

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
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CaseID: 8634

Date: Friday October 27, 2017
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Letter

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

Attention: Longyuan Mulilo De Aar 2 South (Pty) Ltd

Proposed Wind Energy Facility situated on the Eastern Plateau (south) near De Aar in the Northern Cape Province: Application for Amendment of Environmental Authorisation (DEA Ref No.: 12/12/20/2463/AM3)

Thank you for notifying SAHRA that the Amended EA for additional activities 27 and 14 (iii)(iv)(a)(b) at the authorised Wind Energy Facility situated on the Eastern Plateau (South) near De Aar, Emthanjeni Local Municipality, Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality, Northern Cape Province (NC/BA/14/PIX/EMT/DEA5/2014[Amendment 1]).

The activities include the following:

- Activity 27 – Clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such vegetation clearance is required for (i) the undertaking of a linear activity or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan;
- Activity 14 – The development of (iii) buildings exceeding 10 square meters in size or (iv) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square meters or more where such development occurs (a) within a watercourse, (b) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 meters of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse excluding the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour (a) in Northern Cape (ii) Outside urban areas, in: (bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas.

The 2017 Amended EA references a Basic Assessment Report (BAR) however no report has been submitted to SAHRA for comment. While the Appeal timeframes are over for the Amended EA, SAHRA requests that the BAR and any heritage specialist studies conducted as part of the BAR be submitted to the SAHRIS Case application so that SAHRA may review and provide additional conditions with regards to heritage resources within the development. SAHRA notes that conditions within the 2017 Amended EA pertaining the heritage resources (Condition 73-75).

As stated in the previously issued Amended EA (DEA Ref no: 12/12/20/2463/AM4), the amendments to the

Proposed WEF situated on the Eastern Plateau (south) near De Aar: Application for Amendment of EA

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2013 EA were as follows:

- Increasing the height of the wind turbine hubs from 100 m to 120 m;
- Increasing the rotor diameters from 120 m to a range between 100 m and 160 m;
- Increasing the generation size of the turbines from a range of 1.5 MW – 2.5 MW to encompass a range of 2.3 MW – 4.0 MW;
- Amendment to the foundation size of the turbines from 16 x 16 m and 2 m deep to 18.4 m diameter that narrows up to 10.6 m at the surface and 3.5 m deep; and
- Reduction of the amount of wind turbines from 103 turbines to 61 turbines.

All previously provided conditions by the heritage specialists must be adhered to as stated in the letter issued on the SAHRIS Case application on 08/03/2016 (<http://sahra.org.za/sahris/node/358381>).

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
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/339855>
(DEA, Ref: 12/12/20/2463/AM3)