

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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CaseID: 16047

Date: Tuesday February 23, 2021

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Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Delta Solar Power Plant (Pty) Ltd.

It is proposed that battery energy storage systems (BESS) be included as part of the Delta Solar Power Project (SPP). This report motivates the proposed amendment of the environmental authorisation (EA) as part of the Delta SPP near Bloemhof, North-West Province (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/669). The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the Delta Photovoltaic SPP was lodged in 26 March 2014 and the Environmental Authorisation (EA) was granted on 25 May 2015.

Environamics has been appointed by Delta Solar Power Plant (Pty) Ltd in terms of regulation 29 of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment regulation to motivate for the amendment of an Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the authorised development of the Deltar Solar Power Plant energy facility in Bloemhof, North West Province.

The project has been authorised by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The EA is for the development of a of a 84MW Solar Energy Facility and associated infrastructure, referred to as Delta Solar Power Plant.

A draft Motivation Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed amendment will include the installation of a battery energy storage system (BESS) within the authorised laydown footprint.

A previous SAHRIS Case ID 5718 as referenced here <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/cases/delta-solar-pv>. In the Final Comment issued on 7/08/2015, SAHRA noted no objections to the original EA application and provided conditions for the development.

Van Schalkwyk, J. in a letter dated 7 Sepetember 2020 sent to SAHRA's APM Units asserts that the findings and recommendations of the previous AIA are still applicable and that the proposed amendments will not impact nor threaten any sites, features or objects of cultural Significance.

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SAHRA's APM Unit acknowledges receipt of the application to amend the Environmental Authorisation include a BESS for the Delta Solar Power Plant. Please provide a letter (by a qualified paleontologist) of exemption and/or affirmation that the proposed amendment would not impact of the palaeontological resources as per section 38(2)a of the NHRA (25 of 1999).

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above. The applicant is advised to extend the EA process in terms of section 32(1)b of the NEMA EIA regulations in order to comply with this comment.

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

Yours faithfully

Elijah Dumisani Katsetse
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/555312>

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.