

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
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Date: Thursday June 23, 2016

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Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 9518

Final Comment

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

Attention: Kagiso solar power plant (RF) (Pty) Ltd

Solar Power Plant Development: The remaining extent of the Farm Kameel Aar No. 315, registration division Kuruman, Joe Morolong Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province

Environamics has been appointed by Kagiso Solar Power Plant (RF) (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in support of an Environmental Authorisation Application for the proposed Kagiso Solar Power Plant, near Hotazel, Northern Province. A draft Scoping Report was conducted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations, 2014. The proposed solar park will consist of an 115MW PV array, grid connections, and associated infrastructure such as offices, switch gear and relay room, staff changing rooms, security control, and internal access road. The development footprint will cover approximately 300 ha and there are three alternative locations for the proposed solar park. J van Schalkwyk was appointed to conduct the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and L Rossouw was appointed to conduct the Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA).

Van Schalkwyk, 2016. Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment for the Development of the Proposed Kagiso Solar Power Plant on the Remaining Extent of the Farm Kameelaar No 315, Registration Division Kuruman, Northern Cape Province.

No sites, features or objects of cultural significance were identified in the proposed development area. It must be noted that the alternative sites for the solar park were not surveyed as part of the HIA.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Should archaeological sites or graves be exposed during the construction work, it must immediately be reported to a heritage practitioner so that an investigation and evaluation of finds can be made.

Rossouw, 2016. Palaeontological desktop study of the proposed Kagiso solar power plant (SPP) facility on the remaining extent of the farm Kameel Aar 315, near Hotazel, Northern Cape Province

The author concluded that the project area is underlain by well-developed surface limestones, calcretes and

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wind-blown sands of the Kalahari Group of low to moderate palaeontological sensitivity. The impact to palaeontological resources is considered to be low and no further mitigation or studies are required.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit promotes the recommendations provided in the HIA and PIA. The following additional comments apply to the project and must be included in the EIA and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr):

- No further palaeontological studies are required for the project;
- Should either of the alternative sites be chosen for the development, a Heritage Walk Down must be conducted for the impact footprint. A Walk-Down report must be completed detailing the results of the survey and submitted to SAHRA prior to construction. No construction may commence without comments issued from SAHRA;
- 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 discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required.

The Final Scoping, EIA and EMPr for the project must be submitted to SAHRA for proof the above comments have been incorporated into the respective reports.

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

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/362701>

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.