

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 19411

Date: Wednesday September 07, 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: Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 148
Sunninghill
2157

The development of a renewable energy facility, overhead powerline and associated infrastructure proposed by AVGOLD LTD. The project entails the development of an 30MW solar PV over 72 ha of land and will be known as Harmony Target Solar PV Facility, the facility will include a grid connection solution and other associated infrastructure. The Solar PV facility is based approximately 500m south of the Harmony Target mining operations, located ~1km south of the town of Allanridge within the Matjhabeng Local Municipality, and within the Lejweleputswa District Municipality, Free State Province.

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Avgold (Pty) Ltd to undertake the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed development of Harmony Target Solar PV Facility on Portion 0 of the Farm Kromdraai 386 and Portion 0 of the Farm Aandenk 227 near Allanridge within the Matjhabeng Local Municipality, Free State Province.

The Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the Nation Environmental Management Act (NEMA Act No. 107 of 1998) and the 2014 NEMA EIA regulation. The development footprint is about 245ha and the PV facility will have a generation capacity of of up to 30MW. The associated infrastructure for the development includes a grid connection and other associated infrastructure.

CTS Heritage and Prof Marion Bamford were appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process as per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA) that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA.

Lavin, J. 2022. Heritage Screener: Proposed development of the Target PV Facility near Welkom

MSA as well as LSA artefacts along with mammal fossil remains have been identified in the broader development footprint and it is therefore possible that significant heritage resources will be impacted by the

Proposed development of the 30MW Harmony Target Solar PV, Allanridge, Free State Province

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development. The development area is underlain by Quaternary Sands. No fossils have been described from the quaternary aeolian deposits in the study area and it is recommended that a Fossil Chance Find Protocol be implemented during development. It is recommended that a Heritage Impact Assessment which assesses likely impacts to archaeological and palaeontological heritage is undertaken by a heritage specialist.

Lavin, J. 2022. Heritage Impact Assessment: Proposed development of the Development of 18MWac Harmony Joel Solar PV Facility, Theunissen, Free State Province

Two isolated stone artefact (TG1) that are of low heritage significance were identified during the survey and no impacts to significant archaeological heritage resources is anticipated.

Bamford, M. 2022. Desktop Study: Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed development of the Harmony Target PV Facility, Allanridge, Free State Province

The development site lies on the potentially fossiliferous Quaternary sands and alluvium. The area has been disturbed by farming and mining activities and no vertebrate fossils have been reported. No potential traps for Quaternary fossils are visible from the satellite imagery. A Fossil Chance Find Protocol has been attached and it should be added to the EMP.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA APM Unit notes the heritage specialist studies along with the recommendations provided therein. Further comments will be issued once the Draft EIA report and its appendices has been submitted to the case.

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

Yours faithfully

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/604273>