

**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: 21084

Date: Monday May 15, 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: Mooi Plaats Solar Power (Pty) Ltd

### **BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF ACCESS ROADS, 33KV POWERLINES AND A 132KV POWERLINE LOCATED NEAR NOUPOORT IN THE UMSOBOMVU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

SLR Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Mooi Plaats (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed 33kV, 132kV Powerline and Access Roads near Noupoort, Northern Cape Province.

A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) 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 overhead powerlines (two 33kV powerlines, approximately 2.3 km and 1.7 km long, and one 132kV powerline 11.3 km long) and three internal access roads (approximately 1.3 km, 1.2 km and 0.09 km long).

PGS Heritage (Pty) Ltd have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process in terms of section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

*Mann, N. 2023. Proposed Construction of a 132 kV Overhead Line, 33 kV above ground cables and Internal Access Roads for the Authorised Mooi Plaats Solar Energy Facility (SEF) and its associated infrastructure, near Noupoort in the Northern Cape Province*

A total of four heritage resources were identified. These include three stone packed structures and one concrete structure of low heritage significance

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The site (MP-3) is located further than 100m away of the proposed 132kV OHL, therefore no mitigation is required. In terms of general conservation of the site, a 100m no-go buffer zone is recommended. If

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development occurs within 100m of the structures, the buildings will need to be satisfactorily studied and recorded before impact occurs. Recording of the structures i.e. (a) map indicating the position and footprint of the structures (b) photographic recording of the structures (c) measured drawings of the floor plans of the principal buildings;

- Implement a chance to find procedures in case where possible heritage finds are uncovered;
- A detailed “walk down” of the final approved powerline alignments and access roads will be required before construction commences;
- It should be noted that at the time of the survey, the access road alignment had not been supplied. Although the road alignment already falls within the previously authorised footprint for the Mooi Plaats SEF, it is still recommended that the roads are assessed during the walkdown before construction commences;
- Any significant features of significance identified during this walkdown will require formal mitigation (i.e., permitting where required) or where possible a slight change in design could accommodate such resources;
- A Heritage Management plan (HMP) for heritage resources needs to be compiled and approved for implementation during construction and operations where heritage features of significance are identified.

### **Interim Comment**

As the proposed development is located within areas of moderate and high sensitivity for palaeontological resources, a field-based PIA is required to be completed as part of the EA process. The PIA must be completed by a qualified Palaeontologist and comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments. Additionally, the submitted HIA appears not to be a final document, as various areas of unfinished editing are evident throughout the report. The HIA must be finalised.

The applicant is advised to extend the EA process in terms of section 19(1)b of the NEMA EIA Regulations in order to address this comment. Further 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

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Natasha Higgitt  
Manager: Development Applications Unit  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**  
Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/616252>  
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