

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](mailto:info@sahra.org.za)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Sityhilelo Ngcatsha  
Tel: 0212028663  
Email: [sngcatsha@sahra.org.za](mailto:sngcatsha@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 19590

Date: Monday July 03, 2023  
Page No: 1

### Final Decision

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

Attention: Marielle Penwarden  
ABO Wind Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd

**ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd proposes the construction and operation of a grid connection to connect the Springhaas solar PV facilities located south-west of Dealesville in the Free State Province to add new capacity to the national electricity grid. In order for the Springhaas Solar PV facilities to evacuate the generated solar power to the national grid, a connection must be established between the solar PV facilities and the existing Eskom 400kV lines, namely the Beta/Delphi and Beta/Hydra lines located to the east and west of the solar PV facilities respectively. Line 2 is an overhead powerline up to 275kV in capacity from Springhaas Solar Facility 3 to Collector Substation B. Line 2 is located on Farm Alsace, near Dealesville, Bloemfontein, Free State Province**

GIBB Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd to register the proposed development of overhead powerlines with a capacity of up to 132kV, from the Springhaas Solar Facility 3 to Collector Substation B, near Dealesville on Farm Alsace No. 1181 in Bloemfontein, Free State (DFFE Ref: PWRLSTD/2023/FS/15).

The Background Information Document (BID) has been submitted in terms of the Standard for the Development and Expansion of Power Lines and Substations within Identified Geographical Areas, 2022, as gazetted by GN 2313 of 2022 and promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act (Act 59 of 2008), as amended. Line 2 will be in the Central Strategic Transmission Corridor and the powerline will be approximately 1.7km with a servitude of up to 47m wide.

ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed to provide the heritage specialist input in terms of Section 38(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) as well as Minimum Standards for the Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports.

*Orton, J. 2022. Heritage Impact Assessment: Proposed Powerlines Up To 275kv In Capacity From Springhaas Solar Facility 3 To Collector Substation B Within The Proposed Springhaas Grid Connection Corridor Near Dealesville In The Free State Province*

Several heritage resources which were identified within the heritage studies undertaken for the projects known



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as the Springhaas (SPH) 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9 solar energy facilities were identified near the grid connection corridor and none of these historical structures were found to occur within the study area, but at least 490m beyond the boundary of the corridor.

These include:

- A shallow earth dam (waypoint 387) at the south-western corner of the corridor of very low heritage significance.
- A small stone ruin (waypoint 293) of medium heritage significance just outside the corridor.
- A stone ruin (waypoint 294) of medium heritage significance just outside the corridor.
- A brick ruin (waypoint 295) of medium heritage significance with at least half its walls collapsed is near waypoint 294.
- A site marked as a possible grave (waypoint 384) lies just outside of the grid connection corridor and well away from the proposed development.
- All heritage resources have been avoided by the project no impacts are expected. All graves have been avoided by more than 50 m.

*Bamford, M. 2022. Desktop Study (Phase 1): Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Overhead Lines up to 275kV in Capacity from Springhaas Solar Facility 3 to Springhaas Collector Substation B, Near Dealesville, Bloemfontein, Free State*

The proposed Power Line route lies on the highly fossiliferous Quaternary calcrete and the moderately sensitive Quaternary sands. There is a small chance that fossils may be disturbed, and a Fossil Chance Find Protocol has been added to this report to be implemented during development.

SAHRA issued a final comment dated 01/11/2022 which requested the submission of the Draft Environmental Sensitivity Report (ESR) and that the Final ESR must include any new decision from SAHRA in the event that the final pre-negotiated route differ from the proposed route or comments are received during the public commenting period with regards to heritage resources. SAHRA also requested notification of the registration of the development.

The Final Environmental Sensitivity Report was subsequently submitted to the case on SAHRIS on the 09/06/2023 which noted that there are no changes to the location of the line were required. The Heritage resources specifications (Table 3-8) notes that all SAHRA's recommendations and requirements have been

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incorporated in the revised final EMPr and that SAHRA will be notified of the registration of the document.

### Final Decision

The following conditions are provided in terms of section 38(4) of the NHRA:

38(4)a – The SAHRA Development Application Unit (DAU) has no objections to the proposed development with regards to all heritage resources protected in terms of the NHRA;

38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. No further additional specific conditions are provided for the development;

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/Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660) 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/Ngqabutho Madida 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 offenses;

38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:

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 EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;  
SAHRA must be notified of the registration of the development.

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

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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/605474>  
(DFFE, Ref: )

**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.