



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

REVIEW COMMENT ON HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

BY ARCHAEOLOGY / PALAEOLOGY UNIT OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY

FOR ATTENTION: **PHRA: Northern Cape**

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY:

SAHRA File No: **9/2/066/0001**
Date Received: **8 February 2011**
Date of Comment: **23 March 2011**
Date of Revision: **09 September 2012**
SAHRA Contact Person: **Ms Katie Smuts**
DEA Ref. no: **12/12/20/2098/1**

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. Pelsler**
- C. ARCHAEOLOGY CONTRACT GROUP: **Archaeetos**
- 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 Konkoonsies 91, Pofadder 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 a portion of portion 6 of the Farm Konkoonsies 91, Pofadder Registration Division, Khai-Ma Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province**

G. REPORT COMMISSIONED BY (**CONSULTANT OR DEVELOPER**): **Limarco 77 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 Konkoonsies 91, Pofadder District, Northern Cape

Author: Robert de Jong

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

Proposed solar power station on a portion of portion 6 of the Farm Konkoonsies 91, Pofadder Registration Division, Khai-Ma Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province

INTRODUCTION

Aurora Power Solutions and Bio Therm Energy are proposing the establishment of a solar energy plant on 21ha of Farm Komkoonies 91. Robert de Jong and Associates have undertaken the specialist studies on heritage resources as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment for this project. Previous developments were roads, tracks, fences and power lines.

DISCUSSION

The archaeologist surveyed the area mostly on foot. The visibility of the surface was excellent and favoured by the presence of mostly sandy ground with shrubs and grass. Hillocks, outcrops and boulder clusters are found on the landscape and five archaeological sites were recorded mostly around them. Most sites comprise MSA and LSA scattered stone tools, mostly quartz, in secondary context, few of them also contains few fragments of ostrich egg shells, which were also identified in three shelters/overhangs. According to the authors the development is not going to affect any of the identified heritage resources. However, position of the access roads has not yet been released.

SAHRA RECOMMENDATIONS

SAHRA supports the recommendations of the author and requires 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. Please note that this report is not a full Heritage Impact Assessment as palaeontological resources have not been assessed.
- The area identified around hills and outcrops with shelters and scattered stone tools should be preserved. For this reason a buffer zone of 30m is required around hangers and identified archaeological sites. If this is not deemed possible, a Phase 2 mitigation might be required: SAHRA will require that, 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 require a mitigation permit from the relevant Heritage Resources Authority. 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

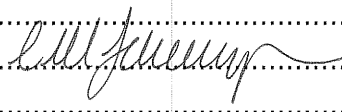
If the recommendations made in the specialist report and in this comment are adhered to, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorite Unit has no objection to the development (in terms of the archaeological component of the heritage resources).

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.