



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: 19255

Date: Wednesday August 17, 2022
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Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: SRK Consulting (Pty) Ltd - Johannesburg

265 Oxford Road
Illovo
2196

Voels Nessie C North West Province

SRK Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Mainstream Renewable Power Developments South Africa (Pty) Ltd (Mainstream) to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed development of the Stillfontein Solar Energy Facility and Associated Infrastructure, City of Matlosana Local Municipality, Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality, North West Province.

No Assessment Report (DBAR) 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 scope of work entails the construction nine (9) 100 MW PV facilities with grid connections, Battery Energy Storage System, and associated infrastructure.

Beyond Heritage have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EIA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

van der Walt, J. April 2022. Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Stillfontein Solar Energy Facilities Cluster and Associated Infrastructure, North West Province.

*van der Walt, J. April 2022. Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Stillfontein Solar Energy Facilities Cluster and Associated Infrastructure, North West Province, **Appendix 1: Project Specific Results Voels C.***

Appendix 1 contains a project specific heritage assessment of the Voels Nessie C substation and associated infrastructure on the following Farm Portions, Doordnplaat 3/410. It is stated that the topography of the area is flat without any focal point like hills or pans that would have attracted human occupation in antiquity and is

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considered to be of low heritage potential. This was confirmed during a physical walkthrogth of the study area and finds were limited to a low density (<2 artefacts per m²) of miscellaneous Stone Age flakes and chunks recorded as observation point SF002 and SF003 located outside the study area.

The following recommendations are provided for the project:

- Implement a Chance Find Procedure for the project and monitoring of the development footprint by the ECO.
- Employ an ECO to monitor the construction activities regularly.

The proposed Stilfontein Solar PV cluster is located in an area of very High palaeontological sensitivity according to the PalaeoSensitivity Map.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA's APM Unit acknowledges receipt of the application and the attached AIA report. SAHRA request that following reports are submitted in terms of section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999) as part of the EA process.

Upload all documents pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation Application Process. As per section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA (25 of 1999).

As the proposed Stillfontein Solar PV cluster is located in an area of very High palaeontological sensitivity as per SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity Map. A field assessment of the impact to palaeontological resources must be undertaken. The assessment must be conducted by a qualified palaeontologist. The report must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA and the SAHRA 2006 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Component of Impact Assessments, and the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Component of Heritage Impact Assessments. The Minimum Standards provides allowance for a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption that can be submitted by a qualified palaeontologist should they deem it appropriate.

Once all documents including all appendices are uploaded to the case application, please ensure that the

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status of the case is changed from STUDIES PENDING to STUDIES SUBMITTED. Please ensure that all documents produced as part of the EA process are submitted as part of the application.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above. The applicant is advised to extend the EA process in terms of section 19(1)b of the NEMA EIA regulations to comply with this comment.

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

Yours faithfully

Elijah Dumisani Katsetse
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/602795>