



Final Comment

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

Attention: Dejann Trading and Investments (Pty) Ltd
P.O.Box 51884
Waterfront
8002

Establishment of a wind energy facility for up to 40MW on a site 9km north west of Humansdorp, Eastern Cape

This is a re-issuing of the original comment sent by SAHRA in February 2012. SAHRA acknowledges that the applicant is now Dejann Trading and Investments (Pty) Ltd. Please note that the responsible authority for heritage in the Eastern Cape is now the Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Authority.

Dr W. De Klerk, January 2011. Palaeontological Heritage Impact Assessment of the Proposed Happy Valley Wind Energy Facility on a site east of Humansdorp, Eastern Cape Province

Dr J. Binneman, June 2011. A Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment For The Proposed Happy Valley Wind Energy Facility Near Humansdorp, Kouga Local Municipality, District Of Humansdorp, Eastern Cape Province

Dejann Trading and Investments (Pty) Ltd. is planning to establish of a wind energy facility with a maximum of 20 turbines 9 km north west of Humansdorp, along the N2. The entire area for the development will cover about 12km² and the energy facility will have a maximum output of 40MW.

The 13 proposed turbines are going to be located on a high ridge, which is currently used for grazing and is covered by dense grass and fynbos vegetation.

A 132kV power line, which will connect the energy facility to the Melkhout substation, is also proposed, along with underground cabling between the turbines, internal access roads to each turbine and a small building (20x10m) for maintenance purposes. Each turbine will require a concrete foundation of 16x16x2.5m.

Both an archaeological and a palaeontological impact assessment were included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report. A desktop study for the scoping phase had already been undertaken by Dr Binneman and commented upon by SAHRA in September 2011.

The palaeontologist identified that the Cape Supergroup with both the Bokkeveld and the Table Mountain Groups underlie the area earmarked for the development.





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CaseID: 2793

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The Table Mountain Group is represented here by the Goudini and the Skurweberg Formations of the Nardouw Subgroup and by the Peninsula Formation, whereas the Bokkeveld Group is here located on the south-western section of the area and is composed of the Gydo Formation of the Ceres Subgroup.

After the field survey the palaeontologist concluded that the fossil significance of the area earmarked for the Happy Valley wind energy facility is very low since the fossils, which may have originally formed during the formation of these sedimentary rocks, have been most likely destroyed by the tectonic overprint of the Cape Folding Event (310 Ma) and by a long period of weathering and erosion.

Two archaeologists investigated the area and only identified one Earlier Stone Age hand axe. While previous studies in the surroundings recorded scatters of Earlier and Middle Stone Age, none of these have been considered of significance. Therefore, even if visibility was at time hampered by the thick vegetation, the archaeologist is confident that most likely, no archaeological sites of significance will be discovered during construction activities on the exposed rocky outcrops of the ridge.

If the recommendations included in this Review Comment are adhered to, SAHRA APM Unit has no objection to the development of the wind energy facility in terms of the archaeological and palaeontological components of the Heritage Impact Assessment.

If any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts (e.g., shell middens, dense concentrations of stone artefacts and/or fossilized bone), unmarked human burials or palaeontological heritage resources (e.g., fossilized shell (dense concentrations), fossilized wood, large animal teeth, amber, corals) are encountered during construction activities in the absence of an archaeologist and/or palaeontologist, the Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (Mr Sello Mokhanya, Tel: 043 642 2811) must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist and/or palaeontologist may need to be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings.

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

Yours faithfully

Mariagrazia Galimberti
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency





Our Ref: 9//2/044/0001

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Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/123235>
(DEA, Ref: 12/12/20/1861)

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.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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