

Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of a Transmission Line and associated electrical infrastructure to support the proposed Kap Vley Wind Energy Facility, south-east of Kleinzee, Northern Cape Province

Our Ref:



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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Date: Friday July 06, 2018
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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: juwi Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd

Juwi Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd (hereinafter referred to as “juwi”), through its project company Kap Vley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd, proposes to construct and operate the Kap Vley Wind Energy Facility (WEF) and associated electrical infrastructure 30 km south-east of Kleinzee in the Northern Cape (see Figure A1.1). The proposed Kap Vley WEF will connect to Eskom’s Gromis Substation located on the remainder of the Farm Dikgat 195, or closer to the new proposed Eskom substation for which the location still needs to be finalised, via a 132 kV powerline. juwi is also proposing the development of electrical infrastructure to connect the abovementioned Kap Vley WEF to the Gromis or proposed Eskom Substation, and to ensure that the electricity generated by the proposed WEF feeds into the national grid. The associated powerline to support the proposed Kap Vley WEF is the subject of this Basic Assessment (BA) process. Electrical infrastructure will be constructed within a 200m wide assessed electrical infrastructure corridor.

The CSIR was appointed by juwi Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd to conduct a Basic Assessment Process in support of an Environmental Authorisation Application for the proposed construction and operation of electrical grid infrastructure to support the Proposed 300MW Kap Vley Wind Energy Facility, near Kleinzee, Northern Cape Province.

A draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) has been completed in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 EIA Regulations. The proposed development will include the construction of a 132KV line and an on-site substation. Three route alternatives for the powerline have been assessed ranging from 34 km – 40 km with a servitude of 40 m. The preferred route is Alternative 1.

ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed to conduct the Heritage Component of the BAR process.

Orton, J. 2017. Heritage Impact Assessment: Proposed Electrical Infrastructure to support the Kap Vley Wind Energy Facility, Namakwaland Magisterial District, Northern Cape Province.

A total of 10 heritage resources were identified, which include a stone farm beacon, surface occurrences of artefacts of low significance, a moderately dense artefact scatter of low-medium significance and one very dense deflation hollow of high significance. A total of four structures were identified within 500 m of the routes,

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and are not likely to be impacted.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Powerlines and service roads to avoid deflation hollows as far as possible;
- A pre-construction walk down of the final chosen alignment will need to be done with special emphasis on the deflation hollows; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, then work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Pether, J. 2017. Palaeontological Assessment (Desktop Study): Proposed Kap Vley Wind Energy Facility Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape.

The proposed development area is located within the Springbok Formation which does not contain fossils. The slopes of the ridges and surficial coversands may contain alluvial deposits that may contain sparse fossil material. The overall impact of the proposed development on palaeontological material is rated as low.

It is recommended that a requirement to be alert for possible fossils and buried archaeological material be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the Construction Phases of the Kap Vley WEF powerline, with a Fossil Finds Procedure in place. In the event of the exposure of fossil bones all work at that spot must cease and the Environmental Control Office (ECO) must inform SAHRA and a professional palaeontologist, who will then decide if avoidance or mitigation are preferred. Only a professional palaeontologist may excavate uncovered fossils with a valid mitigation permit from SAHRA.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development and supports the recommendations of the heritage specialists. The recommendations of the specialists and the following conditions must be included in the Final EMP:

- A walk-down of the final layout must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and the results of the walk-down must be submitted to SAHRA for review and comment. No construction may occur without comment from SAHRA on the walk-down report;
- Should it be necessary to mitigate the archaeological sites, a permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA and Chapter II and III of the NHRA Regulations must be applied for prior to construction. No mitigation

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measures may be implemented without a permit issued by SAHRA for the specified work;

- A Heritage Management Plan (HMP) must be developed and implemented as part of the EMPr for the in-situ management of all heritage resources located within the development boundary. This HMP must be submitted to SAHRA for review prior to construction;
- A Chance Finds Procedure and Fossil Finds Procedure must be developed and implemented as part of the EMPr. These procedures must be submitted to SAHRA for review and comment prior to construction;
- The Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
- 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 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;
- Should the project be granted Environmental Authorisation, SAHRA must be notified and all relevant documents 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

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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/508498>
(, 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.