



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: 19168

Date: Thursday August 18, 2022
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Interim Comment

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

Attention: WKN Windcurrent SA (Pty) Ltd

P.O. Box 762
Wilderness
6560

WKN-Windcurrent SA (Pty) Ltd. plans to develop, construct and operate a Wind Energy Facility (WEF) approximately 20km southeast of Loxton in the Northern Cape Province. The project site is situated in the Ubuntu Local Municipality (LM) which forms part of the Pixley ka Seme District Municipality (DM). The proposed Taaibos South Wind Energy Facility (WEF) will consist of up to 36 turbines, with a total facility output of up to 270MW. The WEF will also include a powerline and switching station in order to connect the WEF to the existing Eskom Substation (this will be applied for in a separate environmental application). The WEF will also include a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), temporary and permanent laydown areas, an IPP Substation (SS), a Concrete Tower Manufacturing Facility (CTMF), access roads and a construction compound (CC) area. The construction footprint of the proposed WEF will be up to 139ha (inclusive of roads), rehabilitated to an operational footprint of up to 85ha (inclusive of roads).

CES Environmental and Social Advisory Services has been appointed by Taaibos South Wind Energy Facility RF (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Taaibos South Wind Energy Facility (WEF), near Loxton, Northern Cape Province.

A draft Basic Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include the construction of up to 36 turbines, permanent and temporary laydown areas adjacent to each turbine, foundations of each turbine, IPP Substation of up to 3 ha, collector substation, temporary laydown area, concrete tower manufacturing facility (CTMF) and construction compound (CC) up to 10 ha, battery energy storage system of up to 10 ha (in same area as temporary laydown, CTMF and CC), medium voltage cabling between turbines and switching stations to be laid underground where technically feasible, and internal access roads up to 36 km at up to 14 m wide.

It is noted that a field-based Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and field-based Palaeontological Impact

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Assessment (PIA) will be undertaken as part of the EIA phase of the EA application.

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The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit requests 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 report should also comply with SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports (see www.asapa.co.za or www.aphp.org.za for a list of qualified archaeologists), while the PIA should comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Component of Heritage Impact Assessments.

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above pending reports and the draft EIA inclusive of appendices.

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
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:
Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/602346>
(DFFE, Ref: TBA)