



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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CaseID: 13468

Date: Monday March 18, 2019
Page No: 1

Final Comment

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

Attention: Khoi-Sun Development (Pty) Ltd

The Skuitdrift 2 Solar PV Energy Facility received Environmental Authorisation in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2010, on 26 June 2013 (DEA Ref.: 12/12/20/2600). The EMPr of the project was approved as part of the Environmental Authorisation. The project has received preferred bidder status under the Small Projects IPP Procurement Programme's second round in 2017, from the Department of Energy. Construction of the facility is expected to commence shortly after financial close.

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Skuitdrift Solar Project (Pty) Ltd to revise the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the authorised Skuitdrift 2 Solar PV Energy Facility, near Augrabies, Northern Cape Province (DEA Ref: 12/12/20/2600). An EMPr has been submitted as per the National Environmental Management Act, No 107 of 1998 (NEMA), NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations to include the findings of the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) and the requirements of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) granted to the project. SAHRIS Case ID 202 has reference (<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/cases/khoi-sun-skuitdrift-2600>).

A requirement of the EA was that a heritage walkdown of the final layout be conducted by a qualified archaeologist. The McGregor Museum was appointed to conduct the walk-down.

Morris, D. 2017. Skuitdrift 2 Solar PV Energy Facility near Pofadder, Northern Cape: Archaeology Specialist Walk-through Survey.

A total of 16 surface occurrences of heritage resources were identified as a result of the walk-through. These include Middle and Later Stone Age lithics. All the identified heritage resources were rated as resources of low heritage significance. No further recommendations were provided.

Conditions provided in the EMPr include the following:

- Avoidance of inselbergs / koppies within and outside development area and quartz patches as far as possible;
- Report archaeological occurrences found during earthworks to NCHRA & SAHRA.



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The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit supports to results of the specialist and the conditions provided in the EMPr. The recommendations of the specialist and the following conditions must be included in the EMPr:

- The Final 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 as per section 35(3) and 36(6) of the NHRA. 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 would also recommend that the conditions provided for the management of impacts to heritage resources provided in the Skuitdrift 1 EMPr also be included in the Skuitdrift 1 EMPr. These include:

- Areas required to be cleared during construction must be clearly marked in the field to avoid unnecessary disturbance of adjacent areas (which will not be surveyed in detail by a heritage specialist);
- Contractors must be informed before construction starts on the possible types of heritage sites and cultural material they may encounter and the procedures to follow when they find sites. All staff should also be familiarised with procedures for dealing with heritage objects/sites;
- A heritage specialist must be appointed to familiarise all staff and contractors with procedures for dealing with heritage objects/sites;
- Project employees and any contract staff must maintain, at all times, a high level of awareness of the possibility of discovering heritage sites;
- In the event that fossils resources are discovered during excavations, immediately stop excavation in the vicinity of the potential material. Mark (flag) the position and also spoil that may contain fossils. Inform the site foreman, the EO and the ECO. EO to inform the developer, the

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developer contacts the standby archaeologist and/or palaeontologist. EO to describe the occurrence and provide images by email.

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/520972>
(DEA, Ref: 12/12/20/2600)

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.