



Final Comment

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

Attention: Quinton Terhoven
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PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER GENERATION FACILITY IN DE AAR NORTHERN CAPE

Archer, W. June 2012. *Archaeological Impact Assessment: proposed photovoltaic power generation facility in De Aar, Northern Cape*

Mulilo Renewable Energy Solar PV De Aar (Pty) Ltd is proposing a 10 MW Photovoltaic power generation facility in the Northern Cape, close to De Aar. The footprint for the power plant will be a 344m X 500m array of photovoltaic (PV) panels located in the Southern part of the 1,102.49 hectare Farm No. 145/2. Two AIAs have been previously commented on by SAHRA, but these both considered sites that have been decided against by the developer. A new site has been identified as the preferred site location.

A one day survey was conducted by the archaeologist who identified scatters of *ex situ* material occurring in deflated contexts particularly in the west of the study area. These artefacts were predominantly on heavily patinated hornfels, with several pieces showing dual patination, indicating repeated use of the landscape through time. The scatter occurred over a wide area, was amorphous and lacked typological markers or formal tools, with the exception of a reworked bifacial point and two prepared platform cores. The presence of prepared platform flakes indicates a Middle Stone Age component, although it is likely much of the material may have been brought to the area during the Later Stone Age.

Case Decision:

Although the AIA calls for mitigation in the form of recording and collecting of artefacts, the author explicitly states that the artefacts have shifted considerably both vertically and horizontally and that there is no potential for *in situ* material or deposit and no possibility of dating the site. The archaeologist concludes that the site is of low significance and of no research potential and SAHRA therefore considers mitigation unnecessary.

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objection to the development (in terms of the archaeological component 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, construction or mining, SAHRA and an archaeologist and/or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the





finds, 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

Kathryn Smuts
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:
(DEA, Ref: 12/12/20/1673)

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.

