SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY
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DATE: 1 September 2011
ENQUIRIES: Mrs Colette Scheermeyer
OUR REF: 9/2/025/0001

Ms Jean Beater
For Scatec Solar (Pty) Ltd

Dear Ms Beater

Re: HERITAGE SURVEYS FOR THE PROPOSED ESTBALISHMENT OF PHOTO VOLTAIC (SOLAR POWER) PANELS ON THE FARM TAAIBOSCHFONTEIN, NO41, FARM NEW KALKBULT NO. 181 AND FARM VANDERLINDESKRAAL, NO.79, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The SAHRA APM Unit received heritage survey reports related to the proposed construction of photovoltaic panels for the production of solar power on the farms Taaiboschfontein No. 41, new Kalkbult No. 181 and Vanderlindeskraal No.79, Northern Cape Province. We apologise for the delay in responding to the Taaibosch report submitted in 18 July 2011. The surveys are essentially understood to be part of a larger project commissioned by Scatec Solar SA (Pty) Ltd, who proposes to establish between 5 and 9 solar farms on a number of properties in the Northern Cape and Eastern Cape in order to provide increased local power supply.

In this regards, we have reviewed the following reports:

Beater, J. February 2011, Cultural Heritage Review of Proposed Establishment of Photo Voltaic (Solar Power) Panels on the farm Taaiboschfontein, No 41, Hanover District Northern Cape.

Beater, J. August 2011, Annexure 1 Cultural Heritage Survey of Sites For Solar Power project Report: farm New Kalkbult No. 181, Northern Cape Province

Beater, J. August 2011, Annexure 2 Cultural Heritage Survey of Sites for Solar Power Project Report: farm Vanderlindeskraal, No. 79, Northern Cape Province

We have noted a professional archaeologist was not involved in the surveying of these farms. While we acknowledge Mr David Morris (archaeologist, McGegor Museum) was consulted for comments regarding the two reports for New Kalkbult and Vanderlineskraal, no physical survey was undertaken by him or any other professional archaeologist. The purpose of the impact assessment report is to report on what has been indentified on the property and how it will be impacted. Without this component of the report, done by a trained

person, it is not possible to note with certainty if all archaeology has been indentified and/or considered.

Section 38 (2) (a) notes where impact assessments reports are commissioned..."the report must be compiled at the cost of the person proposing the development, by a person or persons approved by the responsible heritage resources authority with relevant qualifications and experience." In this respect, while we do not have any concerns with the report being generated by a general heritage specialist, the archaeological component of the report must be based on professional archaeological input and recommendations following a site visit by the required specialist.

Considering Mr Morris provided desktop information for two of the projects, we would advise that he be approached to undertake the archaeological field surveys. Following that we would await the revised reports with input from the archaeologist. We wish to also recommend that a full HIA (including must include specialist studies of archaeology, palaeontology, built environment, etc) is conducted for the projects. This would minimize the delay by doing specialist reports individually.

We do understand the urgency of your project and will endeavour to assist you as far as possible in complying with our requirements.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Nonofho Ndobochani
SAHRA: Manager of the Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
For CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER