

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
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
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CaseID: 15641

Date: Tuesday November 17, 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: ABO Wind Aggeneys 2 PV (Pty) Ltd

ABO Wind Aggeneys 2 PV (Pty) Ltd is proposing amendments to the environmental authorisation for the inclusion of the construction and operation of a Battery Energy Storage (BESS) for the authorised Aggeneys 2 PV facility, with a capacity of up to 500MW/500MWh into the project description of the Environmental Authorisation (EA). The BESS will be developed within the authorised development footprint of Aggeneys 2 PV facility, within the authorised laydown area for Aggeneys 1 and within one of the two authorised laydown areas for Aggeneys 2. The BESS will have an extent of no more than 5ha. The BESS will connect to the authorised on-site facility substation of the Aggeneys 2 PV facility via underground cables.

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by ABO Wind Aggeneys 2 PV (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Amendment Application process for the authorised Aggeneys 2 PV Facility, near Aggeneys, Northern Cape Province (DEA Ref.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2020).

A draft Motivation 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 amendment will include the installation of a battery energy storage system (BESS) within the authorised laydown footprint covering less than 5 ha.

A previous SAHRIS Case ID 13729 has reference (<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/cases/aggeneys-pv-2-solar>). In the Final Comment issued on 24/05/2019, SAHRA noted no objections to the original EA application and provided conditions for the development.

ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA Amendment application report 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).

Orton, J. 2020. Aggeneys 1 Part 2 Amendment: Heritage Comments

No heritage resources were previously identified within the development footprint where the BESS is proposed

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Page No: 2

to be situated. The existing requirements of the HIA must still 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 Motivation Report and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed amendment to the authorised development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. The specific conditions provided in the Final Comment (<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/523434>) issued on SAHRIS Case ID 13729 are still valid and 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 Motivation 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.

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Page No: 3

Yours faithfully

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/542127>
(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.