



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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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Date: Monday June 06, 2016

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Email: [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)

CaseID: 8759

## Final Comment

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

Attention: Paulputs CSP (RF) (Pty) Ltd

**Project Name: Paulputs CSP Project Applicant: Paulputs CSP RF (Pty) Ltd. Proposed Activity and Location: The development of a 200MW Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) Project and associated infrastructure on Portion 4 of the Farm Scuitklip 92 located ~45km north-east of Pofadder within the Khai-Ma Local Municipality in the Northern Cape.**

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Paulputs CSP RF (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in support of an Environmental Authorisation Application for the proposed Paulputs CSP Project, near Pofadder, Northern Cape Province. A draft EIA was conducted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations, 2014. The proposed Paulputs CSP project will consist of a field of heliostats and central receiver and will be constructed over an area of approximately 900 ha on Portion 4 of the Farm Scuitklip 92. Associated infrastructure will include a molten salt tower, power island, cabling linking the power block to the on-site substation, water supply abstraction point with filter and booster station, on-site lined ground water storage reservoir, lined evaporation ponds, water treatment plant and associated chemical store, auxiliary wet cooled chiller plant, control room and office building, workshop, access roads and overhead powerline.

David Morris from the McGregor Museum was appointed to conduct the Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for the project.

*Morris, 2016. Archaeological Specialist Input for the Environmental Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA for the Paulputs CSP Facility, near Pofadder, NC Province*

According to the submitted AIA, identified heritage resources fall outside the proposed development footprint and of low significance, however, it appears that the identified road side grave (Site 6) may be located within the proposed solar field array. The remaining archaeological resources (Early Stone Age [Site 6] and Later Stone Age scatter Site 7]) are of low significance. Additionally, it has been noted that the pipeline route was surveyed previously in 2014 and that artefact densities are extremely low along the route. It must be noted that a track log of the area surveyed was not supplied.



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Recommendations provided in the AIA report include the following:

- The rocky outcrops that occur at the north eastern side of the proposed project footprint should be avoided with a 60 m buffer;
- Provisions for on-going heritage monitoring in a facility environmental management plan which also provides guidelines on what to do in the event of any major heritage feature being encountered during any phase of the development or operation;
- Inclusion of further heritage impact considerations in any future extension of infrastructural elements;
- Immediate reporting to relevant heritage authorities of any heritage feature discovered during any phase of development or operation of the facility; and
- Officials from the relevant heritage authorities (National and Provincial) to be permitted to inspect the operation at any time in relation to the heritage component of the management plan.

## Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the submitted AIA and promotes the recommendations included in the report. The following additional conditions must be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr):

- A buffer of 30 m must be maintained around the identified grave (Site 6). A Conservation Management Plan (CMP) must be developed for the long term in situ conservation of the burial. The CMP must be submitted to SAHRA for comment;
- Should it not be possible to conserve the burial, a social consultation process in terms of section 36(5) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (NHRA) and Chapter XI of the NHRA Regulations must be conducted, thereafter a permit in terms of section 36(3) of the NHRA and Chapter IX of the NHRA Regulation may be applied for if feasible; and
- Should it not be possible to avoid the rocky outcrops, an archaeological walk-down must be conducted to ensure that no heritage resources will be impacted by the proposed development. The results of the walk-down must be submitted to SAHRA for comment prior to the commencement of construction;
- 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 APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted. If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Itumeleng Masiteng/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately. A professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly

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discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required.

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

Yours faithfully

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Natasha Higgitt  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/344252>  
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/87)

**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.