

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: 21549

Date: Thursday August 31, 2023
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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: Enertrag South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Igolide Wind (Pty) Ltd, proposes to establish the up to 100MW Igolide Wind Energy Facility (WEF), and the up to 132kV powerline, substation and associated infrastructure, near Fochville in Gauteng. The proposed authorisations include a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process and a Basic Assessment Process respectively. The extent of the Project footprint will be approximately 130 hectares (ha), subject to finalization based on technical and environmental requirements

Igolide Wind (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd to undertake the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed 100MW wind energy facility (WEF) and associated infrastructure on Portions 14, 20, RE/22, of Farm 147 Kraalkop and Portions 8, 57, 65, 66 of Farm 356 Leeuwoort near Fochville in Gauteng Province (DFFE REF: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2385 14/12/16/3/3/2/2316).

Following the issuing of the interim SAHRA comment dated July 2023, a revised final environmental scoping report has been submitted, dated August 2023, noted the following:

No field survey was carried out during the Scoping Phase, but a detailed analysis of aerial photography was done that notes and identified Line of planted stones within the study area, which relate to earlier farming activities in the area. The study was thus slightly limited because smaller, less visible sites are unlikely to be documented from the aerial photography. While sites were clearly visible from the aerial photography, such identification does not allow for an accurate determination of cultural significance which thus needs to be assumed until confirmed on site.

The cumulative impacts are difficult to assess due to the variable site conditions that would have been experienced in different areas and in different seasons. Survey quality is thus likely to be variable. As such, some assumptions need to be made in terms of what and how much heritage might be impacted by other developments in the broader area.

Based on the geology of the area and the palaeontological record as we know it, it can be assumed that the formation and layout of the dolomites, sandstones, shales and sands are typical for the country and only some contain trace fossils such as stromatolites or microbialites. The overlying soils and sands of the Quaternary

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period would not preserve fossils.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Development Application Unit (DAU) notes the heritage, archaeological and palaeontological studies along with the recommendations provided therein.

The Scoping HIA states the plan for the EIA phase is that fieldwork be conducted (see page 34 of the report) as such, SAHRA DAU notes the planned fieldwork and awaits revised field-based HIA report to be provided in the HIA.

Further comments will be issued upon submission of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (DEIA) report along with its associated appendices as well as a revised HIA with the fieldwork assessment included.

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

Yours faithfully

Annlin Matabane
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit

Igolide Wind Energy Facility (up to 100 MW) northeast of Fochville, within the Merafong City Local Municipality in the Gauteng Province.

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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/618696>
(DFFE, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2385)