

PROPOSED KOMSBERG WEST WIND ENERGY FACILITIES SITUATED IN THE WESTERN & NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

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
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CaseID: 9565

Date: Monday August 23, 2021
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Arcus Consulting

Office 220 Cube Workspace
Cnr Long Street and Hans Strijdom Road
Cape Town
8001

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Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Komsberg Wind Farms (Pty) Ltd to submit an updated Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) to comply with EA conditions 15, 17 and 18 of the granted Environmental Authorisation (EA) (DEA Ref No: 14/12/16/3/3/2/827).

In a Final Comment issued on the 24/05/2016, SAHRA noted no objections to the development are provided conditions (<https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/363456>).

A Final EMPr has been submitted as per the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (As amended). The updated EMPr has taken into account specialist walkthroughs to adjust the final layout of the authorised development. It is noted that the EA contains a condition that a Conservation Management Plan must be drafted for review and comment by SAHRA.

It is noted that portions of the development are located in both the Western and Northern Cape. The discussion below and comments provided are valid only for the Northern Cape section of the development.

CTS Heritage was appointed to conduct the Heritage Walkthrough to comply with conditions of the granted EA.

Lavin, J. 2021. Heritage Walkdown Report for the approved Komsberg East and West Wind Energy Facilities near Sutherland in the Northern and Western Cape

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**Only results pertaining to the Komsberg West WEF facility will be discussed below.*

Three heritage resources were identified as a result of the walkdown. This included a grave of High Grade IIIA significance (KW03), a Stone Age lithic scatter and a stone walled kraal of low Grade IIIB significance.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- A 100m no development buffer is required around KW03. No amendments to the final layout are anticipated;
- Safeguarding of chance fossils finds (preferably in situ) during the construction phase by the responsible ECO by reporting of finds to SAHRA in line with the attached Chance Fossil Finds Procedure;
- Do not disturb any old stone kraals or ruins, do not remove stone from walls, artefacts from the earth of earth surface;
- Adhere to the findings and recommendations of the VIA;
- Should any heritage resources be impacted during the course of construction activities, work in the vicinity of the resource must cease and SAHRA must be contacted regarding an appropriate way forward.

SAHRA notes the request regarding the recommended Conservation Management Plan on page 4 of the EMPr.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA and must be noted by the applicant:

- The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) has no objections to the management measures contained within the specialist walkdown report and EMPr;
- SAHRA supports the applicant in that no Conservation Management Plan for the Northern Cape section of the development is required as no identified heritage resources will be impacted. The Chance Finds and Fossil Finds Procedures must be implemented and adhered to;
- The conditions contained within the Final Comment issued on the 31 May 2019 pertaining to the archaeological walk-down are considered to be completed. The condition that a palaeontological walkdown be conducted is removed, as the specialist did not recommend one be conducted;

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- The final EMPr must be provided to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

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

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/363284>
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/856)