

Development of the 40MW Kokerboom 4 Wind Energy Facility, Battery Energy Storage System and Associated Infrastructure, near Loeriesfontein in the Northern Cape Province

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 16419

Date: Thursday June 03, 2021
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Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Business Venture Investments No 2105 (Pty) Ltd

Business Venture Investments No. 1733 (Pty) Ltd (BVI) proposes to construct a 40MW wind energy facility (WEF) and associated infrastructure on the remaining extent (RE) of farm Aan de Karree Doorn Pan, farm No.213 within ward 5 of the Hantam Local Municipality. The proposed site is located approximately 60 kilometre (km) north of Loeriesfontein, 85 km west of Brandvlei and 160 km south east of Springbok in the Namakwa District Municipality, in the Northern Cape

Zutari (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Business Venture Investments No. 2105 (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed development of the Kokerboom 4 Wind Energy Facility, battery energy storage system and associated infrastructure on Farm RE 213, near Loeriesfontein, Northern Cape Province.

A Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include 8 wind turbines, a facility substation, operation and maintenance building, BESS, underground cabling between project components, hardstands at each turbine, service and access roads, laydown areas with storage and workshops areas and batching plant.

Natura Viva CC and ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd were appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA, and in terms of section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA.

Almond, J. E. 2021. Palaeontological Heritage Assessment: Site Sensitivity Report & Letter of Exemption from Further Specialist Studies Proposed Kokerboom 3 and Kokerboom 4 Wind Farms near Loeriesfontein, Namaqua District Municipality, Northern Cape.

The proposed development area is underlain by fossiliferous sediments of the Ecca Group that are poorly exposed and deeply weathered and extensively intruded by unfossiliferous igneous rocks. Fossils that may present include low diversity trace fossils that occur widely. These rocks are overlain by late Caenozoic superficial deposits that do not contain many fossils. No fossils were identified during the field assessments.

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Recommendations include the need for a Chance Finds Procedure.

Orton, J. 2021. Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Kokerboom 4 Wind Energy Facility on Farm 213/Rem, north of Loeriesfontein, Calvinia Magisterial District, Northern Cape

A total of 9 heritage resources were identified within the proposed development footprint. These include surface scatters of Stone Age lithics of very low to medium heritage significance, ostrich eggshell fragments, and scatters of historical artefacts such as glass bottles, earthenware, porcelain and metal items. It is noted that the development is designed to avoid impacts to heritage resources.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The final layout must be examined in the field by an archaeologist prior to construction with recommendations made for mitigation as required;
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development then the find should be protected from further disturbance and work in the immediate area should be halted if necessary. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) notes the submitted heritage reports. Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the draft EIA inclusive of appendices.

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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ADMIN:
Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/573657>