



Enquiries: Kathryn Smuts  
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CaseID: 176

Date: Friday September 28, 2012

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## Final Comment

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

Attention: Ms Thobile Duma  
Kala-hari Survey Solutions and Products  
P. O. Box 2032  
Mondeor  
2110

### **Proposed 75MWp Photovoltaic Power Plant and its associated infrastructure on a portion of the remaining extent of ERF 1 Prieska, Northern Cape “ABC Prieska Solar 1 project” NEAS Reference: DEA/EIA/0001221/2012 DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/345**

Murimbika, M. & Mlilo, T. August 2012. *Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment Report for: Proposed 75MWP Photovoltaic Power Plant and its Associated Infrastructure on a Portion of the Remaining Extent of Erf 1 Prieska, Northern Cape - “Abc Prieska Solar 1 Project”*

ABC Prieska Solar (Pty) Ltd has proposed the establishment of a 75 MW Photovoltaic Solar Facility on the Remaining Extent of Erf 1 Prieska, Northern Cape Province. The plant will be approximately 300 ha in size and is currently zoned agricultural. The facility infrastructure will incorporate new internal roads; a water supply line, water booster pump station and water storage facility; ablution facilities, mess area and conservancy tanks; an overhead power line and substations/transformers connecting the facility to the Eskom grid; security fencing, an office, guard house and a warehouse.

The archaeological assessment comprised background research and a field survey. Background research revealed that the region has a significant number of archaeological and historic artefacts and sites, with Stone Age sites predominating. The field inspection identified scatters of stone tools that were most dense closest to the Eskom substation. These tools included some ESA materials, MSA retouched flakes, scrapers, blades, points and cores and were *ex situ* and heavily weathered. No burials were identified on the site, although a municipal cemetery exists beyond the development footprint. The authors note that the area forms part of the regional cultural landscape associated with the history of white settlement, colonial wars and the arrival of black African's in the area, with the area surrounding the development site containing urban settlements associated with the mines.

No palaeontological assessment was conducted.

#### **Decision:**

SAHRA requires that:

- A palaeontological assessment be compiled for the study area to assess whether or not the development will impact upon palaeontological resources (see attached list of accredited Palaeontologists). If this is deemed unnecessary, a letter of recommendation for exemption from a professional Palaeontologist is needed.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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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 component of the heritage resources) on condition that, if any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, graves or other heritage resources are found during development, construction or mining, SAHRA APM Unit and an archaeologist 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

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Kathryn Smuts  
Heritage Officer: Archaeology  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Colette Scheermeyer  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**  
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/345)

**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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