



Our Ref: 9/2/044/0001, 80/12/02/027/51

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CaseID: 188

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an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

Letter

In terms of Section 35(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Mr Lance Blain
Red Cap Kouga Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd
Unit B4
Mainstream Centre
Main Road
Hout Bay
Cape Town

Establishment of the Red Cap Wind Energy Facility in three clusters, Kouga Municipality, Eastern Cape

Ms van Ryneveld undertook a micro siting survey of the position of the 41 turbines proposed in the Central Cluster of the approved Red Cap Wind Energy Facility. This was requested by SAHRA in the original comments to the project sent on the 23rd of February 2011. The document submitted to SAHRA as outcome of this micrositing also reports on the results of the test pitting undertaken along turbines 33 and 36 under SAHRA permit 80/12/002/027/51.

The micro-siting survey identified archaeological materials around four turbines: 48, 50, 53 and 61. Turbine 48 is the southernmost located turbine, right behind the aeolian sand dunes of Thyspunt. Along a quartzite outcrop, in proximity of the proposed turbine, the archaeologist identified a low density scatter of Middle and Later Stone Age artefacts *ex-situ*. The scatter is considered of low significance because of both its context and low density. The archaeologist however suggests that conservation may be the best option for this scatter. At Turbine 50 a similar scatter to the one identified at Turbine 48 was recorded along with an historical stone enclosure with a footprint size of 1.5 x 1.5m and a wall height still preserved at 70-80cm. At Turbine 53 the archaeologist identified another scatter of stone tools, mostly dating to the Later Stone Age and of very low density. In proximity of Turbine 60 another scatter of Middle and Later Stone Age stone tools with very low density was recorded over a quartzite outcrop.

The second part of the document also reports over the Phase 2 test pitting proposed in proximity of Turbines 33 and 36. Ten test pits were excavated by the geotechnical team, while the two archaeologists, Ms van Ryneveld and Dr Nilssen, supervised the activities carried out with a mechanical digger. The ten test pits were trenched down to the groundwater table located about 6m below ground. Despite the abundance of archaeological material in the area, no archaeological, or more generally no anthropogenic material, was identified in any of the ten test pits. This is possibly related to the presence of a palaeo drainage channel which formed at least in the Quaternary or earlier than that.

According to the archaeologist none of the four stone scatters which were identified during micrositing are of high archaeological significance, however conservation measures should be put in place to ensure that no archaeological resources will be affected during the construction period.

Therefore SAHRA agrees with the author of the report and requires that:



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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- Considering the cultural sensitivity of the area, no Stone Age material should be disturbed: the identified sites in proximity of Turbines 48, 50, 53 and 61 should be demarcated during construction and a buffer zone of 20m respected around them. No activity should occur within this buffer zone and the sites must be clearly demarcated on maps to ensure that preservation of the sites is implemented.
- An archaeologist should monitor the construction activities at turbines 40, 41 and 48 as previously requested by SAHRA.

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

Yours faithfully

Mariagrazia Galimberti
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/26800>
(DEA, Ref: 12/12/20/1756)

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.

