



Final Comment

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

Attention: Ms Engela Grobler
Africa Geo-environmental Services
PO Box 2526
Polokwane
0700

Renewable Energy Generation Project on the farm Grootvlei 296, Kgatelopele Local Municipality, Siyanda District Municipality, Northern Cape Province

Hutten, M. April 2013. *Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Manlenox Solar Park west of Barkly West, Northern Cape Province*

MANLENOX (Pty) Ltd (Reg. n. 2012/016629/07) is proposing the development of a 60 MW Photovoltaic (PV) solar energy facility in the north eastern portion of the Farm Grootvlei 296, Barkly West District, Northern Cap; the project footprint will be 170ha. Electricity will be delivered to Eskom's Silverstreams-Ulco 132kV power line via two new 100m loop in and loop out lines and a new on-site substation or via the Boundary-Olien 1 or 2 275kV power lines. Two site locations were investigated and Alternative 2 has been identified as the preferred location for the EIA phase. The proposed location is currently used for grazing and is fitted with watering troughs filled by wind pumps and is traversed by small tracks. The site is largely flat, sloping down towards the Klein-Riet River to the south; several small pans were noted on the property.

The archaeologist consulted several previous studies of the area, which recorded significant numbers of Stone Age sites in the area, particularly close to water sources, as well as historic remains. The author conducted a foot survey of the area with two assistants and also spoke to the farm owner. The foot survey yielded occasional, isolated Later Stone Age finds mostly confined to the exposed limestone reefs that protruded through the sandy surface soils across the area. No description of the items was provided, nor an indication of their raw material. Due to the sparse distribution of these artefacts, they were accorded low significance.

Palaeontological assessment of an adjacent property indicated that this study area is underlain by Pre-Cambrian limestone dolomites of the Ghaap Group and late Cenozoic calcretes of the Kalahari Group. While these groups may be fossiliferous, it is unlikely that the proposed development of the solar farm will impact on significant palaeontological resources.

Case Decision:

As the archaeological material in this area is of low heritage significance, and the likelihood of impacts on the palaeontology small, 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 is 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:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/123343>

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.

