

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 8803

Date: Friday July 22, 2016
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Final Comment

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

Attention: FG Emvelo

Postnet Suite 306
Private Bag X9
Benmore

The construction of additional CSP facilities immediately adjacent to the authorised CSP sites (1.3, 1.4, 3, 4 & 5) within the Karoshoek Solar Valley Development and associated infrastructure on Lot 944 Karos Settlement; Portion 3 of Matjiesrivier 41; Portion 2 of Matjiesrivier 41; and Portion RE of Matjiesrivier 41, located approximately 30 km east of Upington within the Khara Hais Local Municipality in the Northern Cape.

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Emvelo Holdings (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in support of an Environmental Authorisation Application for the proposed Ilanga CSP 4 Facility, near Upington, Northern Cape Province. The EIA was conducted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations, 2014. The proposed Ilanga CSP 4 project will include infrastructure such as parabolic troughs, internal access roads, power plant/power island, power line, water abstraction point, water treatment plant, lined evaporation ponds, workshop and office buildings. During the draft EIA review period (22 April 2016-25 May 2016), Savannah received comments from the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and the Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC). To meet the requirements stipulated in the received comments, a revised EIA has been completed.

The comments and subsequent changes to the proposed project did not result in a change to the project design or layout, but required the cumulative impact of the surrounding projects to be taken into account when assessing the impact of the proposed development. Other comments issued by the DEA and DENC do not have a bearing on heritage resources and are not discussed further.

Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting was appointed to conduct the Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for the revised EIA.

Van der Walt, 2016. Archaeological Impact Assessment Report for the Proposed Establishment of the Ilanga CSP 4 Project, near Upington, Northern Cape Province

No heritage resources were identified within the project area. Identified cumulative impacts included a positive impact as heritage sites are identified and protected from accidental damage in the region. An identified

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negative cumulative impact is the depletion of archaeological record in the area as sites are destroyed for developments.

Recommendations provided in the report included that if during construction any possible finds such as stone tool scatters, artefacts or bone and fossil remains are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist must be contacted to assess the find.

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):

- 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/John Gribble 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 discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required;
- The final EIA and appendices must be submitted to SAHRA upon submission to DEA. Should the project be granted Environmental Authorisation, SAHRA must be notified and all relevant documents submitted to the case file.

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

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Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

John Gribble
Manager: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit / Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/345818>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/868)

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.