Gihon Solar Energy Facility - 576

Our Ref:

Enquiries: Phillip Hine Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: phine@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 3419

Date: Thursday September 05, 2013

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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Networx Renewables (Pty) Ltd 20 The Piazza, 2nd Floor Melrose Arch 2076 johannesburg

Proposed Gihon Solar Energy Facility near Bela-Bela, Limpopo Province

Van der Walt, J. August 2013. Archaeological Scoping Report for the proposed Gihon Solar Facility and Associated Infrastructure, Bela-Bela, Limpopo Province.

Networx Renewables (Pty) Ltd. proposes the development of a 150MW Solar facility on Portion 1, 2, 5 and 7 of the farm Turfbult 494 KR, near Bela-Bela. The footprint of the facility and associated infrastructure will be 392 hectares. A Desktop Archaeological Impact Assessment and a Letter of Exemption from Further Palaeontological Studies was submitted to SAHRA for review.

According to the Archaeological Desktop Assessment there is a low to medium probability of finding archaeological sites dating to the Stone Age and Iron Age, a low to medium probability of the presence of burials and a low to medium probability of structures and sites related to the historical period.

The palaeontological assessment indicated that that the project area lies on the northwestern edge of the Springbok Flats Basin which is underlain by basaltic volcanics of the Lebombo Group of Early Jurasic Age. It is noted that the area has a low palaeontological sensitivity and unlikely to yield any significant palaeontological resources.

Decision:

- SAHRA supports the recommendation for a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment to be undertaken for the proposed solar project. This report should be submitted to SAHRA for comment.
- The Letter of Exemption from further Palaeontological Studies is supported since it is unlikely that any significant paleontological resources will be impacted by the proposed project.
- SAHRA will make further recommendations regarding the Gihon Solar facility upon receipt of the Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment report. Please note that no development is allowed until SAHRA has provided its Final Comment on the project.

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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Phillip Hine Heritage Officer

Colette Scheermeyer

SAHRA Head Archaeologist

South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/129806

(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/576)

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.

