



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: 424

Date: Friday August 25, 2023
Page No: 1

Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Sannaspos Solar PV (Pty) Ltd

P. O Box 4778
Rivonia
Johannesburg
Gauteng
2128

Phase 1 of the Proposed Sannaspos Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facility, Free State DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/360

Engie Solar Africa (Pty) Ltd [previously known as Solaire Direct Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd] was granted an Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the Sannaspos PV Solar Energy Facility on portion 0 of the farm 1808 Besemkop and portion 0 of the farm 2962 Lejwe, Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality, Free State Province on the 26/06/2013 (Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/360).

In a Final Comment issued on the 24/11/2021, SAHRA noted that EIA process had been concluded and that SAHRA could not provide a statement of objection or no objections, however, provided conditions to implement (<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/589558>). Since the issuing of the Final Comment, a Motivation report has been submitted in terms of the NEMA EIA regulations in order to amend the EA. The proposed amendments include the extension of the EA by two additional years.

CTS Heritage has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA application 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. The Extension of validity to the EA-Sannaspos SEF SAHRIS Case: 17866

The specialist concludes that the extension of the validity of the EA will not increase impacts to the identified heritage resources and that the recommendations of the original HIA are valid and must be adhered to. The report notes the objection of the proposed expansion of the SEF by SAHRA as stated in the Final Comment issued on SAHRIS Case ID 17866 as no field-assessment of the area was conducted.



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Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final Motivation Report and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) has no objections to the proposed amendment of the EA;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development as follows:
 - The recommendations as provided in the Final Comment on Case ID 424 are still valid;
 - A walk-down of the expansion area as noted in SAHRIS Case ID 17866 must be conducted by an archaeologist prior to construction. A report detailing the results of the walkdown must be submitted to SAHRA to case ID 17866;
 - SAHRA reserves the right to object to activities based on the results of the walkdown report. SAHRA reserves the right to impose additional conditions based on the results of the walkdown report;
- 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA DAU (Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660 / nhiggitt@sahra.org.za) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA DAU (Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660 / nhiggitt@sahra.org.za) must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA regarding offences;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
 - i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
- The Final Motivation Report must be submitted to the SAHRIS application for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the EA Amendment application must be submitted to the SAHRIS application



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Page No: 3

for record purposes.

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/49885>
(DETEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/360)

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.