Proposed Rooidraai Solar Power Plant near Carletonville, North West Province

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 South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001 www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Elijah Dumisani Katsetse Tel: 0214624502 Email: ekatsetse@sahra.org.za CaseID: 20163 Date: Friday November 25, 2022 Page No: 1

## **Interim Comment**

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

Attention: Rooidraai Solar (Pty) Ltd

The activities entail the development of an up to 150MW photovoltaic solar facility and associated infrastructure on the Remainder of Portion 10, the Remainder of Portion 1 and Portion 15 of the Farm Rooidraai No. 88, situated within the JB Marks Local Municipality area of jurisdiction in the North West Province. The town of Carletonville is located approximately 19km southeast of the proposed development The project entails the generation of up to 150MW electrical power through photovoltaic (PV) panels. The total footprint of the project will be approximately 300 hectares (including supporting infrastructure on site)

Environamics Environmental Consultants has been appointed by Rooidraai Solar (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the development of a 150 MW PV Solar facility and associated infrastructure on the Remainder of Portion 10, the Remainder of Portion 1 and Portion 15 of the Farm Roodraai No. 88 near Carletonville, JB Marks Local Municipality, Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality, North West Province.

A Bid Document 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 of 150 MW Solar PV facility with associated infrastructure.

## **Interim Comment**

The SAHRA APM Unit acknowledges receipt of the application and request that the following is undertaken in terms of section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999) as part of the EA application process.

The proposed project has the potential to impact negatively on heritage and/or cultural resources, therefore a heritage impact assessment must be conducted. A field-based assessment of the impact to archaeological resources must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist. 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: Archaeological Component of Heritage Impact

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Assessments. The Minimum Standards provides allowance for a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption that can be submitted by a qualified archaeologist should they deem it appropriate.

The proposed project is located in an area of Very-High palaeontological sensitivity. Therefore, 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.

The assessment should include any other heritage resources that may be impacted such as built structures over years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewscapes must also be assessed.

The applicant is further advised to upload all documents including all appendices produced as part of the EA process to the SAHRIS case application.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above.

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

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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/609341