BOSJESMANSBERG PV CENTER - 579

Our Ref: 9/2/075/0001

Enquiries: Jenna Lavin Edit view Tel: 021 462 4502

Edit view Email: jlavin@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 4885



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Final Comment

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

Attention: Networx Renewables (Pty) Ltd 20 The Piazza, 2nd Floor Melrose Arch 2076 johannesburg

Proposed Bosjesmansberg PV Center Solar Energy Facility near Copperton, Northern Cape Province

Van der Walt, J. December 2013. AIA For the proposed Bosjesmansberg PV Center Solar Energy Facility, located close to Copperton in the Northern Cape.

Almond, J. September 2013. Recommend Exemption from Further Palaeontological Studies: Proposed Bosjesmansberg PV Solar Energy Facility Near Copperton, Siyathemba Local Municipality, Northern Cape

Thank you for informing SAHRA of the proposed development of the Bosjesmansberg PV Centre Facility on a farm near Copperton in the Northern Cape. It is noted that this proposed 75MW facility is one of four such proposed facilities that are proposed to output approximately 300MW in total. This proposed facility will cover approximately 220ha of the total 338ha site. The proposed infrastructure associated with the facility includes arrays of PV panels and mounting structures, cabling between components, an on site substation and overhead powerline, internal access roads and fencing as well as a workshop area for maintenance, storage and offices. A 132kV powerline is proposed to connect the facility to the Eskom grid, however the powerline corridors are being assessed through a separate BAR process.

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999), any proposed development that requires an application in terms of NEMA or the MPRDA must have an assessment of impacts to heritage resources completed as part of the application process. The relevant heritage authority must determine whether the assessment done in terms of impacts to heritage resources satisfies our requirements and must provide comments or recommendations to the decision-making authority.

According to the submitted archaeological report, a number of ephemeral stone age scatters of limited significance were located within the area proposed for development. These scatters consisted of Earlier, Middle and Later Stone Age material. The archaeological report identified two sites of greater archaeological significance within the development area. The first is a pan site consisting of Middle and Later Stone Age material and the second is a Middle Stone Age quarry site. The submitted layout of the proposed PV facility indicates that these sites will not be impacted by the development of the PV facility.

According to the submitted palaeontological report, the area proposed for development is underlain by the Quarternary sands of the Gordonia Formation of an unknown depth. In addition, the Dwyka Group is mapped in the north west corner of the study area. Numerous small inliers of ancient pre-Cambrian rock were also noted in the assessment. According to the report, the area has a low palaeontological sensitivity. It is therefore unlikely that the proposed development will impact significant fossil material.



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an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

Final Comment

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

- The recommendations contained in the EMP with regard to heritage resources are followed
- The pan site and the MSA quarry site are not impacted by the proposed development as per the submitted layout. - These sites must also be protected from indirect impacts. The two buffer zone must be clearly demarcated during construction
- 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), rock art, unmarked human burials, fossils or other categories of heritage resources be found during the proposed activities, or in any future 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

Jenna Lavin Heritage Officer

South African Heritage Resources Agency

Colette Scheermeyer

SAHRA Head Archaeologist

South African Heritage Resources Agency



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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/157219

Edit view (DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/579)

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.

