



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
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CaseID: 11319

Date: Monday November 27, 2017
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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Sivest - Gauteng

PO BOX 2921
Rivonia
2128

Proposed Construction of the Tlisitseng 1 132kV Substation and Power Line near Lichtenburg, North West Province: Final Basic Assessment Report.

Sivest Environmental Division has been appointed by Biotherm Energy (Pty) Ltd to conduct a Basic Assessment Process for the proposed construction of the Tlisiteng 1 132kV Substation and Power Line near Lichtenburg, North West Province. A Final Basic Assessment Report (BAR) has been submitted in support of the Environmental Authorisation Application in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA), NEMA 2017 EIA Regulations. The proposed development will include a 3.1 km 132kV powerline from the proposed Tlisiteng 1 substation (2.25 ha footprint, 2 alternatives are being considered) to the existing Watershed Main Transmission substation.

PGS Heritage (Pty) Ltd was appointed to provide Heritage input into the BAR.

Fourie, W. 2017. Heritage Impact Assessment: Tlisiteng Project – Tlisiteng 1 Substation and Power Line.

No archaeological heritage resources were identified within the proposed development area. Stromatolites were identified within the development area; however, these will be discussed in the PIA section below.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Include section on possible heritage finds in the induction prior to construction activities take place;
- Implement chance finds procedures in case where possible heritage finds are made.

Groenewald, G. 2017. Palaeontological Assessment Report: Tlisiteng Project – Tlisiteng 1 Substation and Power Line.

The proposed development area is underlain by Vaalian aged Monte Christo Formation of the Malmani



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Subgroup. This formation is known to contain stromatolite structures and is very highly sensitive. Stromatolites found out of context were identified within the proposed development area. Possible cave breccias will only be confirmed after completion of the geotechnical survey.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The EAP and ECO of the project must be informed of the slight possibility that significant stromatolites structures and cave breccias might be exposed during excavation of foundations deeper than 1.5m. Field observation indicated that most the development site is underlain by deep soils and gravel deposits with a low significance for palaeontological heritage;
- No further mitigation for Palaeontological heritage is recommended before completion of geotechnical surveys. If any significant stromatolites structures or cave breccias are however observed, the palaeontologist must be informed immediately for appropriate action;
- Include section on possible palaeontological heritage finds in the induction prior to construction activities take place;
- Implement chance finds procedures in case where possible palaeontological heritage finds are made;
- It is recommended that a palaeontologist be appointed to monitor geotechnical investigations as part of a watching brief.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 11/08/2017, SAHRA requested that the Environmental Reports appendices be uploaded and the location of the development must be mapped on the GIS Layer of the case application before further comments could be issued.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeological, Palaeontological and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objection to the development and supports the recommendations of the specialists as referred to above. The recommendations of the specialists and the following conditions apply to the development and must be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

- Reports of the palaeontological monitoring watching brief must be submitted to SAHRA upon completion of the construction phase;
- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted. If unmarked human burials are

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uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately. A professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA.

- SAHRA must be notified regarding the EA Application decision and all relevant documents must be submitted to the case file.

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

Yours faithfully

Natasha Higgitt
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/405475>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1745)

Terms & Conditions:

Trisitseng 1 132kV Substation and Power Line near Lichtenburg, North West Province

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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.