### HIA Bela Bela Solar Park - Expansion

Our Ref: 8460

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo

Tel: 021 462 4502

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CaseID: 8460



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## **Interim Comment**

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

Attention: Jacaranda Energy (Pty) Ltd

# RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION PROJECT ON PORTION 67 OF THE FARM TWEEFONTEIN 462 KR BELA BELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WATERBERG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE (EXPANSION - BELA BELA SOLAR PARK)

Jacaranda Energy (RF) (Pty) Ltd proposes to construct and operate the 75 MW Bela Bela Solar Park facility, this will include construction of power lines and a substation that will be 155 hectares in extent, in Limpopo Province.

Under sections 34, 35 and 36 of the National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999) heritage resources are protected. These resources are for instance burial grounds, unmarked and marked graves that are older than 60 years, built structures that are older than 60 years old, archaeology (stone tools, stone walled sites, prehistoric and historic pottery sherds, ash grounds etc.) and palaeontology (fossils of plant and animal material).

Hutten, M. April 2015. Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Extended Bela-Bela Solar Park east of Bela-Bela, Limpopo Province.

A field survey of the proposed Bela Bela Solar Park facility identified 2 heritage resources. BB01 is a water storage facility built in 1940's and BB02 is foundations of a brick building

Rubidge . May 2015. Palaeontological Desktop Study-Bela Bela Solar Plant Development

The underlying geology of the proposed development is of the Jurassic aged sedimentary rocks of the Clarens Formation, considered to be of Very High palaeontological sensitivity. However no fossils have been found within the study area, and the formation is not exposed on the surface, although construction will most likely expose the Clarens Formation.

#### **Interim Comment**

SAHRA agrees with the recommendations made in the heritage reports referenced in this comment as follows:

- The development will not impact on archaeology and SAHRA has no objections to the development in terms of the archaeological heritage of the development.
- Any buildings older than 60 years may not be damaged or destroyed during construction. However any



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an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

decisions made about the built environment older than 60 years are handled by the Limpopo Provincial Heritage Authority (LIHRA).

- A palaeontologist should be called out to inspect exposed rocks of the Clarens Formation underlying the entire project area. If any fossils are uncovered during construction of the facility, then the ECO must notify SAHRA and construction must seize around the area immediately until a palaeontologist can verify the finds.

SAHRA will issue a Final comment once a letter of agreement or appointment is set up between Jacaranda Energy and a palaeontologist, to insure that they will be present when the foundations office facilities constructed to make sure no fossil heritage within the formation is destroyed during construction of the Solar park.

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

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo

Heritage Officer

South African Heritage Resources Agency

#### ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/330857

(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/688)

#### 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.

