



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 7359

Date: Friday May 13, 2016

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Final Comment

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

Attention: Eskom Holdings SOC Limited
Limpopo Operating Unit
Land Development and Environment Section

Project Name: Tutuka Solar Energy Facility. Applicant: Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd. Proposed Activity: Construction of a 65.9MW solar energy facility and associated infrastructure within the Tutuka coal fired power station boundary near Standerton in Mpumalanga Province.

Eskom Holdings (SOC) Limited is proposing to establish a 65MW photovoltaic solar energy facility named the Tutuka PV Solar Energy Facility. The project involves the construction of PV solar panels mounted on rammed steel with pre-manufactured concrete footings, an internal transformer, switching station and power line from the substation to Tutuka Coal-Fired Power Station, internal access roads and workshop admin area. The total project area is 98.8 ha and lies adjacent to the existing Tutuka coal fired power station. The proposed Solar Energy Facility will be located on Portions 4, 10, 11 and 12 on the farm Pretorius Vley 374 IS, Lekwa Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

Thank you for submitting the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) to SAHRA as requested in the Interim Comment published to the case on 19/05/2015.

Van der Walt, J. September 2015. Archaeological Impact Assessment for the Proposed Establishment of the Tutuka Solar PV Facility, Mpumalanga Province.

Mr Van der Walt undertook a field assessment of site alternatives 1 and 2 for the proposed solar energy facility as part of the recommendations made in the heritage scoping report by the same author (November 2014). The assessment did not uncover any surface archaeological material, graves or historical structures older than 60 years of age because the study area has been modified by previous agricultural activities and road construction. However a chance finds procedure has been included in the report in the event any cultural material is uncovered during construction of the facility. SAHRA notes that the chance finds procedure provided in the HIA were incorporated into the EMP.

Final Comment

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit agree with the recommendations made in HIA and the Palaeontological Desktop Assessment reports. As such SAHRA has no objections to the proposed



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construction of the Tutuka PV Solar Energy Facility on condition that the Chance Finds Procedure in the EMP is adhered to.

If any newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary, and a permit will be needed before mitigation is carried out. You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Phillip Hine 021 202 8652). If any unmarked human burials are uncovered then please contact the SAHRA BGG Unit (Itumeleng Masiteng/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490).

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

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting)
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/254890>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/754)

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Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.