

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
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 14398

Date: Monday October 28, 2019
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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 Ithemba Wind Farm near Loeriesfontein, Northern Cape Province

Sivest SA (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Amendment Application to amend the authorised Ithemba Wind Farm near Loeriesfontein, Northern Cape Province (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1016/AM2).

A draft EA Amendment Assessment Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, No 107 of 1998 (NEMA), NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed amendments include increasing the turbine hub height from 160 m up to 200 m; and increasing the rotor diameter from 160 m up to 200 m. These increases may result in the reduction with the number of turbines to be constructed. The impacts regarding visual and noise impacts were found to be the same from the original assessment as noted in SAHRIS Case ID 11255

(<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/cases/proposed-construction-ithemba-wind-farm-near-loeriesfontein>).

A letter has been submitted by PGS Heritage (Pty) Ltd regarding the proposed amendments.

Fourie, W. 2019. Proposed construction of the 235MW Graskoppies, 235MW Hartebeest Leegte, 235MW Ithemba and the 235MW !Xha Boom Wind Farms near Loeriesfontein, Northern Cape Province: Heritage Statement.

The author found that the proposed amendments would not change the findings of the previous HIA submitted for the project.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and

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section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final Amendment Assessment Report and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit notes that there will be no additional impacts to heritage resources as a result of the amendments and has no objections to the proposed amendments to the authorised development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations provided by the heritage specialists provided in SAHRIS Case ID 11255 are still valid and are supported and must be adhered to. The conditions provided by SAHRA in the Final Comment issued for SAHRIS Case ID 11255 on 20/11/2017 must be adhered to.
- 38(4)c(i) – 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 as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – 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 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
 - i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. 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;
 - The Final EA Amendment Assessment Report and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
 - The decision regarding the EA Amendment Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

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

Yours faithfully

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Natasha Higgitt
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/529356>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1016/AM2)

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.