

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: Tuesday August 15, 2023

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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 Quaternary 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 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 is an amendment of the Final Comment issued 17/12/2021 for an error in the decisions section of the comment.

38(4)a – The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) has no objections to the proposed development;

38(4)b – The recommendations provided by the heritage specialists are supported and must be adhered to. There following additional conditions must be adhered to:

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

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 DA Unit (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offence 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 DA Unit (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offence 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

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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;

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

Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit
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.