

Mitigation based on the Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Photo Voltic (PV) plant installation at Boshoff Floors for Ekapa Minerals (Pty) Ltd, Northern Cape dated February 2023 refers.

1. Background

The Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) was conducted for the proposed establishment of a Photo Voltic (PV) plant installation at Boshoff Floors for Ekapa Minerals (PTY) Ltd outside Kimberley in the Northern Cape.

The proposed development of a solar plant will consist of solar panels on a framework or of tracking structures with a limited footprint. This allows for several mitigation alternatives.

Due to the continued and repeated disturbance of this landscape since the inception of mining in the 1870s to the present, very limited heritage resources are present on the site.

Several domestic waste middens were recorded:

Middens recorded at Boshoff floors			
Site	Description	Location	Field Rating
EM2022_004 midden	Small surface midden with approx. 0.6 m ³ of material scattered over approximately 3 m ² .	28°43'53.11"S 24°47'52.81"E	Field Rating/Grade IV B General Protection B: Medium Significance
EM2022_005 midden	Small, mostly surface midden with approx. 0.8 m ³ of material scattered over an area of 4.5 m ² .	28°43'53.31"S 24°47'53.03"E	Field Rating/Grade IV B General Protection B: Medium Significance
EM2022_006 midden	Very small volume (0.3m ³) of dumped glass and other fragments scattered over 1.5m ² .	28°43'53.41"S 24°47'53.09"E	Field Rating/Grade IV B General Protection B: Medium Significance
EM2022_007 midden	Small midden (0.6 m ³ volume) of material scattered over approximately 6 m ² .	28°43'53.45"S 24°47'53.24"E	Field Rating/Grade IV B General Protection B: Medium Significance
EM2022_008 midden	This midden is the largest of the small middens. The total volume is 1.5 m ³ scattered over approx. 3m ² .	28°43'53.75"S 24°47'53.55"E	Field Rating/Grade IV B General Protection B: Medium Significance
EM2022_009 midden	This tiny midden has an area of only 0.8m ² .	28°43'54.22"S 24°47'52.70"E	Field Rating/Grade IV B General Protection B: Medium Significance
EM2022_010 midden	Large midden with material scattered over an area of 120 m ² .	28°43'55.45"S 24°47'51.73"E	Field Rating/Grade IV B General Protection B: Medium Significance

EM2022_011 midden	Large midden with material scattered over an area of 420 m ² .	28°43'56.27"S 24°47'50.90"E	Field Rating/Grade IV B General Protection B: Medium Significance
EM2022_012 midden	Large midden with material scattered over an area of 1400 m ² .	28°43'56.34"S 24°47'49.28"E	Field Rating/Grade IV B General Protection B: Medium Significance

These middens likely fall in the date range from the 1870s to early 1900s, and are deemed to be of local historical significance. The middens are thus older than 100 years and thus protected in terms of the NHRA.

The middens have medium to good research potential and are assigned a **Field Rating/Grade IV B General Protection B**: The middens are assigned a **Medium significance** and should be suitably mitigated.

2. Mitigation

Following an investigation of several alternative mitigation options it was agreed with the client to:

1. Protect the sites in situ and design the development footprint so that it will not negatively impact resource.
2. To protect the integrity of each site the extent of individual site was established and staked out to allow surveying by a professional surveyor.
3. Each site was then backfilled and covered with 250-300mm of sandy topsoil to protect the integrity of the deposit.



1. *Figure 1. Covering of the exposed subsurface deposit with topsoil complete*

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4. Following the covering of the deposits each locality was staked out on site.



Figure 2. Staking / marking of the sensitive area.

3. Further Recommendation

3. During the proposed project life cycle these resources must be respected and protected
4. No Further permitting or other applications are required in terms of the SAHRA Act.
5. An Archaeological Chance Finds Procedure must be implemented during the construction and operational phases of the development.

1.1 Archaeological Chance Finds Procedure (CFP)

There is a low to very low probability of finding/exposing more heritage resources during the construction and operational phases of the proposed development.

- In the event that any sub-surface heritage resources or graves are unearthed all work has to be stopped until an assessment as to the significance of the site (or material) in question has been made by a professional archaeologist. Note that no archaeological material that has been uncovered may be removed.
- This applies to human remains, formal and informal graves and cemeteries. In the event that any graves or burial places are located during the development, the procedures and requirements pertaining to graves and burials will apply. If human

remains are uncovered, or previously unknown graves are discovered, a professional archaeologist needs to be contacted and an evaluation of the finds made.

- If any archaeological material is uncovered during the course of development, then work in the immediate area should cease. The find will need to be reported to the relevant heritage authority and may require investigation and possibly mitigation by a professional archaeologist.
- If any area that contains stone artefacts in reasonable numbers (e.g. more than 10 within a few metres of one another) or in high concentrations is noted during the proposed developments this should be inspected by a professional archaeologist prior to any disturbance.
- If any engraved rocks or rock paintings are noted, the find should be reported.

All finds or suspected finds must be reported to a professional archaeologist and to the relevant heritage authority .

Trust that you find the above in order
Regards



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