

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
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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Enquiries: Sityhilelo Ngcatsha
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CaseID: 20122

Date: Friday November 18, 2022
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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: Khwezi Solar PV (RF) Pty Ltd

The activities entail the development of a photovoltaic solar facility and associated infrastructure on the Remaining Extent, Portion 1 and Portion 2 of the Farm Koppiesdam No. 511, Registration Division Winburg, situated within the Mantsopa Local Municipality area of jurisdiction. The town of Excelsior is located approximately 10km southeast of the proposed development. The project entails the generation of up to 300MW electrical power through photovoltaic (PV) panels. The total footprint of the project will approximately be 500 hectares (including supporting infrastructure on site) that is located within the larger 750 hectares to be assessed.

Thank you for notifying the SAHRA on the proposed development of a photovoltaic solar facility and associated infrastructure on the Remaining Extent, Portion 1 and Portion 2 of the Farm Koppiesdam No. 511 in Windburg, situated within the Mantsopa Local Municipality, Free State.

The project entails the generation of up to 300MW electrical power through photovoltaic (PV) panels and the total footprint of the project will be approximately 500 hectares including the supporting infrastructure on site.

As the proposed development is undergoing an EA Application process in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is done as per section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). This must include an archaeological component, palaeontological component and any other applicable heritage components. The HIA must be conducted as part of the EA Application in terms of NEMA and the NEMA EIA Regulations.

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 or www.aphp.org.za).

The proposed development area is located mostly within an area of very high sensitivity in terms of palaeontological resources as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. As such, a field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist

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(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.

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 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 NEMA EIA documents and appendices must be submitted at the start of the public review periods in order for an informed comment to be issued that can be incorporated into the final reports for submission to the competent authority.

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

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

Proposed Kwezi Solar Power Plant near Excelsior, Free State Province

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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/609046>