

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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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
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CaseID: 9175

Date: Wednesday August 17, 2016
Page No: 1

Final Comment

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

Attention: Enviroafrica CC
PO Box 5367
Heilderberg
7135

Project Description & Location: It is proposed that the bulk water supply system in Onseepkans be re-constructed. This will include the construction of a storage reservoir (with a capacity of 100 000m³ and an area of approximately 2.5ha in size) and a Solar plant (consisting of PV panels, which will generate between 750 KVA and 1MVA, with an area not larger than 1 ha, as well as distributions cables) on Farm No. 88. Approximate location of the storage reservoir: 28°45'40.02"S, 19°17'00.74"E. Approximate location of the solar farm: 28°45'11.88"S, 19°16'51.43"E

The Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Development Planning appointed EnviroAfrica CC to complete a Basic Assessment (BA) process for the proposed Bulk Water Supply System at Onseepkans, Khai Ma Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province. The proposed project includes infrastructure such as an earth dam, pump and filter system, a 2 ha 1 megawatt (MW) Solar Photo Voltaic (SPV) generator, a 33kV overhead power line, and mainline pipes to and from the dam (2200 m and 1800 m long).

In an Interim Comment issued on the 16 March 2016, it was requested that a desktop Palaeontological assessment or a Letter of Motivation for Exemption must be completed by a qualified palaeontologist before Final Comments could be issued. Cedar Tower Services was appointed to conduct the requested Palaeontological studies.

Cedar Tower Services, 2016. Heritage Screener Desktop Assessment of Palaeontology for Bulk Water Supply System: Onseepkans.

According to this summary of previous palaeontological studies of the proposed area, the proposed development will take place on alluvium and sandy soil of moderate sensitivity bounded by Coboop granite/gneiss which has no fossil sensitivity. The pipeline will be constructed in an already disturbed servitude and that the proposed development would have little to no impact on fossils.

Recommendations provided in the report include the need for a Palaeontological Chance Finds Procedure to be developed to form part of the Environmental Management Plan.

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The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the submitted Palaeontological Heritage Screener and the recommendations contained therein as the proposed development will be built in a previously disturbed servitude. The recommendations provided in the report, the conditions of the Interim Comment dated 16 March 2016, and the following conditions must form part of 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;
- 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
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

**PROPOSED BULK WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM ONSEEPKANS, ONSEEPKANS
SETTLEMENT, KHAI MA MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE**

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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/357139>
(, Ref:)

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.