



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: 14645

Date: Monday January 13, 2020  
Page No: 1

## Final Comment

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

Attention: McTaggarts PV2 (PTY) Ltd

**Applicant: McTaggarts PV3 (PTY) Ltd** The development of four (4) separate solar photovoltaic (PV) facilities, each with a contracted capacity of up to 75MW located ~20km south-west of Upington within the Upington Renewable Energy Development Zone (or REDZ 7). The projects are located in the Kai !Garib Local Municipality and within the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality in the Northern Cape. The Dawid Kruiper Local Municipality is located directly to the east.

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by McTaggarts PV3 (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed McTaggarts PV3 Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, near Upington, Northern Cape Province.

A Basic Assessment Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed activities include the construction of PV panels, inverter stations, temporary laydown area, cabling between components, a 22kV or 33kV/132kV on-site substation, access road, internal access roads, and operation and maintenance buildings covering 260 ha. The proposed development is located within the Upington Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ).

Professor Marion Bamford and Cedar Tower Services (Pty) Ltd have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the BAR process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

*Lavin, J. 2019. Heritage Impact Assessment in terms of section 38(8) of the NHRA for the Proposed development of McTaggarts PV3, a solar PV facility and associated infrastructure of portion 3 of the farm McTaggarts 453 and portion 22 of the farm Klip Punt 452 near Upington in the Northern Cape Province.*

The report above used the results of the following two reports below to conduct the Heritage Impact Assessment. It must be noted that the reports assessed the grid connection and other parts of the Khunab project, which is not part of the current NEMA application. Only results pertaining to the PV 3 development will be discussed below.



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*Bamford, M. 2019. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed development of the Khunab Solar Development and Khunab Solar Grid Connection to the west of Upington, Northwest Province (sic).*

The proposed McTaggarts PV 3 development area is underlain by alluvial and aeolian sediments of the Gordonia Formation. These sediments do not preserve fossils and no palaeo-pans or palaeo-channels have been recorded in the area. Impact to palaeontological resources would be very unlikely. A Chance Fossil Finds Procedure is recommended and provided in the report.

*Lavin, J and Engelbrecht, J. 2019. Archaeological Specialist Study in terms of section 38(8) of the NHRA for a proposed development of the Khunab Solar Development and Khunab Solar Grid connection, Upington, in the Northern Cape Province.*

One surface scatter of Stone Age lithics was identified of negligible cultural significance. No other heritage resources were identified within the proposed development area.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Although all possible care has been taken to identify sites of cultural importance during the investigation of the study area, it is always possible that hidden or subsurface sites could be overlooked during the assessment. 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 36(6) of the NHRA. A professional archaeologist must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. A Phase 2 rescue excavation operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA.

## Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final BAR and EMP:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit no objections to the

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proposed development;

- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. No further additional specific conditions are provided for the development;
- 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 BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
  - The decision regarding the EA 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

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Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/531835>  
(DEA, 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.