

HIA FOR THE PROPOSED STURDEE ENERGY PPC DWAALBOOM SOLAR PROJECT, THABAZIMBI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

Our Ref: 17236



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: 17236

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: Coastal & Environmental Services - East London

16 Tyrell Road
Berea
East London 5214

INTEGRATED HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT (HIA) ON PORTIONS OF THE FARMS SCHOONGEZICHT 238KP AND JAKHALSKRAAL 239KP FOR THE PROPOSED STURDEE ENERGY PPC DWAALBOOM SOLAR PROJECT, THABAZIMBI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

CES Environmental and Social Services (Pty) Ltd has been appointed to undertake a Basic 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.

The applicant, Studee Energy (Pty) Ltd is proposing to construct a new 10MW Solar PV power plant that is 20 ha in extent on PPC Dwaalboom property, on the farms Schoengezicht 238 KP and Jakhalskraal 239 KP, Thabazimbi Local Municipality of Limpopo Province. Construction will include a 1.9km 11kV power line from the facility to the adjacent cement factory,

The study area is located in a grey and green colour coded area on the SAHRIS palaeomap, according to the palaeomap policy, the area is of negligible and moderate significance.

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) report has been submitted to SAHRA for commenting in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Kruger, N. July 2021. Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) on Portions of The Farms Schoongezicht 238KP and Jakhalskraal 239KP for The Proposed Sturdee Energy PPC Dwaalboom Solar Project, Thabazimbi Local Municipality, Limpopo Province.

The author undertook a field assessment and did not identify any heritage resources in the proposed solar PV area and its alternatives. The author recommends chance finds procedures in the event that any heritage

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resources are uncovered during construction.

Fourie, H. March 2021. Palaeontological Impact Assessment: Desktop Study. Sturdee Energy PPC Dwaalboom Solar Project, Thabazimbi Local Municipality, Waterberg District Municipality, Limpopo Province.

The study area is underlain by Vaalian aged dolomite rocks of the Malmani Subgroup, Chuniespoort Group, Transvaal Supergroup. It is also underlain by Vaalian aged shale, conglomerate, quartzite rocks of the Blackreef Formation of the Transvaal Supergroup, and a Quarternary aged black soils, red soils, ferricrete, conglomerate or breccia. Which is of moderate palaeontological sensitivity. Other portions of the development area are underlain by quartzite, arkose and conglomerate of the Venterdorp Supergroup. The potential impacts to palaeontological resources ranges from high to low. The author recommends that the ECO implements the chance finds procedure included under appendix 2 of the report.

Final Comment

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

A Chance Finds Fossil Procedures included under appendix 2 of the PIA report must be included in the EMPr.

In the unlikely 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.

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).

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The Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit accepts the recommendations provided in the HIA report. A social consultation process in terms of Chapter XI of the NHRA Regulations, must be carried out to identify the descendants of the burials and to obtain permission to fence in the burial identified at site MKK844/01. If the applicant is unable to retain the grave in situ the permission must be obtained from the families of the deceased, if they agree to the relocation of their graves then a section 36 of the NHRA permit application must be logged on SAHRIS.

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 072 802 1251).

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

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit

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South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/584898>

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.