



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: 14884

Date: Thursday March 12, 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: SiVEST SA (Pty) Ltd

### **Proposed Development of the Mooi Plaats On-site Eskom Substation, Eskom Collector Substation and associated 132kV Power Line near Noupoort in the Northern Cape Province**

Sivest SA (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Mooi Plaats Solar Power (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application process for the proposed Mooi Plaats on-site Eskom substation, Eskom Collector Substation and associated 132kV powerline near Noupoort in the Northern Cape Province.

A draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include a 132KV powerline (13.34 km) and substations. A corridor of between 400 m and 900 m wide has been assessed as part of the EA application.

Banzai Environmental and PGS Heritage (Pty) Ltd has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA process as per section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA.

*Butler, E. 2019. Palaeontological Field Assessment for the proposed Solar PV Facilities, Northern and Eastern Cape.*

*\*Only the results for the Mooi Plaats Grid infrastructure will be discussed below.*

The proposed development area is underlain by the Adelaide Subgroup with a small section located in the Tarkastad Subgroup and a smaller section located in the Karoo Dolerite Suite. These rocks are overlain by Quaternary aeolian and superficial deposits. No fossils are evident in the Karoo Dolerite Suite, while the Adelaide Subgroup is known to include vertebrate and invertebrate fossils, plant remains and trace fossils. Some vertebrate fossils are known to be present in the Tarkastad Subgroup rocks including fossil fish, millipedes and trace fossils. Quaternary group fossils are rare and include mammalian fossils, reptiles, shells, plant remains, stromatolites and trace fossils. One in-situ Lystrosaurus skull from the Tarkastad Subgroup was identified on Mooi Plaats 121, approximately 80 m from Powerline Route Alternative 2.



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Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- It is recommended that a 50 m buffer will be placed around the *Lystrosaurus* skull. It has been identified as Highly Sensitive and No-go area.
- In the event that construction is necessary in this sensitive area, it is recommended that the fossil be collected by a professional palaeontologist. Preceding excavation of any fossil material, the specialist would need to apply for a collection permit from SAHRA. Fossil material must be curated in an accredited collection (museum or university collection), while all fieldwork and reports should meet the minimum standards for palaeontological impact studies suggested by SAHRA;
- A Chance Fossils Finds Procedure has been recommended and provided in the report.

*Fourie, W. 2019. Heritage Impact Report: Proposed Umsobomvu Solar PV Energy Facilities.*

*\*Only the results for the Mooi Plaats Grid infrastructure will be discussed below.*

No heritage resources were identified within the Mooi Plaats Grid. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be implemented.

### 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 EMPr:

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



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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;
- As the BAR has been finalised without a Final Comment from SAHRA, this comment must be forwarded directly to the competent authority for their consideration in the decision-making process as per section 38(8) of the NHRA. Proof of the delivery and receipt thereof must be uploaded to the SAHRIS case for record purposes;
- 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  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Our Ref:



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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/534628>  
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2132)

**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.