

Interim Comment

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

Attention: BBEntropie (Pty) Ltd

Harmony Eland PV Solar Facility

The proposed project entails the construction of a small-scale photovoltaic (PV) facility and associated infrastructure on the Farms Farm Rietpan RE/17, Tochgekregen RE/99 and Wesselia 101 near Odendaalsruls, Free State Province. This PV facility is part of a larger project "Harmony" of three PV facilities in total.

An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) was submitted to the case:

Van der Walt, J. June 2015. Archaeological Impact Assessment for the Proposed Harmony Gold Eland PV facility in Welkom Free State Province.

As the proposed preferred area for the Eland PV facility was moved after the author undertook a field survey, the new area was subjected to superficial observations and a desktop study only. The new area contains buildings that may be older than 60 years.

The author undertook a desktop and field study on the previously proposed preferred area adjacent to the new area to assess the archaeological components. He identified, due to the disturbed nature of the area, no surface indicators of archaeological heritage resources. Demolished remains of mining related structures, probably less than 60 years old, occur. In their vicinity stone and brick cairns, postdating the mining structures, occur, which may indicate informal graves.

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SAHRA requires a field-based AIA to be conducted, should it be decided to develop the newly proposed preferred area. Regarding archaeological resources in the previously proposed area, SAHRA has no objections to the development subject to the conditions stated below.

1. The stone and brick cairns must be avoided and fenced off. The fence must contain a gate to allow access and must be built at least 5 m away from the graves. Developments are not allowed within 15 m of the fence surrounding the cairns.

No palaeontological component was included in the AIA. The PalaeoSensitivity Map on SAHRIS (<http://www.sahra.org.za/sahris/map/palaeo>) indicates an area of moderate palaeontological sensitivity for the



proposed preferred and alternative areas. Therefore a desktop study Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) is required to be conducted by a professional palaeontologist before development commences. A list of suitable palaeontologist is available on the website of the Palaeontological Society of Southern Africa (palaeontologicalsociety.co.za).

SAHRA will comment further on the case once a desktop PIA is submitted.

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

Yours faithfully

Ragna Redelstorff
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/289357>

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.

