

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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Enquiries: Phillip Hine
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CaseID: 19736

Date: Monday February 13, 2023
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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: Nguni Solar Power Plant (RF)(PTY) Ltd

The activities entail the development of an up to 250MW photovoltaic solar facility and associated infrastructure on Portion 1 of the Farm Illmasdale No. 70, situated within the JB Marks Local Municipality area of jurisdiction. The town of Ventersdorp is located approximately 27km southwest of the proposed development. The project entails the generation of up to 250MW electrical power through photovoltaic (PV) panels. The total footprint of the project will approximately be 600 hectares (including supporting infrastructure on site). The property on which the facility is to be constructed will be leased by Nguni Solar Power Plant (RF) (Pty) Ltd from the property owner, for the lifespan of the project (minimum of 20 years).

Environamics Environmental Consultants have been appointed by Nguni Solar Power Plant (RF) (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed development of up to 350 MW Photovoltaic (PV) facility and associated infrastructure on Portion 1 and 2 of the Farm Illmasdale No. 70, JB Marks Local Municipality, Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality, North West Province.

The draft Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2017 (as Amended). The scope of work entails the construction of a 350 MW PV facility with associated infrastructure.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA APM Unit acknowledges receipt of the BAR 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 and associated activities 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

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Component of Heritage Impact 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 and associated activities are located in an area of Very High palaeontological sensitivity. A field-based 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 viewsapes must also be assessed.

The applicant is advised to upload all documents pertaining to the EA process to the SAHRIS case application. Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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

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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/606257>