

Basic Assessment Process for the Proposed Renewable Energy Generation Facility on Robben Island

Our Ref: 9/2/018/0004



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: Ben Mwasinga
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CaseID: 8981

Date: Tuesday February 09, 2016
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Letter

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

Attention: Ms Jacqui Fincham
WSP Environmental Pty Ltd - Cape Town
3rd Floor, 35 Wale Street
Cape Town
8000

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Thank you for notifying SAHRA about the Basic Assessment Process for the development of a 500kW Photovoltaic plant on Robben Island, South Africa. It is noted that Robben Island is a National Heritage Site and a World Heritage Site. According to the Background Information Document two site alternatives are proposed for the renewable project:

- Site Alternative 1: The old cricket pitch located within the urban precinct;
- Site Alternative 2: Undeveloped land located adjacent to the old piggery and reservoir

SAHRA has reviewed the documents submitted to it and recommends the following:

1. The SAHRA has no objection to the envisaged approach to both the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and the Visual Impact Assessment (VIA). It is clear from the letter of intent that the VIA will form part of the Basic Assessment process and will focus on the visual impacts relating to the shipping route and the visual impacts from the island itself. The HIA, as stated, will be following the ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties (2011) which SAHRA supports as Robben Island is a World Heritage Site;
2. SAHRA would like to take into account and be made aware of any comments or objections made relating to the project;

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3. SAHRA must take into account the considerations of the ex-political prisoners and it is required that they should be consulted directly during the public participation process;
4. For alternative 1 (cricket pitch) there is no need for a Palaeontological Impact Assessment as it is previously disturbed. For alternative 2 (undeveloped land), a desktop palaeontological assessment will be required.

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

Yours faithfully

Ben Mwasinga
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/354465>
(DEA, Ref:)

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.

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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.