

Our Ref: 8655

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CaseID: 8655

Date: Wednesday December 09, 2015

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Interim 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 ESKOM KARUSA SWITCHING STATION COMPLEX, 132KV DOUBLE CIRCUIT OVERHEAD POWER LINE AND ANCILLARIES NEAR SUTHERLAND, NORTHERN CAPE Project Name: The proposed construction of the Eskom Karusa Switching Station complex and a 132kV double circuit power line (all under a self-build agreement) to the Eskom Komsberg MTS 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 Rheeboeke Fontein 209 RE, Farm Rheeboeke Fontein 209 (portion 3) and Farm Standvastigheid 210.

The proposed project entails the construction of the Karusa Switching Station complex, overhead power lines and associated infrastructure on the farms De Hoop 202, Standvastigheid 210, Rheeboeke Fontein 209 RE, and Portion 3 of the farm Rheeboeke Fontein 209, near Sutherland, Northern Cape Province. A phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) was submitted with the application:

Booth, C. October 2015. A phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for the Proposed Eskom Karusa Switching Station, Ancillaries and a 132kV Double Circuit Overhead Power Line, near Sutherland, Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The author found two archaeological heritage resources (one stone artifact and two dry packed stone wall features) were found in the area proposed for the construction of the power line on the FramStandvastigheid 210. The power lines are considered to have no impact on the identified heritage resources as long as the pylons are micro-sited to avoid them.

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The PalaeoSensitivity Map on SAHRIS (<http://www.sahra.org.za/sahris/map/palaeo>) indicates very high palaeontological sensitivity for the proposed area. Therefore, the submission of a **field –based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA)**, conducted by a professional palaeontologist not longer than five years ago, is required. Alternatively, an exemption letter by a professional palaeontologist may be submitted.

Regarding archaeological heritage resources, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit accepts the submitted phase 1 AIA. Recommendations 1 to 3 in the phase 1 AIA and the following conditions must be strictly adhered to:

1. Should any objects of archaeological 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 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.

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

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



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Karusa Switching Station Complex & a132kV Double Circuit Power Line

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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/341016>
(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.



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