



Final Comment

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

Attention: Mr Kobus van Rensburg
Conymanzi (Pty) Ltd
Fleet House
Peter Place Office Park
54 Peter Place Road
Bryanston
2191

Proposed Solar Photovoltaic Energy Facility for 75 MW on Olyven Kolk, Northern Cape

D. Halkett and J. Orton, August 2011, Heritage Impact Assessment (Archaeology And Palaeontology):

Proposed Olyven Kolk Solar Power Plant, Northern Cape Province

J. Almond, August 2011. PIA Desktop Study. Proposed AES Solar Power Plant on the Farm Olyven Kolk 187 Near Kenhardt, Northern Cape Province

A Heritage Impact Assessment was commissioned by ERM for Environmental Impact Assessment process undertaken for the establishment of a PV solar power plant 126km south west of Upington, on portion 14 (a portion of portion 4 of Olyven Kolk Farm, No. 187. The PV plant will extend on an area of about 1000 ha with only a third of it being used for the solar panels. There will be in total about 190 units of solar panels, each of which with a generating capacity of 1MW. The maximum height of the solar panels from ground will be 2.5m. The total output of the solar plant will be 75MW.

Amongst the necessary infrastructure for the establishment of the solar farm there will be underground cables, an inverter connected to step-up transformers, which will elevate the voltage to transmit the current to the Eskom Aries Substation via a new interconnection line with a maximum voltage of 400kV. Access roads of maximum 3m width will also be necessary between the solar panels along with meteorological stations, a small site office and storage facility, site fencing and car parking, temporary construction camp (to house 60-80 people), permanent accommodation (for 4-5 people); and lay-down area for the temporary storage of materials during the construction activities (From the Environmental Impact Assessment Report). All these infrastructure will be used also for the establishment of other three solar energy plants on Farm Olyven Kolk 187: Olyven Kolk Farm 2 and 4 (DEA reference numbers 12/12/20/2170/1 and 12/12/20/2170/3 respectively) and Olyven Kolk Farm 1 (DEA reference number: 12/12/20/2264).

From an archaeological perspective surface visibility of the site was very good and no impediment to the field survey were encountered by the two archaeologists. Looking at the walk paths, it is visible that while area 7 had a minimal survey and area 6 was not surveyed at all. Given the nature of the landscape, it is safe to assume that the type of material identified on the survey area may also be encountered in the unsurveyed section.



Proposed Development of a Olyven Kolk Solar Power Plant 3

Our Ref: 9/2/048/0001

Enquiries: Mariagrazia Galimberti
Tel: 021 462 4502
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CaseID: 2439

Date: Tuesday May 28, 2013

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The most prominent archaeological evidence is represented by stone artefacts, made mostly of grey quartzite and less frequently by fine grained chert, dating from Early to Later Stone Age, with most of them belonging to the Middle Stone Age. One lower grindstone was also recorded on site. A representative sample of the material was recorded with GPS coordinates, photographed and described.

No graves were identified, whereas two structures, one shed with iron roof and a small brick cottage were recorded on site. According to the authors they have no heritage value.

The palaeontologist did not undertake a field survey, but a desktop study instead. The area on which the solar farm is proposed to be established is underlain by the Mbizane Formation of the Dwyka Group, which is overall considered of low sensitivity. The Mbizane Formation is overlain by calcretes and by deposits of the Gordonia Formation of the Kalahari Group, which has widely but sporadically occurring subfossils.

Considering the nature of the development and the geological background, the specialist recommends that it is not necessary to undertake any further palaeontological studies since it is expected that no palaeontological resources of significance will be affected by the development.

As there is apparently no evidence of any significant archaeological material in this area, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objection to the development (in terms of the archaeological and palaeontological components of the heritage resources) on condition that, if any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources are found during development or construction, SAHRA (Mariagrazia Galimberti/Colette Scheermeyer, Tel: 021 462 4502) and an archaeologist or a palaeontologist, according to the nature of the findings, must be alerted immediately.

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



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/120355>
(DEA, Ref: 12/12/20/2170/2)

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.



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