



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 19892

Date: Friday January 27, 2023
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Interim Comment

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

Attention: SiVEST SA (Pty) Ltd

Proposed Development of the Bonsmara Solar PV Facility (SEF) and Associated Infrastructure near Kroonstad in the Free State Province

Bonsmara Solar PV (RF) (Pty) Ltd appointed SiVEST SA (Pty) Ltd to undertake the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the construction of the Bonsmara Solar PV Facility (SEF) and associated infrastructure approximately on the remainder and portion 1 of Farm Scheveningen 636, in the Moqhaka Local Municipality, Free State Province (14/12/16/3/3/2/2228).

The Draft Scoping Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). The extent of the development area for the SEF and the associated infrastructure is approximately 1004 hectares (ha). No other location alternatives are being considered. No Potential Impacts to heritage resources are anticipated, however site-specific work will be done to identify resources within the development area.

CTS Heritage was appointed to provide heritage specialist input as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Lavin, J. 2022. PROPOSED BONSMARA SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY NEAR KROONSTAD, FREE STATE PROVINCE Heritage Screening

Sites dating to the Late Iron Age are known to occur in the region and it is possible that Early, Middle or Later Stone Age artefacts may be located within the proposed development footprint. The study area is underlain by the Adelaide Subgroup which is of very high palaeontological sensitivity and forms part of the Dicyonodon and Lystrosaurus assemblage zones. It is therefore recommended that an archaeological and palaeontological assessment of the proposed development area be undertaken.

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SAHRA issued an interim comment dated 07/11/2022 which requested that an Archaeological and **field-based** Palaeontological- Impact Assessments (PIA) be undertaken and the reports to comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments. It also requested that the reports be submitted to the development application on SAHRIS along with the Draft EIA document and its appendices.

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) has been submitted to the development application on SAHRIS on the 13/01/2022 and it is noted that the interim comment dated 07/11/2022 has been included into the FSR.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA APM Unit awaits the submission of the HIA report and the Draft EIA document along with its appendices before further comments can be issued.

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/607138>
(DEA, Ref:)