



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: 16598

Date: Friday December 17, 2021  
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## Final Comment

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

Attention: Ingwe Solar Power Plant (RF) (Pty) Ltd.

**The activity entails the development of a photovoltaic solar facility and associated infrastructure on the Farm Brandhoek No. 1211, Registration Division LS, Limpopo Province situated within the Makhado Local Municipality area of jurisdiction. The proposed development is located in the Limpopo province, South-Africa's northern most province. The town of Polokwane is located approximately 64km southwest and Louis Trichardt is located approximately 38km north-northeast of the proposed development. The project entails the generation of up to 150MW electrical power through photovoltaic (PV) panels. The total footprint of the project will approximately be 300 hectares (including supporting infrastructure on site).**

Ingwe Solar Plant (RF) (Pty) Ltd has appointed Environamics (Pty) Ltd to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment application process in support for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) as amended, for activities that trigger the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2014 Regulations, as amended.

Ingwe Solar Power Plant (RF) (Pty) Ltd intends to develop a 150MW photovoltaic solar facility and associated infrastructure on the Farm Brandhoek No. 1211 LS, Makhado Local Municipality, Limpopo Province. The development footprint will be approximately 400ha in extent, construction includes a 2.5 km 132kV power line in a 100m corridor, internal substation, internal roads, and a dangerous goods storage area.

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) report by Archaetnos Culture and Cultural Resources Consultants (Pty) Ltd has been submitted to SAHRA for commenting in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

*Van Scalkwyk, J.A. July 2021. Phase 1 Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment: The Proposed Ingwe Solar Power Plant Near Polokwane/Louis Trichardt, Limpopo Province.*

The author undertook a field assessment of the proposed development area and did not identify any heritage resources. The author recommends chance finds procedures.  
There tracklog map indicates that the author did not survey the power line corridor.



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*Almond, J. April 2021. Palaeontological Heritage Report: Letter Of Exemption Proposed Ingwe Solar Power Plant On Farm Brandhoek No. 1211, Makhado Local Municipality, Limpopo Province.*

The development area and power line corridor areas are underlain by early Precambrian (Archaean) basement rocks of the Goudplaats – Houtrivier Gneiss Suite and Bandelierkop Complex. These ancient, highly metamorphosed rocks are entirely unfossiliferous. They are mantled by Quaternary Aged sediments and soils that are of low significance. The overall impact to palaeontological resources is very low. The author does not recommend further studies and a fossil chance finds procedure appended to the letter of exemption.

The SAHRA issued an interim comment dated 19/10/2021, requesting clarity on whether the power line route was assessed by the heritage specialist. The EAP sent an email dated 26/11/2021, stating the following:

*"The preferred power line corridor connection to the Tabor 275/132kV MTS Substation was surveyed by the current specialist (Van Schalkwyk 2010) as part of a previous study/report undertaken (refer to the HIA Report). The information contained in this latter report is taken to be relevant for the current project and therefore the route was not re-visited as part of the survey undertaken on 18 July."*

The HIA was amended to reflect this.

## Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) accepts the HIA and Palaeontology Exemption reports and the recommendations contained in them. The SAHRA has no objection to the development going ahead on the following conditions:

In the event that fossils are uncovered during construction then construction must cease within the immediate vicinity, a buffer of 30 m must be established, and a palaeontologist called in to inspect the finds. The palaeontologist must obtain a section 35(4) permit in terms of NHRA and Chapter IV NHRA Regulations, before any fossils are collected.

If there are any new heritages resources are discovered during construction and operation phases of the proposed development, then a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings at the expense of the developer.



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If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required at the expense of the developer. Mitigation will only be carried out after the archaeologist or palaeontologist obtains a permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999). You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Phillip Hine 021 202 8654).

If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, then mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow (Thingahangwi Tshivase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490).

Once a Record of Decision from the competent authority is issued, it must also be submitted to the case.

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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Nokukhanya Khumalo  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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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: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/575364>

**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.