



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 8654

Date: Tuesday January 12, 2016
Page No: 1

Final Comment

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

Attention: ACED Renewable Hidden Valley (Pty) Ltd (Karusa Wind Farm Project Company)

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE KARUSA FACILITY SUBSTATION COMPLEX AND ANCILLARIES NEAR SUTHERLAND, NORTHERN CAPE. Project Name: The Proposed construction of the Karusa Facility Substation complex and ancillaries near Sutherland, Northern Cape. Applicant: ACED Renewable Hidden Valley (Pty) Ltd (Karusa Wind Farm Project Company) Proposed Activity: It is ACED Renewable Hidden Valley's (Karusa Wind Farm) intention to develop the authorised Karusa Wind Energy Facility (Department of Environmental Affairs' Ref: 12/12/20/2370/1). In order to evacuate the power from the Karusa Wind Energy Facility into the Eskom grid, the following infrastructure will be required: » The construction of the Karusa Facility Substation complex and ancillaries (Karusa Wind Farm Own-build); and » Construction of the Eskom Karusa Switching Station complex (under Eskom Self-build agreement) (located directly adjacent the Karusa Substation), including a facility metering installation (Karusa Wind Farm Own-build) and system metering installation (under Eskom Self-build agreement), and a 132kV double circuit power line (under Eskom Self-build agreement) which will connect the facility to the Komsberg MTS. Location: The following properties will be affected by the construction of the proposed power line, substation and switching station: » Farm De Hoop 202, Farm Rheebokke Fontein 209 RE, Farm Rheebokke Fontein 209 (portion 3) and Farm Standvastigheid 210.

The proposed project entails the construction of the Karusa Facility Substation complex and associated infrastructure on the farms De Hoop 202, Standvastigheid 210, Rheebokke Fontein 209 RE, and Portion 3 of the farm Rheebokke Fontein 209, near Sutherland, Northern Cape Province. The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit released an interim comment on 9 December 2015 to comment on the submitted Archaeological Impact Assessment and requesting a Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) or exemption letter, the latter of which was recently submitted to the application.

Almond, J.E. January 2016. Recommended Exemption from further Palaeontological Studies: Proposed Construction of the Eskom Karusa Switching Station Complex, 132 kV Double Circuit Overhead Power Line, Karusa Facility Substation Complex and Ancillary Developments near Sutherland, Northern Cape.

The author recommends an exemption from further studies on the grounds that during a previous PIA of the same area (Almond, 2015), fossil occurrences were scarce due to a pervasive cover by superficial sediments.



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Page No: 2

The superficial sediments overlie the potentially fossiliferous Abrahamskraal Formation (Lower Beaufort Group, Karoo Supergroup).

Final Comment

The SAHRA APM Unit accepts the exemption letter and has no objections against the proposed development. The following conditions must be adhered to:

1. Should any objects of archaeological or palaeontological remains be found during construction activities, work must immediately stop in that area and the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) must be informed.
2. The ECO must inform the South African Heritage Recourse Agency (SAHRA) and contact an archaeologist and/or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, 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.
3. 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.
4. The above conditions must be incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for implementation.

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



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Page No: 3

South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting)
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/341000>
(DEA, Ref:)

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.