

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: 21442

Date: Friday June 23, 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: SiVEST SA (Pty) Ltd

Proposed Development of the ABO Ujekamanzi Wind Energy Facility 2 and Associated Infrastructure near Amersfoort in the Mpumalanga Province

Sivest SA (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by ABO Wind Ujekamanzi Wind Energy Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed ABO Wind Ujekamanzi Wind Energy Facility 2, near Amersfoort, Mpumalanga Province.

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 up to 65 turbines, general hardstands, foundations and laydown area for each turbine, internal access roads, upgrade of existing access roads, laydown area, Operation and Maintenance Building, on-site substation, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), internal powerlines (underground if possible), perimeter fencing, wind monitoring masts within an application area of 12 431 ha.

CTS Heritage 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).

Lavin, J. 2023. Heritage Impact Assessment in terms of section 38(8) of the NHRA for the Proposed development of the Ujekamanzi Wind Energy Facility 2 near Amersfoort, Mpumalanga Province.

The HIA draws on the results of Archaeological Specialist Study (Lavin, J and Wiltshire, N. 2023) and Palaeontological report (Bamford, M. 2023).

The proposed development area is underlain by non-fossiliferous Jurassic Dolerite and potentially very highly fossiliferous Vryheid Formation. No fossils were identified during the site visit. A total of 31 heritage resources were identified within the proposed development footprint. These include stone walled kraals, historic structures and werfs of Grade IIIC heritage significance, historic werfs and structures of Grade IIIB heritage significance, ruins and burial grounds of Grade IIIA heritage significance. All heritage resources have been avoided in the depicted buildable areas for the development.

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Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- The buffer areas recommended in Table 3 must be respected in the Final Layout;
- On going community access to these burials, as well as their conservation into the future, must be ensured. This can be managed through the development of a Heritage Management Plan for the burials to be implemented for the duration of the project;
- The attached Chance Fossil Finds Procedure must be implemented for the duration of construction activities; and
- Should any buried archaeological resources or human remains or burials be uncovered during the course of development activities, work must cease in the vicinity of these finds. The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be contacted immediately in order to determine an appropriate way forward.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA notes the submitted HIA and associated heritage specialist reports. SAHRA will provide further comments upon receipt of the 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:

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