

Our Ref: 9/2/066/0001

Enquiries: Jenna Lavin  
Edit view Tel: 021 462 4502  
Edit view Email: jlav@sa.org.za  
CaseID: 2283

Date: Tuesday December 10, 2013

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## Final Comment

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

Attention: PV Africa (Pty) Ltd

Unit F1, Urban Hub  
142 Buitengracht Street  
Cape Town

8001  
**Four Proposed Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facilities on the Farm Zuurwater, near Aggeneys, Northern Cape Province**

Morris, D. November 2013. *Heritage Impact Assessment for Four Solar Energy Facilities on the Farm Zuurwater near Aggeneys, Northern Cape*

Almond, J. September 2011. *Recommendation for exemption from palaeontological studies: Proposed photovoltaic project on Portion 3 of Farm Zuurwater 62 near Aggeneys, Northern Cape.*

SAHRA notes that this project arises out of the previously proposed Sato Energy Holding Zuurwater 62 SEF Development, which SAHRA reviewed and approved. Of that project, authorisations of four applications (Units 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7) have lapsed, while two are still valid. The new developer, FSBWSA Development (Pty) Ltd has submitted new applications for environmental authorisation (EA) for four replacement projects on Portion 3 of the Farm Zuurwater No. 62, occupying the same land space, but with a new layout and technology. The remaining two applications (Units 4 and 5) still have valid authorisations and these have been transferred to the new developer.

The new proposed layout consists of three 75MW facilities, two 40MW facilities and one 60MW facility. The Phase 1, 2, 3 and 4 facilities covered in this application are for the three 75MW facilities and the one 60MW facility. Each of the four proposed phases will accommodate several arrays of PV panels. Each phase will be developed separately and will have stand-alone infrastructure. The 884ha proposed for development is currently used for low density stock farming.

The HIA identified historical material of low significance associated with the "old" 20th Century Springbok to Aggeneys gravel road. In addition, a number of low density, *ex situ* artefacts were identified across the property. These were also assigned low significance. According to the HIA, the proposed powerlines and their alternatives are unlikely to impact on significant heritage resources.

The cluster of sites identified as Zuurwater 5 in the HIA are located at the foot of Hoedkop. This cluster is situated outside of the Phase 4 project area however indirect impacts resulting from construction activities are predicted. The sites named Zuurwater 6 in the HIA represent a cluster of significant Later Stone Age artefacts including ceramics and artefacts associated with the Sandkop outcrop.

According to the submitted letter requesting exemption from conducting further palaeontological studies, the outcrops evident in the project area are assigned to the Namaqua-Natal Metamorphic Province and have low

palaeontological sensitivity. The flatter portions of the project area are underlain by Quarternary to recent sands and gravels as well as unconsolidated aeolian sand of the Gordonia Formation which is of low palaeontological sensitivity. It is therefore unlikely that the shallow excavations proposed will impact on significant palaeontological material.

### Final Comment

SAHRA has no objection to the proposed development of the four phases applied for on condition that;

- The site identified as Zuurwater 5 in the HIA must not be affected by secondary impacts associated with construction activities.
- The site identified as Zuurwater 6 in the HIA must be conserved in situ. A buffer zone of 100m around this is required to maintain the integrity of the site.
- Any alterations, additions or the demolition of structures older than 60 years requires a permit from the Northern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Authority - Ngwao-Boswa ya Kapa Bokone (NBKB: [www.nbkb.org.za](http://www.nbkb.org.za)) in terms of Section 34 of the National Heritage Resources Act.
- Should any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, marine shell and charcoal/ash concentrations), unmarked human burials, fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA APM Unit (Jenna Lavin/Colette Scheermeyer 021 462 4502) must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

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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Jenna Lavin  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency



Colette Scheermeyer  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/119196>

Edit view (DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/470) (DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/471) (DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/472)  
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/473)

**Terms & Conditions:**

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.

