



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 15492

Date: Friday October 16, 2020
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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: Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners

PO Box 2070
George
6530

Dyasons Klip 5 PV Project, Upington, Northern Cape Province

Cape EAPrac has been appointed by Dyasons Klip 5 (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Dyasons Klip 5 PV facility with associated infrastructure, near Upington, Northern Cape Province.

A Draft Basic Assessment Report (DABR) 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 project will include PV panels, laydown area, internal roads, auxiliary buildings, facility substation, battery storage area, rainwater tanks, perimeter fencing and security infrastructure, inverter stations, transformers and internal electrical reticulation, overhead 132kV grid connection within a development area of approximately 267 ha.

Natura Viva CC and Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting 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).

Almond, J. E. 2020. Recommended Exemption from Further Palaeontological Studies: Proposed Dyasons Klip 5 Solar Photovoltaic Facility on the Remainder of the Farm Dyasonsklip 454 and Associated Connection to the National Grid via the Upington Main Transmission Substation, ZF Mgcawu District Municipality near Upington, Northern Cape.

The proposed development area is underlain by unfossiliferous Precambrian basement rocks as well as Late Caenozoic windblown sands, calcretes and alluvial deposits of the Kalahari Group of low to very low palaeontological sensitivity. A Chance Fossil Finds Procedure is recommended.



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Van der Walt, J. 2020. Heritage Impact Assessment for the Dyasons Klip 5 PV Project, Upington, Northern Cape Province.

A total of 37 heritage resources were identified within the proposed development area. These include Middle and Later Stone Age lithic surface scatters of low to medium significance and historical mining trenches of low significance. Ten stone cairns of unknown purpose were identified within the development area. It is unclear if these cairns are burials and are thus rated as heritage resources of high significance. Several identified heritage resources will be directly impacted by the proposed development including the stone cairns.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

Compilation of a development heritage management plan for the Remainder of the farm Dyasons Klip 454 prior to construction;

- In order to mitigate the cumulative impact on Stone Age background scatter by several PV facilities in the area it is recommended that a surface sample of the artefacts should be analysed in the field to accurately describe the typology of the various lithic industries prior to construction at Waypoint 58;
- Although unlikely the stone cairns at Waypoint 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 386, 387, 390 and 392 could represent graves and it is therefore recommended that these are tested by non-intrusive methods like Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) to inform the heritage management plan;
- Implementation of a chance find procedure for both the archaeological and palaeontological components;
- Heritage walkdown of the final power line alignment.

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 has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development include the following:

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- A report with the results of the in-field analysis of waypoint 58 must be submitted to the SAHRIS application for further review and comment prior to construction;
- A permit in terms of section 35(4)d must be applied for the proposed GPR testing to be conducted at waypoints 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 386, 387, 390 and 392. No testing may occur without a permit issued for this purpose;
- The Heritage Management Plan must be submitted to the SAHRIS application prior to the construction phase for review;
- A report detailing the results of the walkdown of the final powerline alignment must be submitted to the SAHRIS application for review and comment prior to construction;
- 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 on the SAHRIS Case application 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

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/539818>

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.