Our Ref:



an agency of the Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001 www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Elijah Dumisani Katsetse

Tel: 0214624502

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CaseID: 15703

Date: Thursday November 05, 2020

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# **Final Comment**

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

Attention: Vryburg Solar 2 (Pty) Ltd

## **PV2 Facility**

Savannah Environmental has been appointed by Vryberg Solar 1 (Pty) Ltd in terms of regulation 29 of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment regulation to motivate for the amendment of an Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the authorised development of the Vryburg solar 1 energy facility North West Province.

The project has been authorised by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The EA is for the development of a solar PV facility with a contracted capacity of up to 115MV and associated infrastructure.

A draft Motivation Report has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed amendment will include the installation of a battery energy storage system (BESS) within the authorised laydown footprint.

A previous SAHRIS Case ID 12804 has reference

(https://sahris.sahra.org.za/cases/basic-assessment-proposed-development-...). In the Final Comment issued on 19/09/2018, SAHRA noted no objections to the original EA application and provided conditions for the development.

CTS Heritage has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA Amendment application report as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Levin, J. 2020. Heritage Screening Assessment for the proposed amendment to the Vryburg 1 Solar facility, North West Province.

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## **Heritage Comments:**

-No archaeological resources were identified in the project area identified for the development of the BESS

-No graves graves and burial grounds were identified in the project area identified for the development of the BESS. However, graves are subterranean in nature and may not have been identified during the initial site visit and survey.

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### Palaeontological Comments:

- The project area for the development of the BESS falls within the area of high palaeosensitivity and although no fossils were identified during site visit and survey, a chance find is outlined and recommended.

### Overall Recommendation(s)

The heritage resources in the area of the proposed development are sufficiently recorded - The surveys undertaken in the area adequately captured the heritage resources. There are no known sites which require mitigation or management plans. No further heritage work is recommended for the proposed development.

### **Final Comment**

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final Amendment Report and EMPr:

- 38(4)a The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed amendment;
- 38(4)b The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development as follows:
- The conditions provided in the Final Comment issued on the 19/09/2018 still apply and must be adhered to (<a href="https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/512059">https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/512059</a>);
- 38(4)c(i) If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Elijah Katsetse/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per

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section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

- 38(4)d See section 51(1) of the NHRA;
- 38(4)e The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
- i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
- The Final Amendment Report and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the EA Amendment Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case

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

Yours faithfully

Elijah Dumisani Katsetse

Heritage Officer

South African Heritage Resources Agency

## **Vryburg Solar 2**

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Phillip Hine

Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit

South African Heritage Resources Agency

# ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/543870

(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1940)

## 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.