



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 7956

Date: Wednesday March 24, 2021

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Letter

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

Attention: BBEntropie (Pty) Ltd

BBEntropie (Pty) Ltd, an Independent Power Producer (IPP), proposes the establishment of three small-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities and associated infrastructure on sites located within the boundary of properties owned by the Harmony Gold Mining Company Ltd near Odendaalsrus in the Free State Province. The three PV facilities are referred to as: Harmony Tshepong PV Solar Facility Harmony Eland PV Solar Facility Harmony Nyala PV Solar Facility Each facility will have a generating capacity of up to 10MW. The purpose of the proposed project is to generate electricity for exclusive use by the Harmony Gold Mining Company Ltd.

An amended Environmental Authorisation has been issued and submitted for the construction of a small-scale photovoltaic (PV) facility and associated infrastructure on the Farms Rietpan RE/17 and Rheederpark 443 near Odendaalsrus, Free State Province. This PV facility is part of a larger project "Harmony" of three PV facilities in total. The amendments include extension of the validity period of the EA to 8 December 2025; change of holder of the EA from BBEntropie (Pty) Ltd to Tshepong Photovoltaic (Pty) Ltd; use of a tracking system that raises the height of the PV panels from 4m to 5m; removal of water pipeline infrastructure; change in transformer capacity from 11kV to 33kV; a change in the overhead powerline capacity to 33kV to the Anglo Geduld Substation; delete sentence in condition 22 of the EA "The holder must notify the Department of its intention to amend the EMPr at least 60 days prior to submitting such amendments to the EMPr to the Department for approval"; change of wording in conditions 84 and 98 of the EA to include LED lights.

An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) and Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) were submitted to the original application:

VAN DER WALT, J. JUNE 2015. ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED HARMONY GOLD NYALA PV FACILITY IN WELKOM FREE STATE PROVINCE.

The author undertook a desktop and field study on the proposed preferred area to assess the archaeological components. He identified no surface indicators of archaeological heritage resources. Due to the late inclusion of the alternative location, the author undertook superficial observations and a desktop study only for this area and concludes that any surface indicators of heritage sites could have been destroyed due to agricultural



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activities. He recommends that should it be decided to use the alternative area, a field assessment should be conducted for this area.

BAMFORD, JULY 2015. PALAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THREE PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR FACILITIES FOR HARMONY GOLD MINING COMPANY, ODENDAALSRUS, FREE STATE PROVINCE.

The author summarises that the area of the proposed PV facility occurs within layers of the Permian Volksrust Formation, the potentially fossiliferous coals of which are of poor quality and lie too deep to be affected by the proposed development.

As this is a notification SAHRA was unable to provide input. However, as none of the amendments will affect the surface area, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objections against the proposed amendments of the Nyala PV facility subject to the following conditions as per the final comment dated 7/7/2015:

1. SAHRA requires a field-based AIA to be conducted should it be decided to develop the newly proposed alternative area (see AIA for details).
2. Should any objects of archaeological or palaeontological remains be found during construction activities, work must immediately stop in that area and the ECO must be informed.
3. The ECO must inform the South African Heritage Recourse Agency (SAHRA) and contact an archaeologist and/or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the find, to assess the importance and rescue them if necessary (with the relevant SAHRA permit). No work may be resumed in this area without the permission from the ECO and SAHRA.
4. If the newly discovered heritage resource is considered significant a Phase 2 assessment may be required. A permit from the responsible heritage authority will be needed.

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

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Yours faithfully

Ragna Redelstorff, PhD
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/289369>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1472)

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.