

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Sityhilelo Ngcatsha  
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CaseID: 16677

Date: Wednesday July 07, 2021  
Page No: 1

## Interim Comment

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

Attention: Reuben Maroga  
SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd

### **APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ILIKWA SOLAR PV FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE**

SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by the South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd to undertake the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the development of the Ilikwa Solar PV Facility including a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure on portion 5 of the Farm Proceederfontein 100, located 19 km west of the town Sasolburg, Free State Province.

A Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended) and the NEMA EIA Regulations. The development footprint is 195 ha in extent and the infrastructure includes a PV panel array, mounting structures, inverters, substation, Battery Energy Storage and access roads along with Operations and Maintenance Buildings.

Several heritage sites were identified by the specialists during the field-based survey which includes a cemetery and a large area characterised by a cluster of packed stone walled sites. No paleochannels or rivers were noted within the study area and there is a well-documented history within the surrounding area of historical mining activities. The possibility of locating fossils within the study area is deemed to be low. The site is deemed to be of a high heritage sensitivity and a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) (including palaeontological study) of the project will be undertaken during the impact assessment phase.

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It is noted that the a HIA inclusive of an Archaeological and Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be undertaken during the impact Assessment phase.

The archaeological component of the HIA should follow the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological Component of Impact Assessment Report. The quickest process to follow for the archaeological component would be to contract a qualified archaeologist (see [www.asapa.co.za](http://www.asapa.co.za) or [www.aphp.org.za](http://www.aphp.org.za)).

The proposed development area is located mostly within an area of low and moderate sensitivity in terms of palaeontological resources as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) will suffice. The PIA must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist (See <https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html> for a list of qualified palaeontologists). The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.

Further comments will be issued upon submission of the HIA.

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

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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/576491>