

The Proposed Development of a 150 MW Concentrated Solar Power Plant (Parabolic Trough) and Associated Infrastructure

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
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CaseID: 9384

Date: Wednesday March 22, 2017
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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Mr Posholi Mapheshoane
Thabong Solar Farm (Pty) Ltd
65 Swansway
Heuwelsig
Kimberley
8301

The Proposed Development of a 150 MW Concentrated Solar Power Plant (Parabolic Trough) and Associated Infrastructure on Remaining Extent of the Farm Groenwater 453 and Remaining Extent of Portions 4 and 5 of the Farm Groenwater 453 within the Tsantsabane Local Municipality, Kimberley Registration Division, Northern Cape Province

Enviroworks was appointed by Metsimatala CSP Solar Energy (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed development of a 150MW Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) Plant and associated infrastructure, near Metsimatala, Northern Cape Province. A Draft Scoping Report was completed in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations 2014. The proposed project is located on the remaining extent of portions 4 and 5 and the remaining extent of the farm Groenwater 453. The proposed project will consist of a solar field using the tracking system, a Heat Transfer Fluid (HTF) system, Thermal Energy Storage System, power block and auxiliary systems. Associate infrastructure will include an administrative and control building, substation, 370 m long access road and internal roads, 38.8 ha temporary work area, power block building, warehouse, access control building, change houses, sewage treatment facility, and non-hazardous and hazardous water storage and treatment facility. All infrastructure will be located within a 500 ha project area.

Thank you for submitting the Final EIA, Public Participation Report (PPR), Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and Environmental Authorisation.

It is noted that no comments or issues have been raised during the Public Review period regarding heritage resources as indicated in the PPR.

Final Comment

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts and promotes the recommendations of the Heritage Specialists. The previous conditions included in the Interim Comment dated 30 June 2016 and

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1 September 2016 have been included in the Final EIA and EMP.

- 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 (e.g. trace fossils or stromatolites) 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 (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 at the expense of the developer. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required at the expense of the developer. The relevant permit must be applied for, and mitigation may only occur once SAHRA issues a valid permit.

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

John Gribble
Manager: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit / 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/361349>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/923)

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.