

Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of Seven 9.9MW Internal Combustion Engines (ICE) on the Remaining Extent of Farm Bokpoort 390, Groblershoop, Northern Cape

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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Date: Tuesday January 26, 2021

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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: Mr Prabashen Govender
ACWA Power Energy Africa (Pty) Ltd

ACWA Power Energy Africa (Pty) Ltd (hereafter referred to as ACWA Power) is proposing to develop seven individual 9.9MW Internal Combustion Engines (ICE) on the authorised 200MW Pedi, Venda, Zulu, Afrikaans, Ndebele, Swati and Sotho PV Plants on the Remaining Extent (RE) of the Farm Bokpoort 390, located 20km north-west of the town of Groblershoop within the !Kheis Local Municipality in the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

Royal Haskoning DHV has been appointed by ACWA Power Energy Africa (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application process for the proposed development of seven 9.9MW internal combustion engines (ICE) on the remaining extent of farm Bokpoort 390, Groblershoop, Northern Cape Province. The development of seven ICE will take place at the following authorised PV plants:

- Pedi PV Plant (Ref 14/12/16/3/3/1/2150);
- Venda PV Plant (Ref 14/12/16/3/3/1/2142);
- Zulu PV Plant (Ref 14/12/16/3/3/1/2151);
- Afrikaans PV Plant (Ref 14/12/16/3/3/1/2147);
- Ndebele PV Plant (Ref 14/12/16/3/3/1/2149);
- Swati PV Plant (Ref 14/12/16/3/3/1/2146); and
- Sotho PV Plant (Ref 14/12/16/3/3/1/2145).

One draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for all seven proposed developments. The proposed developments will include the construction of an Internal Combustion engine, each covering 1.5 ha.

In a previous SAHRIS Application (SAHRIS Case ID 14976

<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/cases/basic-assessment-processes-eight-new-photovoltaic-pv-plants-well-increase-capacity-and>), a Final Comment was issued on the 01/04/2020 noting no objections to the development of the PV plants and provided conditions (<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/535754>).

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Natura Viva CC and Dr Van Schalkwyk were 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).

Almond, J. E. 2020. Addendum to the Palaeontological Heritage Assessment for the Bokpoort Solar Power Facility on the Remaining Extent of Farm Bokpoort 390 near Groblershoop, Northern Cape Province.

The specialist confirmed that the addition of the ICE at each development footprint would result in zero change to the significance rating of the original palaeontological assessment. No further mitigation measures are required.

Van Schalkwyk, J. A. 2020. Specialist Input for the Amendment of the Environmental Authorisation (EA): As part of the Farm Bokpoort 390 near Groblershoop, !Kheis Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The specialist confirmed that the proposed amendments would not result in additional impacts and will not increase the level or nature of the impact that was initially assessed. No additional recommendations were provided.

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 has no objections to the proposed amendment to the authorised developments;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development as follows;
- The conditions contained within the Interim Comment issued on the 01/04/2020 on SAHRIS Case ID 14976 are 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

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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 uploaded to the SAHRIS application 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

Natasha Higgitt
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/550698>
(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.