



## Final Comment

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

Attention: Mr JC Pretorius  
Worley Parsons RSA (Pty) Ltd  
PO Box 22  
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South Africa

### Proposed Redstone Solar Thermal Energy Power Project, Postmasburg

Fourie, W. June 2011. *Humansrus Solar Thermal Energy Power Plant, Postmasburg*

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SolarReserve South Africa (Pty) Ltd has proposed the establishment of the Redstone Solar Thermal Energy Power Project on the Farm 469 the Hay RD, near Daniëlskuil and Postmasburg in the Northern Cape, South Africa. The Plant will make use of a Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) Central Receiver Tower technology, with molten salt as heat transfer fluid and storage medium. The Plant will cover approximately 600 ha and generate up to 100 MW of power.

The archaeologist conducted a scoping assessment and a full HIA. The author describes the site as flanked to east and west by rocky ridges, but otherwise flat and undulating; a perennial stream and tributary run across the south west of the property and has created a seasonal pan there. The land is currently used for livestock grazing and horses are bred on the property. A walking survey of the development area focused on the proposed development footprint and areas of likely archaeological sensitivity.

The survey identified numerous areas that contained low density scatters of Middle and Later Stone Age artefacts, particularly concentrated at exposed pebble layers along dry river beds and pans. These occurrences were determined to be *ex situ* and of low heritage significance. A single discernible site (PGS06) was identified to the west of the CSP footprint. This site consisted of a medium density of MSA flakes (20-40 artefacts per m<sup>2</sup>), cores and waste and was determined to be *in situ* and of medium significance.

The survey further identified three sites with stone cairns, each aligned east-west, and one with three ceramic fragments on top. ACO2-PGS09 consisted of a partially fenced cemetery with five stone packed graves in two lines; one of the graves had a headstone dated to 1913. These graves were associated with the nearby farmhouse. PGS14 consisted of four graves. The report also notes the presence of three possible infant burials (ACO13, PGS11-13).

Several historical structures were also recorded, including rectangular and circular possible kraal structures, remains of possible workers' cottages - these thought to be related to the infant burials, a midden containing modern debris, and the ruins of the old Humansrus farmhouse, shed and kraal or dam. All of these were





accorded low significance.

The geology of the area proposed for development is dominated by the Transvaal Supergroup and Kalahari Group sediments. According to the submitted letter regarding palaeontology, the palaeontological sensitivity of these geological groups is low to very low. It is therefore unlikely that the proposed development, with its limited footprint and shallow excavations will impact on significant fossil resources.

### Case Decision:

SAHRA supports the recommendations of the author and requests that:

- Site PGS06 is generally protected in terms of Section 35(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and requires mitigation. The specialist will require a mitigation permit from the relevant Heritage Resources Authority. Mitigation should take the form of systematic surface collection and limited test excavation, to be undertaken before trenching and any other earth-moving activity resulting from this proposed project commence. The visible material boundaries of the sites to be mitigated must be surveyed with the aid of a surveying instrument and mapped. A photographic record must be established immediately before, during and after mitigation. On receipt of a satisfactory mitigation (Phase 2) permit report from the archaeologist, the heritage authority will make further recommendations in terms of the site, such as its final destruction or additional sampling.
- The burials recorded as AC02 - PGS09 should be restored where these are dilapidated, protected and conserved. For this purpose, a proper fence must be built around them including entry gates to allow visits from relatives and family friends. The fence must be placed 5 meters away from the perimeter of the graves. No development is allowed within 15 meters from the fence line surrounding the graves. A Conservation Management Plan should be drafted and included in the project EMP. If the burials cannot be conserved *in situ* and protected in this way, the applicant will need to liaise with the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves Unit to determine the appropriate way forward.
- The possible infant burials at ACO13, PGS11-13 should be investigated by means of shovel testing to determine whether they are indeed graves; a Shovel Testing Permit will be required for this work. If the features are graves, general protection under Section 36 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999) applies. As such, protection and conservation is always the preferred course of action, and the graves should be preserved and protected in the same way as those above. Again if this measure cannot be implemented, the applicant should contact SAHRA.

If the recommendations made in the specialist report and in this comment are adhered to, 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). 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 a professional 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.





Our Ref: 9/2/074/0001

Enquiries: Kathryn Smuts  
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CaseID: 2918

Date: Monday July 15, 2013

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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

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/124440>  
(DEA, Ref: 12/12/20/2316)

**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.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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