Kathryn Smuts	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	2 May 2013	E-mail
2.	Willie Zietsman	Transnet Freight Rail	11 June 2013	Post
3.	Noma Qase	Department of Energy	24 May 2013	Post

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS			
<i>Comments and Responses</i>			
No.	Name	Issue	Response
1.	Kathryn Smuts SAHRA	<p>In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, heritage resources, including archaeological or palaeontological sites over 100 years old, graves older than 60 years, structures older than 60 years are protected. They may not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. This means that before such sites are disturbed by development it is incumbent on the developer (or mine) to ensure that a Heritage Impact Assessment is done. This must include the archaeological component (Phase1) and any other applicable heritage components. Appropriate (Phase 2) mitigation, which involves recording, sampling and dating sites that are to be destroyed, must be done as required.</p> <p>In your application received by SAHRA, it is indicated that there will be an assessment of the heritage resources, inclusive of an Archaeological and Palaeontological Impact Assessment. The Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Report that will identify the archaeological sites and assess their significance and make recommendations</p>	The heritage and palaeontology specialist studies will be incorporated into the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAR). The DEIAR and the Heritage Impact Assessment will be provided to SAHRA for comment at the EIA stage.

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		<p>(as indicated in section 38) about the process to be followed. A Palaeontological study must be undertaken to assess whether or not the development will impact upon palaeontological resources - or at least a letter of exemption from a Palaeontologist is needed to indicate that this is unnecessary. If the area is deemed sensitive, a full Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be required and if necessary a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary. Any other heritage resources that may be impacted such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.</p> <p>SAHRA looks forward to receiving these heritage reports and will provide comment on them before the project can commence.</p>	
2.	Willie Zietsman Transnet	<p>With reference to Aurecon`s application, showing the 3 possible sites dated 2013/05/23; the following applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three sites were identified of which two; PV2 and PV4 are adjacent to the Transnet railway line. • Sites PVs & are located on Portion 1 of the farm De Aar No. 180, Administrative district Philipstown. The proposed area will not affect Transnet property, but the proposed access road to it will cross the railway line. <p>Please refer to the email Aurecon regarding the proposed development.</p>	The applicant has been requested to liaise directly with Transnet in order to discuss the crossings.
3.	Noma Qase Department of Energy	<p>We would like to confirm that the Department has invited Independent Power Producers to submit proposals for the</p>	Thank you for confirming your support for this project. Any subsequent correspondence will be

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	<p>generation of electricity from renewable energy sources under the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme.</p> <p>We have gone through the electronic draft scoping reports and wish to confirm Aurecon consultants that we do not have comments on the reports. We further wish you all the best in securing a positive Environmental Authorisation from the Department of Environmental Affairs.</p> <p>We further wish you all the best in securing a positive Record of Decision from the Department of Environmental Affairs. The Department would appreciate being kept informed of progress with this project.</p>	<p>communicated to the Department.</p>
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