### Watercourse Crossing within the Sonnenberg Solar PV Facility

Our Ref: 9/2/032/0001

Enquiries: Jenna Lavin Edit view Tel: 021 462 4502

Edit view Email: jlavin@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 4573

Date: Thursday January 23, 2014

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## **Final Comment**

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

Attention: Networx S28 Energy (Pty) Ltd

# Proposed Watercourse Crossing within the Authorised Sonnenberg Solar PV Facility and Associated Infrastructure on a site near Keimos, Northern Capen Province

Thank you for informing SAHRA of the proposed development of infrastructure related to the approved Sonnenberg Solar PV Facility on a site near Keimos, Northern Cape Province. The original EIA process, on which comment was provided by SAHRA on 23 April 2012 (Case 4633), expected watercourses to be avoided and as such, this was not covered in the original Environmental Authorisation.

The heritage studies completed for the Sonnenberg PV Plant identified seven Middle and Earlier Stone Age sites of moderate significance. It was recommended that these seven sites be retained *in situ*, cordoned off during construction and demarcated on all development maps so that no impact occurs.

As such, it is unlikely that the proposed development of infrastructure within drainage lines will impact on any other significant heritage resources.

#### **Final Comment:**

Based on the submitted information, SAHRA has no objection to the proposed development on condition that;

- The seven archaeological sites identified in the HIA by J. van der Walt dated November 2011 are not impacted by the proposed development. These sites must remain undisturbed and *in situ*. These sites must be cordoned off during the construction phase of development and demarcated on all development maps so that no impact occurs.
- 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.

It is noted that all structures older than 60 years (S. 34), all archaeological and palaeontological material and sites (S. 35), as well as all burial grounds and graves older than 60 years (S. 36) are generally protected in terms of Part 2 of the National Heritage Reources Act and as such, permission from the relevant heritage authority is required before any of these resources may be altered or destroyed.



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an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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/153305 Edit view (DENC, Ref: NC/BA/40/ZFM/KAI!/KEI2/2013)

#### 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.

