

SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY
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FOR ATTENTION: PHRA : Eastern Cape

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SAHRA File No: **9/2/044/0001**
Date Received: **November 2010**
Date of Comment: **25 August 2011**
Sent to Peer Review:
Date to Peer Review:
SAHRA Contact Person: **Dr Mariagrazia Galimberti**

REVIEW COMMENT ON

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

BY ARCHAEOLOGY / PALAEOLOGY UNIT OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY

South Africa has a unique and non-renewable archaeological and palaeontological heritage. Archaeological and palaeontological 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 (AIAs) and Palaeontological Impact Assessments (PIAs) 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 and 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. AIAs and PIAs 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. PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY: **Eastern Cape PHRA**.....
- B. AUTHOR(S) OF REPORT: **J Binneman**
- C. ARCHAEOLOGY CONTRACT GROUP: **Eastern Cape Heritage Consultants**
- D. CONTACT DETAILS: **PO Box 689, Jeffreys Bay, 6330. Tel: 042 2960399, E-mail: kobusreichert@yahoo.com**
- E. DATE OF REPORT: **November 2010**
- F. TITLE OF REPORT: **An Archaeological Destop Study for the Proposed Happy Valley Wind Energy Facility, Kou-Kamma Municipality, Humansdorp District, Eastern Cape Province**
- G. Please circle as relevant: Archaeological component of **EIA / EMP / HIA / CMP/ Other (Specify)**
- H. REPORT COMMISSIONED BY (CONSULTANT OR DEVELOPER): **Savannah Environmental**
- I. CONTACT DETAILS: **PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157, Tel: 011 2346621, E-mail: Karen@savannahsa.com**
- J. COMMENTS:

REVIEW COMMENT ON HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

J Binneman
August 2011, Received: November 2010

An Archaeological Desktop Study for the Proposed Happy Valley Wind Energy Facility. Kou-Kamma Municipality, Humansdorp District, Eastern Cape Province

The proposed development entails a wind energy facility on approximately 4.8 square kilometres, situated seven kilometres north-west of Humansdorp. The area is mainly agricultural land.

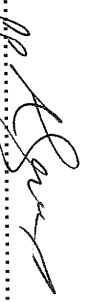
The author notes that little is known about the archaeology of the immediate area but that the wider region is rich in archaeological sites and that similar sites and materials may be found in the proposed development area.

The author recommends that a full Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment be conducted to establish whether sites exist in the project area, and the range and importance of such heritage resources.


The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorite unit supports the recommendations of the author and requires that;

- A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is conducted for the project.
- This should include an Archaeological Impact Assessment or specialist study. As indicated in the desktop study, the project is intended on a sensitive terrain archaeologically and therefore an assessment must be done to establish this.
- A Palaeontological Impact Assessment or specialist study must be conducted as a component of the HIA. Where a full study may be deemed unnecessary by the palaeontologist, SAHRA will require that a letter of exemption from that specialist.
- The impact on Built environment and cultural landscapes must also form part of the HIA. This component of the report will be assessed by the Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (ECPHRA).

Once these reports are submitted, SAHRA and the ECPHRA will review them and provide counsel on the way forward.

SIGNATURE OF ARCHAEOLOGIST PROCESSING REPORT: 

EMAIL: mgallimberti@sahra.org.za

SIGNATURE OF SAHRA HEAD ARCHAEOLOGIST: 

EMAIL: ndobochani@sahra.org.za

NAME OF HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY: SAHRA

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COMMENT (ABOVE OR APPENDED) CONSTITUTES THE COMMENT OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY ARCHAEOLOGIST AND THAT ANY DEVELOPMENT THAT INVOLVES DESTRUCTION OF ANY ARCHAEOLOGICAL/PALAEONTOLOGICAL SITE IS STILL SUBJECT TO A PERMIT/PERMISSION FOR DESTRUCTION OF SUCH SITE GIVEN TO THE DEVELOPER BY THE RELEVANT HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALAEONTOLOGICAL PERMIT COMMITTEE (THIS WILL BE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE PHASE 2 OR ARCHAEOLOGICAL/ PALAEONTOLOGICAL MITIGATION AS NECESSARY). THIS REPORT MAY BE TAKEN ONLY AS APPROVAL IN TERMS OF SECTION 35 OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT. THE PROVINCIAL MANAGER OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY MUST ADVISE AS TO APPROVAL IN TERMS OF HERITAGE ISSUES ENCOMPASSED BY OTHER ASPECTS OF THE LEGISLATION, SUCH AS ISSUES OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (STRUCTURES (E.G. FARM HOUSES), OVER 60 YEARS), INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS OR OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPES AS THIS IS NOT WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGIST.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SAHRA IS NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR GRADE I HERITAGE RESOURCES (AND EXPORT) AND THE PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR GRADE II AND GRADE III HERITAGE RESOURCES, EXCEPT WHERE THERE IS AN AGENCY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY.