



SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY
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FOR ATTENTION: **PHRA: Eastern Cape**

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SAHRA File No: **9/2/062/0001**
 Date Received: **5 December 2011 (HIA)**
7 February 2012 (AIA revised)
 Date of Comment: **17 February 2012**
 Sent to Peer Review:
 Date to Peer Review:
 SAHRA Contact Person: **Dr Mariagrazia Galimberti**
 DEA Ref. no: **12/12/20/2257**

REVIEW COMMENT ON HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

BY **ARCHAEOLOGY, PALAEOLOGY AND METEORITES UNIT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY**

South Africa has a unique and non-renewable archaeological and palaeontological heritage. Archaeological and palaeontological sites are protected in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999) and may not be disturbed without a permit. Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIAs) and Palaeontological Impact Assessments (PIAs) identify and assess the significance of the sites, assess the potential impact of developments upon such sites, and make recommendations concerning mitigation and management of these sites. On the basis of satisfactory specialist reports SAHRA or the relevant heritage resources agency can assess whether or not it has objection to a development and indicate the conditions upon which such development might proceed and assess whether or not to issue permission to destroy such sites.

AIAs and PIAs often form part of the heritage component of an Environmental Impact Assessment or Environmental Management Plan. They may also form part of a Heritage Impact Assessment called for in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No. 25, 1999. They may have other origins. In any event they should comply with basic minimum standards of reporting as indicated in SAHRA Regulations and Guidelines.

This form provides review comment from the Archaeologist of the relevant heritage resources authority for use by Heritage Managers, for example, when informing authorities that have applied to SAHRA for comment and for inclusion in documentation sent to environmental authorities. It may be used in conjunction with Form B, which provides relevant peer review comment.

- A. PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY: **Eastern Cape**
- B. AUTHOR(S) OF REPORT: **Mr Cobus Dreyer**
- C. ARCHAEOLOGY CONTRACT GROUP:
- D. CONTACT DETAILS: **P.O. Box 12910, Brandhof, 9324, Bloemfontein, email: dreyerj@telkomsa.net**
- E. DATE OF REPORT: **November 2011 (revised February 2012)**
- F. TITLE OF REPORT: **Letter of recommendation for the exemption form a first phase archaeological and heritage investigation of the proposed PV solar project at Dreunberg, near Burgersdorp, Eastern Cape**
- B. AUTHOR(S) OF REPORT: **Ms Jean Beater**
- C. ARCHAEOLOGY CONTRACT GROUP: **Sustainable Development Projects**
- D. CONTACT DETAILS: **P.O. Box 1016, Ballito, 4420. Email: jean.beater@gmail.com**
- E. DATE OF REPORT: **August 2011, updated November 2011**
- F. TITLE OF REPORT: **Cultural heritage assessment of the proposed establishment of photo voltaic (Solar Power) panels on the Farm Dreunberg, no 97, Burgersdorp District, Eastern Cape Province**

- G. Please circle as relevant: Heritage component of **EIA** / EMP / HIA / CMP/ Other (Specify) BAR
- H. REPORT COMMISSIONED BY (CONSULTANT OR DEVELOPER): **Scatec Solar SA (Pty) Ltd, Sustainable Development Projects**
- I. CONTACT DETAILS: **P.O. Box 1016, Ballito, 4420, Mr Simon Bundy, simon@ecocoast.co.za**
- J. COMMENTS:

Please see comment on next page

REVIEW COMMENT ON HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**Mr Cobus Dreyer****Dated: November 2011, received: (revised version): 7 February 2012****Letter of recommendation for the exemption from a first phase archaeological and heritage investigation of the proposed PV solar project at Dreunberg, near Burgersdorp, Eastern Cape****Ms Jean Beater****Dated: November 2011, received: December 2011****Cultural heritage assessment of the proposed establishment of photo voltaic (Solar Power) panels on the Farm Dreunberg, no 97, Burgersdorp District, Eastern Cape Province**

Scatec solar is proposing the establishment of solar energy facility in the Eastern Cape over a 200ha property.

Both Ms Beater and Mr Dreyer undertook a survey of the area proposed for the establishment of the solar energy facility. The surface is covered in thick grass and scrubby bush, which at times made the visibility for archaeological resources quite difficult. At present, the property is used for cattle and sheep farming, with a series of infrastructure already established on it, such as power lines, a dam, access roads and a substation.

The archaeologist identified scatters of stone tools mostly from the Middle Stone Age, whereas the heritage practitioner identified an existing farmhouse with two graves located 100m south-west of it. According to the BID and the information provided by the practitioner, the project area will include neither the farmhouse nor the graves.

It is however recommended that, to avoid involuntarily damage to the graves, the graves be fenced off, at least temporarily, during construction. Permanent fencing is however recommended. The fence should be placed 5m from the graves and no development is allowed within 20m from the fence.

Since there is apparently no evidence of any significant archaeological material in the area, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objection to the development on condition that, if any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources are found during construction, SAHRA (Mariagrazia Galimberti or Colette Scheermeyer, Tel: 021 462 4502) and an archaeologist or palaeontologist according to the findings, must be alerted immediately.

SIGNATURE OF ARCHAEOLOGIST PROCESSING REPORT: 

EMAIL: mgalimberti@sahra.org.za

SIGNATURE OF SAHRA HEAD ARCHAEOLOGIST: 

EMAIL: cscheermeyer@sahra.org.za

NAME OF HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY: SAHRA.....

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COMMENT (ABOVE OR APPENDED) CONSTITUTES THE COMMENT OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY ARCHAEOLOGIST AND THAT ANY DEVELOPMENT THAT INVOLVES DESTRUCTION OF ANY ARCHAEOLOGICAL/PALAEONTOLOGICAL SITE IS STILL SUBJECT TO A PERMIT/PERMISSION FOR DESTRUCTION OF SUCH SITE GIVEN TO THE DEVELOPER BY THE RELEVANT HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALAEONTOLOGICAL PERMIT COMMITTEE (THIS WILL BE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE PHASE 2 OR ARCHAEOLOGICAL/ PALAEONTOLOGICAL MITIGATION AS NECESSARY). THIS REPORT MAY BE TAKEN ONLY AS APPROVAL IN TERMS OF SECTION 35 OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT. THE PROVINCIAL MANAGER OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY MUST ADVISE AS TO APPROVAL IN TERMS OF HERITAGE ISSUES ENCOMPASSED BY OTHER ASPECTS OF THE LEGISLATION, SUCH AS ISSUES OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (STRUCTURES (E.G. FARM HOUSES), OVER 60 YEARS), INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS OR OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPES AS THIS IS NOT WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGIST.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SAHRA IS NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR GRADE I HERITAGE RESOURCES (AND EXPORT) AND THE PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR GRADE II AND GRADE III HERITAGE RESOURCES, EXCEPT WHERE THERE IS AN AGENCY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY.

