

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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CaseID: 21134

Date: Thursday May 18, 2023
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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: Wendy Mey
Terramanzi Group (Pty) Ltd

Soyuz 4 Solar PV Park with a generating capacity of no more than 300MW, and infrastructure including Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) of 1200MWh, an on-site substation with a capacity of 300MVA and a 132kV overhead powerline, to be located on Portion 5 of Farm 127, near Britstown, Northern Cape Province.

Terramanzi Group (Pty) Ltd have been appointed by Soyuz 4 Solar PV Park (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Soyuz 4 Solar PV Park near Britstown, Northern Cape Province (DFFE Reference Number: 2023-02-0019).

A draft 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 a solar field, site substation and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), site access and internal access roads, paved areas, fencing, Operation and Maintenance Buildings, temporary construction camp and laydown area.

ACO Associates CC was 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).

Gribble, J. 2023. Heritage Scoping Report: Proposed Soyuz 4 Solar Energy Facility, outside Britstown, Northern Cape Province

The Heritage Scoping Report (HSR) states that a total of two heritage resources were identified within the proposed development area. These include a surface scatter of Stone Age lithics and pottery of grade 3C heritage significance and a possible rock gong of grade 3A heritage significance. It is noted that the development area is located in an area of moderate and high sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map.

A total of 15 heritage resources were identified outside the proposed development area. These include a surface scatters of Stone Age lithics, historical farmstead, engraved boulders, labourers cottage, stone

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structures of grade 3C heritage significance, a boulder with a rubbed patch of grade 3B heritage significance, and three engravings boulders of grade 3A heritage significance.

The HSR notes that an HIA will be submitted as part of the EIA phase, that will include a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA notes the submitted DSR and Heritage Scoping Report. The pending HIA must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA, and the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports. The desktop PIA must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments. The HIA must also include the results of the Visual Impact Assessment.

SAHRA will provide further comments upon receipt of the pending heritage reports, Draft EIA and associated 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
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/616481>