

# PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE SETARIA PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR LICHTENBURG, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

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: 17357

Date: Friday November 12, 2021

Page No: 1

## Interim Comment

### In terms of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 148  
Sunninghill  
2157

**The Applicant, Setaria PV (Pty) Ltd, is proposing the construction of a photovoltaic (PV) solar energy facility (known as the Setaria PV facility) located on a site approximately 5km north west of the town of Lichtenburg in the North West Province. The solar PV facility will comprise several arrays of PV panels and associated infrastructure and will have a contracted capacity of up to 75MW. The development area is situated within the Ditsobotla Local Municipality within the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality. The site is accessible via an existing gravel road which provides access to the development area off the R505, located east of the development area. The development area for the PV facility and associated infrastructure will be located on the following properties: Portion 1 of the Farm Houthaalboomen 31 Portion 9 of the Farm Houthaalboomen 31 Portion 10 of the Farm Houthaalboomen 31 Portion 0 of Farm Talene 25 Portion 7 of Farm Elandsfontein 34 Two additional 75MW PV facilities (Barleria PV and Dicoma PV) are concurrently being considered on the project site (within Portion 1, Portion 9, and Portion 10 of the Farm Houthaalboomen 31) and are assessed through separate Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) processes.**

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Setaria PV (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed construction of a Photovoltaic (PV) solar facility on Portion 1 of the Farm Houthaalboomen 31, Portion 9 of the Farm Houthaalboomen 31, Portion 10 of the Farm Houthaalboomen 31 located approximately 5 km west of the town of Lichtenburg, Ditsobotla Local Municipality, Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality, North West Province..

A Draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include the construction of a PV solar facility and associated infrastructure.

CTS Heritage was 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).

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*Lavin, J. October 2021. Heritage Screening Assessment for the Proposed Development of a PV Facility Near Lichtenburg, North West Province.*

The Heritage Screener has identified that the proposed development is located in an area of an approved PV facility within a belt of approved renewable energy facilities. It is noted that significant archaeological resources and burials were identified within the development area previously (van Der Walt 2014). It is therefore, recommended that a 10m no-go buffer is implemented around the known sites with SAHRIS IDs 51468, 51470, and 51472. Based on the sensitivity of the area it is further recommended that a specialist archaeological assessment and a specialist palaeontological assessment are conducted for integration into the Heritage Impact Assessment.

## Interim Comment

The recommended section 38(3) HIA must include an assessment of the impact to archaeological and palaeontological resources. The field-based assessment of archaeological resources must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and the report comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports (see [www.asapa.co.za](http://www.asapa.co.za) or [www.aphp.org.za](http://www.aphp.org.za) for a list of qualified archaeologists).

The proposed development is located within an area of very high Palaeontological Sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. Therefore, a field-based Palaeontological Assessment must be conducted by a qualified palaeontologist and the report comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports.

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, and graves of victims of conflict must also be assessed.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above and draft EIA document inclusive of appendices.

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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Elijah Dumisani Katsetse  
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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://sahr.is.sahra.org.za/node/587488>