



SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY
111 HARRINGTON STREET, CAPE TOWN, 8001
PO BOX 4637, CAPE TOWN, 8000
TEL: 021 462 4502 FAX: 021 462 4509

FOR ATTENTION: **PHRA: Northern Cape**

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY:

SAHRA File No: **9/2/048/0001**
Date Received: **14 March 2011 (v.2)**.....
Date of Comment: **23 March 2011**.....
Date of Revision: **09 September 2012**.....
SAHRA Contact Person: **Ms Katie Smuts**
DEA Ref. no: **12/12/20/2098/2**

REVIEW COMMENT ON HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

BY ARCHAEOLOGY/ PALAEOLOGY UNIT OF THE 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: **Northern Cape**
- B. AUTHOR(S) OF REPORT: **Mr Anton J. Pelser**
- C. ARCHAEOLOGY CONTRACT GROUP: **Archaetnos**
- D. CONTACT DETAILS: **PO Box 31064, Wonderboompoort, 0033, Tel: 083 459 3091, Fax: 086 520 0673, Email: antonp21@yahoo.com**
- E. DATE OF REPORT: **January 2011**
- F. TITLE OF REPORT: **A report on archaeological impact assessment (AIA) for the proposed solar energy plant on Klein Zwart-Bast 188, Kenhardt District, Northern Cape**
- G. Please circle as relevant: Archaeological component of EIA / EMP / **HIA** / CMP/
Other (Specify)
- B. AUTHOR(S) OF REPORT: **Dr Robert de Jong**
- C. ARCHAEOLOGY CONTRACT GROUP: **Cultural Heritage Consulting Services**
- D. CONTACT DETAILS: **129 Malherbe Street, Capital Park, 0084, Pretoria, tel: 082 577 4741, email: cultmat@iafrica.com**
- E. DATE OF REPORT: **1 February 2011**
- F. TITLE OF REPORT: **Proposed solar power station on the remainder of portion 1 (known as Die Hoek) and the portion of portion 2 of the Farm Klein Zwart-Bast 188, Kenhardt Registration Division, Syianda District**

Municipality, Northern Cape Province

G. REPORT COMMISSIONED BY (**CONSULTANT OR DEVELOPER**): **Sevenstones 159 Pty(Ltd)**

H. CONTACT DETAILS: **P.O. Box 69408, Bryanston 2021**

I. COMMENTS:

Please see comment on next page.....

REVIEW COMMENT ON HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Author: Anton J. Pelsler

Dated: January 2011, Received: 14th March 2011 (v.2)

A report on archaeological impact assessment (AIA) for the proposed solar energy plant on Klein Zwart-Bast 188, Kenhardt District, Northern Cape

Author: Robert de Jong

Dated: 1st February 2011, Received: 8th February 2011

Proposed solar power station on the remainder of portion 1 (known as Die Hoek) and the portion of portion 2 of the Farm Klein Zwart-Bast 188, Kenhardt Registration Division, Syianda District Municipality, Northern Cape Province

INTRODUCTION

Aurora Power Solutions and Bio Therm Energy are proposing the establishment of a solar energy plant of about 20ha in proximity of Kenhardt. Besides the PV arrays, the solar power facility will require the establishment over the area of eight buildings, each of 18m², to contain inverters and transformers, a combined guard house of 100 m², a small substation and cable trenches.

Robert de Jong and Associates have undertaken the specialist studies on heritage resources as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment for this project. The area is right next to the Aries power station and 700m away from the Sishen-Saldanha Railway.

DISCUSSION

The archaeologist surveyed most of the area on foot. The visibility of the surface was excellent and favoured by the presence of mostly sandy ground with shrubs, grass and low trees. Previous developments have affected the area with roads, tracks, fences, power lines and earth walls. Few small outcrops in the area were identified, with a dry river bed which runs through the property. River beds and outcrops are two very sensitive areas where stone tools might generally be recorded. As a result, concentrations of stone tools were found along outcrops and the river bed, while stone tools from ESA, MSA and LSA in secondary context are scattered over the entire property. Ten different sites were identified from the Stone Age, whereas few historical remains were recorded, such as three earth walls (e.g. site 10), a dam wall in a dry river bed, a paraffin can and a single rifle cartridge (site 8).

Four sites from the ESA to MSA (Sites 1-4 in the report) are located in the north-east area in proximity of the Aries substation. Another series of three sites is clustered around the dry river bed, two of them belong to ESA-MSA, whereas in another one (site 7 in the report), evidence of MSA and LSA material was recorded. This is possibly a quarry site.

Site 9 is located close to the border of the development area, outside it, and belongs to the MSA-LSA, whereas site 11, also located outside the development area, is represented by a stone packed structure on an outcrop.

SAHRA RECOMMENDATIONS

SAHRA requires that:

- The developer must ensure that a professional palaeontologist is consulted about this project. If a Palaeontological Desktop Study is deemed unnecessary, a letter of recommendation for exemption from a professional Palaeontologist is needed. 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.
- Systematic collection and recording of archaeological stone tools is required for a sample material, which could either be on sites 1-4 or along the river bed and outcrops. The archaeologist to inform the developer on the specific locations for sampling.

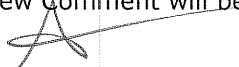
- Considering its high significance and vulnerability, and the nature of the development, a Phase 2 mitigation is requested for Site 7. In terms of s. 38(4)(b&c) of the National Heritage Resources Act, the provisions of ss 35 & 36 apply, as appropriate. The specialist will request a mitigation permit from the relevant Heritage Resources Authority for both sampling of Site 1-4 and mitigation of Site 7. On receipt of a satisfactory mitigation (Phase 2) permit report from the archaeologist, the heritage authority will make further recommendations in terms of the site. Very often permission is given for the destruction of the remainder of the archaeological or palaeontological sites. Very rarely, if a site has high heritage significance the authority may request that it be conserved, that mini-site management plans, interpretive material and possibly protective infrastructure be established.

CONCLUSION

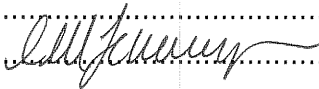
If the recommendations made in the specialist report and in this comment are adhered to, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorite Unit has no objection to the development (in terms of the archaeological component of the heritage resources).

If any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources are found during development, construction or mining, SAHRA and a professional archaeologist must be alerted immediately.

Decisions on Built Environment (e.g. structures over 60 years) and Cultural Landscapes and associated Living Heritage (e.g. sacred sites) must be made by the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority of the Northern Cape (Mr. Andrew Timothy, email: ratha.timothy@gmail.com) to whom this Archaeological Review Comment will be copied.

SIGNATURE OF ARCHAEOLOGIST PROCESSING REPORT:..... 

EMAIL: ksmuts@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.