

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 18748

Date: Wednesday August 03, 2022  
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## Interim Comment

**In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Mr Shaun Macgregor  
Ecoleges Environmental Consultants  
PO Box 9005  
NELSPRUIT  
1200

**The proposed expansion and repositioning of a substation, addition of a 132kV switching yard sub-station, additional access road from a proposed staging area (offloading and access control area) to the development of a 300MW solar photo-voltaic (PV) facility, comprising 3 interconnected 100MW plants, that ties into existing overhead ESKOM 400kV transmission lines, and associated infrastructure including containerised lithium-ion battery storage and gas turbines. The proposed location is on Portion 3 & Remainder of Farm Goedehoop 26 C, Portion 6 of Leuwe Fountain 27 C, the Remainder of Farm Riet Fountain 39 C, Portion 1, 6 & Remainder of Kwanselaars Hoek 40 C and Portion 4 of Taaibosch Fontein 41 C, registration district Hanover, Emthanjeni Local Municipality, Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.**

Ecoleges Environmental Consultants have been appointed by Soventix South African (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Amendment Application for the authorised De Aar Phase 1 PV Facility, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province (14/12/16/3/3/2/998).

A Motivation Report in support of a part 2 Amendment application has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations. The proposed amendments include the additional of a staging area for offloading of equipment, an increase in the size of the authorised on-site substation, and an additional switching sub-substation. Finally, the authorised access road is proposed to be changed to an existing access road across a watercourse.

Previous SAHRIS Case ID 10210

(  
<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/cases/construction-solar-pv-system-various-farms-within-registration-district-hanover-emthanjeni>) has reference. SAHRA issued a Final Comment on the 27/11/2017, noting no objections and

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provided conditions for the development.

The submitted Motivation report notes that heritage sites are located in close proximity to the substations (as shown in Figure 6) and refers to the 2017 HIA as well as a February 2021 assessment, however the 2021 report is not included in the submission.

#### Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests that a desktop HIA be conducted using the information from previous assessment, that will assess the impact of the proposed amendments on identified heritage resources including a palaeontological component. The HIA must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested report.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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Natasha Higgitt  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine  
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/598644>