

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001  
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za  
CaseID: 18014

Date: Monday July 10, 2023  
Page No: 1

## Interim Comment

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

Attention: Mr Shaun Macgregor  
Ecoleges Environmental Consultants  
PO Box 9005  
NELSPRUIT  
1200

**The development of a 300MW Solar Photo-Voltaic (PV) plant on Portion 3 & Remainder of Farm Goedehoop 26 C, Portion 1, 6 & Remainder of Kwanselaars Hoek 40 C, Portion 6 of Leuwe Fountain 27 C, Portion 4 of Taaibosch Fontein 41 C and the Remainder of Farm Riet Fountain 39 C, registration district Hanover, Emthanjeni Local Municipality, Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality; Northern Cape Province. The proposed development will be connected to an already authorised solar PV facility by means of overhead powerlines, so that both facilities feed into existing Eskom 400KV overhead powerlines via an on-site sub-station.**

Ecoleges Environmental Consultants have been appointed by Soventix South Africa (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed 300MW PV plant (Phase 2 De Aar 300MW PV) on several properties near De Aar, Northern Cape Province.

A draft Scoping Report (DSR) was submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA EIA Regulations (As amended). The proposed development will include the construction of PV panels, laydown areas, vegetation clearance, use of existing borrow pits, on-site substation and powerline, transformers and inverters, access roads, and existing roads will be upgraded, operation and maintenance buildings, fencing, waste water treatment facilities within a development footprint of 450 ha.

The DSR states that a Visual and Heritage Impact Assessment will be conducted as part of the EIA phase.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 02/02/2023, SAHRA requested that the pending assessment of the impact to heritage resources comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA. The HIA must include a field-based archaeological and palaeontological component.

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: [info@sahra.org.za](mailto:info@sahra.org.za)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 18014

Date: Monday July 10, 2023  
Page No: 2

Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, the draft EIA and appendices, and heritage reports have been uploaded for review, including reports from 2017 (08/06/2023).

*Almond, J. E. 2022. Site Sensitivity Verification Report: Proposed Development of a 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility on the Remainder of Farm Goede Hoop 26C and Portion 3 of Farm Goede Hoop 26C, between De Aar & Hanover, Emthanjeni Local Municipality, Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality, Northern Cape Province, South Africa*

The proposed development footprint is underlain by potentially fossiliferous sediments of the Adelaide Subgroup. No fossils were identified within the proposed development footprint however, fossil bone fragments, poorly preserved moulds of woody plant axes and ill-defined invertebrate burrows were identified outside of the project area. The project area is defined as having a low palaeosensitivity overall. A Chance Fossils Finds procedure is recommended.

No additional site verification report has been provided for archaeological and other heritage resources.

### Interim Comment

SAHRA requests that an updated field-based HIA be conducted for the proposed development area as part of the EA. The previous assessment was conducted over five years ago, and therefore SAHRA requests an updated assessment to be conducted. SAHRA advised the applicant to extend the EA application process in terms of section 23(1)b of the NEMA EIA regulations in order to address this comment. Additional comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested report.

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  
Manager: Development Applications Unit

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: [info@sahra.org.za](mailto:info@sahra.org.za)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt  
Tel: 021 202 8660  
Email: [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 18014

Date: Monday July 10, 2023  
Page No: 3

South African Heritage Resources Agency

---

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/593007>