



SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY
111 HARRINGTON STREET, CAPE TOWN, 8001
PO BOX 4637, CAPE TOWN, 8000
TEL: 021 462 4502 FAX: 021 462 4509

FOR ATTENTION: SAHRA: Northern Cape

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SAHRA Contact Person: Mrs Portia Ramalamula
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REVIEW COMMENT ON
ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

BY ARCHAEOLOGIST OF HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY

South Africa has a unique and non-renewable archaeological heritage. Archaeological sites are protected in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999) and may not be disturbed without a permit. Archaeological Impact Assessments (ALAs) identify and assess the significance of the sites, assess the potential impact of developments upon such sites, and make recommendations concerning mitigation and management of these sites. On the basis of satisfactory specialist reports SAHRA or the relevant heritage resources agency can assess whether or not it has objection to a development and indicate the conditions upon which such development might proceed and assess whether or not to issue permission to destroy such sites.

ALAs often form part of the heritage component of an Environmental Impact Assessment or Environmental Management Plan. They may also form part of a Heritage Impact Assessment called for in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No. 25, 1999. They may have other origins. In any event they should comply with basic minimum standards of reporting as indicated in SAHRA Regulations and Guidelines.

This form provides review comment from the Archaeologist of the relevant heritage resources authority for use by Heritage Managers, for example, when informing authorities that have applied to SAHRA for comment and for inclusion in documentation sent to environmental authorities. It may be used in conjunction with Form B, which provides relevant peer review comment.

- A. PROVINCE: NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE
- B. REGIONAL MANAGER: Molebiemang Manong, Andrew Timothy, Joas Sinthumule
- C. AUTHOR(S) OF REPORT: Mr C Dreyer, Pr. Archaeologist/ Heritage Specialist, P.O. Box 12910, Brandhof, 9324, Bloemfontein, Tel: 051 444 1187, Fax: 051 444 4395, cell: 083 357 7982 dreyerj@telkomsa.net
- D. DATE OF REPORT: March 2006
- E. TITLE OF REPORT: First Phase Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Assessment of the Proposed concentrated Solar Thermal Plant (CSP) at the Farm Olyvenhouts drift, Upington, Bokpoort 390 and Tampansrus 294/295, Groblershoop, Northern Cape
- F. Please circle as relevant: Archaeological component of EIA / EMP / HIA / CMP Other (Specify)
- G. REPORT COMMISSIONED BY (CONSULTANT OR DEVELOPER): Nicolene Venter
- H. CONTACT DETAILS: Bohlweki Environmental (Pty)Ltd, P.O. Box 11784, Vorna Valley, Midrand, 1686, South Africa, Telephone:011 466 3841, Fax: 011 466 3849, e-mail: info@bohlweki.co.za
- I. COMMENTS:

Please see comment on next page.....

C Dreyer, March 2006, Received 31 July 2006

First Phase Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Assessment of the Proposed Concentrated Solar Thermal Plant (CSP) at the Farms Olyvenhouts Drift, Upington, Bokpoort 390 and Tamansrus 294/295, Groblershoop, Northern Cape

Three potential sites, the farms Olyvenhouts Drift, Upington, and Bokpoort 390 and Tamansrus 294/295 in the district of Groblershoop, Northern Cape were surveyed with regard to the development of a concentrated solar thermal plant (CPS) and related infrastructure. The footprint of the proposed development will be approximately 4 square kilometres of terrain. It is foreseen that 6000 heliostats (large two-axis tracking mirrors), each taking up 130m² will be installed within the heliostat field. The following archaeological finds were identified:

Olyvenhouts Drift:

- a) A heavily soldered food tin resembling British rations from the Anglo-Boer War;
- b) A variety of surface stone flakes and cores, probably from the Middle Stone Age.

Bokpoort 390:

- a) A small collection of stone flakes.

Tampansrus 294/295:

- a) A diversity of stone flakes

These finds are regarded as be of minor significance, and the stone artefacts are of low density. No other cultural, historical or palaeontological components were found during the investigation, nor were there any buildings, graves or burial grounds in the area.

However, we would be more confident in this assessment if there were some indication that the data recording centre at the McGregor Museum had been consulted and no pertinent records were on record. Furthermore the references added are not pertinent to this area.

The difference in the significance of the archaeology and cultural heritage at the three sites is insignificant and there is no clear preference for any one of the three possible sites. It is recommended that, depending on the findings of the other specialists, the most practical site be selected and that the development of the installation proceeds.

In terms of section 35 of the National Heritage Resources Act (archaeology and -palaeontology) there is no objection to the development although if any sites, graves or other features be found during construction or mining, an archaeologist should be alerted immediately. Decisions on Built Environment and Cultural Landscapes must be made by the Northern Cape Provincial Heritage Authority (Mr Joas Sinthumule jsinthumule@bp.ncape.gov.za) to whom this Comment will be sent as well. Should sites, graves or other features be found during construction or mining, an archaeologist should be alerted immediately.

NAME OF ARCHAEOLOGIST PROCESSING REPORT: Portia Ramalamula.....
SIGNATURE OF SAHRA HEAD ARCHAEOLOGIST: *M. Leslie*
EMAIL: mleslie@sahra.org.za
NAME OF HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY: SAHRA

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