Upington Solar Thermal plant phase Two (2)

Our Ref: 9/2/032/0001

Enquiries: Phillip Hine Edit view Tel: 021 462 4502

Edit view Email: phine@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 3977

Date: Tuesday May 26, 2015

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Final Comment

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

Attention: Abengoa Solar Power South Africa (Ptv) Ltd

128 10th Street

Parkmore Sandton

Abengoa Solar Power South Africa (Pty) Ltd is proposing the construction and operation of a commercial solar thermal electricity generating facility and associated infrastructure near Upington, Northern Cape Province. The project is known as the Upington Solar Thermal Plant Two, and is one of three Abengoa Solar CSP facilities proposed to be established on Portion 3 of the farm McTaggarts Camp 453. The Upington Solar Thermal PlantTwois proposed to utilise power tower technology with a generation capacity of up to 125MW. The site falls within Ward 8 of the Kai !Garib Local Municipality. .

Morris, D. March 2014. Proposed development of the Upington Solar Thermal Plant Two within Portion 3 of the farm McTaggarts Camp 453 west of Upington, Northern Cape: Archaeological Impact Assessment

Pether, J.N.D. Palaeontological Impact Assessment (Desktop Study) proposed Upington Solar Thermal Plant Two on (additional parts of) Portion 3 of the farm McTaggarts Camp 453, Gordonia District, Northern Cape.

Abengoa Solar Power South Africa (Pty) Ltd is proposing the construction and operation of the Upington Solar Thermal Plant Two electricity generating facility and associated infrastructure on Portion 3 of the farm McTaggarts Camp 453, Northern Cape Province. SAHRA issued an Interim Comment dated 19/11/2013 and requested a full Heritage Impact Assessment which includes a field-based archaeological survey. A Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment and a Desktop Palaeontological Assessment has been submitted in support of this application.

A previous archaeological assessment was undertaken on McTaggarts Camp 453 in 2010 and a Phase 2 mitigation assessment undertaken for the Middle Stone Age site. The current assessment did not yield any significant heritage resources. Some observations were made with very low artefact scatters. No further mitigation was recommended.

According to the submitted PIA, the proposed development is geologically situated within the Namaqua-Natal Metamorphic Province and is overlain by Kalahari Group sedimentary deposits. These formations have a low fossil potential and as such, it is unlikely that the proposed development will impact on significant fossil heritage. However, chance fossils may be encountered including snail shells, fossil tortoises, ostrich egg fragments, scattered bone fossils as well as trace fossils. Any fossils that are uncovered would be of high significance

Final Comment:

Based on the submitted information, SAHRA has no objection to the proposed development as it is unlikely that significant heritage resources will be impacted.



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Should any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, marine shell and charcoal/ash concentrations), rock art, unmarked human burials, fossils or other categories of heritage resources be found during the proposed activities, or in any future activities, SAHRA APM Unit (Phillip Hine/Colette Scheermeyer 021 462 4502) must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

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

Yours faithfully

Phillip Hine

SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting)

South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/137831

Edit view (DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/656)

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.

