

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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CaseID: 17594

Date: Thursday December 09, 2021
Page No: 1

Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Development (Pty) Ltd

South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd ('Mainstream') is proposing the development of (1) Main Transmission Substation (MTS) three (3) powerlines (namely 1 x 132kV powerline and 2 x 400kV powerlines), and one (1) Li-Ion Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), the associated electrical infrastructure, (the 'proposed development') that will connect to the authorised Solar Energy Facilities collectively known as the Kentani Cluster located near the town of Dealesville, Tokologo Local Municipality (Lejweleputswa District) in the Free State Province.

SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd was appointed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd to undertake the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed development of a Main Transmission Substation (MTS), three powerlines (namely 1 x 132kV powerline and 2 x 400kV powerlines), one Li-Ion Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), the associated electrical infrastructure in the Remaining Extent of the Farm Klipfontein No. 305, Farm Leliehoek No. 748, Farm Overshot No. 31, Remainder of the Farm Oxford No. 1030, Portion 1 of the Farm Walkerville No. 1031 and Remainder of the Farm Walkerville No. 1031 located within Tokologo Local Municipality, Free State Province.

The Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended). The proposed development will also involve the re-routing of eight (8) 132kV powerlines within the grid connection corridor which has been authorised as part of the Kentani Cluster, making provision for this routing in the new proposed.

Asha Consulting (Pty) Ltd and Banzai Environmental (Pty) Ltd were appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Butler, E. 2021. PALAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSED 132KV/400KV ON-SITE MAIN TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION (MTS) AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT NEAR DEALESVILLE

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The development area is underlain by Quaternary sediments (fossil assemblages are generally very low in diversity and occur over a wide range) mantling the unfossiliferous Jurassic dolerite, and the Tierberg Formation of the Ecca Group (Karoo Supergroup). The Tierberg Formation is known for its rare trace fossils assemblages including vascular plants, palynomorphs of *Glossopteris* flora, crustaceans, shelly marine invertebrates, insects and fish fossils as well as microfossils. No visible evidence of fossiliferous outcrops was found. For this reason, an overall low palaeontological sensitivity is allocated to the development footprint.

Orton, J. 2021. HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED 132KV/400KV ON-SITE MAIN TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION (MTS) AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR DEALESVILLE, BOSHOFF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, FREE STATE

Five locations were recorded as Stone Age sites and it is likely that they were originally deposited in this area but have been redistributed by natural processes and ploughing over time. All sites are of low heritage significance and site 286 is of low-medium significance.

Recommendations

- The archaeological materials located in the scatter at waypoints 286 to 289 should be sampled by an archaeologist prior to construction; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development then work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final BAR and EMP:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development as follows:
- The results of the archaeological sampling of materials located in the scatter at waypoints 286 to 289

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prior to construction must be uploaded to the case on SAHRIS.

- 38(4)c(i) – 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 (Sityhilelo Ngcatsha/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA regarding offences;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
 - i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
 - The Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to the SAHRIS application for record purposes;
 - The decision regarding the EA application must be submitted to the SAHRIS application for record purposes.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Sityhilelo Ngcatsha
Archaeology, Palaeontology, Meteorite Assistant
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Draft BA for the proposed 132kV_400kV on-Site MTS and associated infrastructure, near Dealesville, FS

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/589362>
(DEA, Ref: TBA)