

Our Ref:



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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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
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CaseID: 18381

Date: Friday July 29, 2022
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Letter

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

Attention: Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 148
Sunninghill
2157

The authorised ABO Wind Lichtenburg 2 PV solar energy facility ('the project') is located 10km north of Lichtenburg and 7.5km south of Bakerville in the North West Province. The project is located within Ward 16 of the Ditsobotla Local Municipality and the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality in the North West Province. The development footprint of the solar energy facility is located on Portion 23 of Farm Houthaalboomen No. 31 and the Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of Farm Zamenkomst No.4. It is within these properties that Lichtenburg 2 will be constructed and operated. The following infrastructure was authorised for the project by DFFE, as fully assessed within the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process: Photovoltaic modules with a net generation (contracted) capacity of 100MW; On-site 88/132kV substation; Mounting structures (fixed tilt/static, single-axis or double-axis tracking systems) for the PV arrays and related foundations; DC/AC Inverters, LV/MV power transformers and internal electrical reticulation (underground cabling); A new 88/132kV overhead power line from the on-site substation to the Mmabatho / Watershed DS 1 88kV Power Line; Access and internal road network; Temporary laydown area; Auxiliary buildings (gate-house and security, control centre, office, two warehouses, canteen & visitors centre, rainwater tanks, etc); Perimeter fencing; and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), with a capacity of up to 500MW/500MWh, an extent of no more than 5ha, and a maximum height of 3.5m¹. The amendment being applied for through this process relates to the following: a change in the capacity of the step-up/on-site substation from 88/132kV to 33/132kV; an extension to the authorised Loop-in/Loop-out (LILo) grid connection corridor, within an assessed area to allow Lichtenburg 2 PV to connect to the collector substation complex on Lichtenburg 3 PVs authorized property/footprint; and a substitution of the wording in the EA, 'a new 132kV overhead power line from the on-site substation to the Mmabatho/Watershed DS 1 88kV power line', with, 'a new 132kV power line from Lichtenburg 2 PV's step-up/on-site substation to the proposed collector substation complex on Lichtenburg 3 PV'. Considering the above, it should be noted that the 132kV power line to be constructed from the step-up/on-site substation will terminate at the collector substation complex

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE LICHTENBURG 2 PV FACILITY, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

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proposed on the authorised footprint for Lichtenburg 3 PV. This collector substation complex will be the point where all the electricity from Lichtenburg 2 PV and other projects² is collected and is evacuated via a 132kV power line to the Eskom Watershed Substation. Thus, only one 132kV power line will be built from this collector substation complex terminating at the Eskom Watershed Substation.

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by ABO Wind Lichtenburg 1 PV (Pty) Ltd to update the Environmental Management Programme for the authorised Lichtenburg 2 PV Solar Energy Facility, near Lichtenburg, North West Province (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1092).

An amended EMPR has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations. The EMPr has been updated to include a new powerline from the Lichtenburg 2 PV step-up/on-site substation to a proposed collector substation complex on Lichtenburg PV 3 and a change in the capacity of the step-up/on-site substation.

As the per the previously issued Final Comment, the amendment of the power line corridor did not result in additional impacts to heritage resources, and therefore no additional conditions were provided.

The Final Comments issued on SAHRIS Case ID 12844 (<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/520143>) regarding a Chance Finds Procedure are still valid and have been included in the updated EMPr.

SAHRA is satisfied with the management actions for heritage resources within the EMPr and no further comments from SAHRA in this regard are required.

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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Natasha Higgitt
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:
Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/595660>
(DFFE, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1092/AM3)