



## Final Comment

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

Attention: Mr Posholi Mapheshoane  
Thabong Solar Farm (Pty) Ltd  
65 Swansway  
Heuwelsig  
Kimberley  
8301

**THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A 75MW PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR FARM, A 132KV POWER LINE AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF THE FARM ONVERWAG NO. 728 AND PORTION 2 OF THE FARM VAALKRANZ NO. 220, WELKOM, MATJHABENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, FREE STATE PROVINCE.**

**Van Ryneveld, K. October 2013. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment The Lebone Solar Farm, Onverwag RE/728 And Vaalkranz 2/220, Welkom, Free State, South Africa**

**Groenewald, G. October 2013. Palaeontological Assessment Of The Proposed Development Of A 75mw Photovoltaic Solar Farm On The Remaining Extent Of The Farm Onverwag No 728 And Portion 2 Of The Farm Vaalkranz No 220, Welkom, Free State Province.**

The proposed development entails a solar farm on a study area of approximately 634ha with a total laydown footprint of approximately 194ha which will include associated infrastructure such as an on-site substation, wiring between the PV mirror and the substation, internal access roads, security infrastructure and a storage area.

In terms of archaeological heritage resources, the assessment yielded the following:

Site LSF-S1: a small cement dam, inferred to pre-date 60 years of age and by implication formally protected by the NHRA 1999. The dam measures approximately 4-5m in diameter. The author notes that the structure is rather overgrown and no longer in use. The author recommends that the site be either fenced off with construction netting or a similar visually clearly demarcated banner for the tenure of construction, or that the site be destroyed under a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority.

Site LSF-S2: part of the earlier Colonial Period farming landscape. The site comprises of 2 rows of vegetation running approximately 70m apart parallel in a rough north-east to south west direction for more or less 160m.

The author recommends that the site be either fenced off with construction netting or a similar visually clearly demarcated banner for the tenure of construction, or that the site be destroyed under a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority.



**Our Ref:**

Enquiries: Andrew Salomon  
Tel: 021 462 4502  
Email: [asalomon@sahra.org.za](mailto:asalomon@sahra.org.za)  
CaseID: 5002

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destroyed without the developer having to apply for a SAHRA Site Destruction Permit.

Site LSF-S3: the remains of a Colonial Period farmstead but contemporary cultural overlay is evident at the site, having impacted on Colonial Period site features and resulted in additional contemporary features having been placed amidst the Colonial Period features radically decreasing the heritage significance of the site. The author recommends that the site preferably be conserved, or alternatively the developer should ensure that a Phase 2 archaeological mitigation program precedes development.

Site LSF-S4: Partial foundation remains of a stone-built rectangular structure, possibly an outbuilding of LSF-S3. The author recommends that the site preferably be conserved, or alternatively the developer should ensure that a Phase 2 archaeological mitigation program precedes development.

Site LSF-S5: a railway bridge situated just outside the proposed study site and will not be impacted on by development. The bridge can reasonably be inferred to date to the 1949 period when the railway siding was constructed. The site will not be affected by the proposed development.

**Final Comment**

In terms of archaeological heritage resources, the SAHRA APM Unit has no objection to the proposed development on the condition that if any additional evidence of archaeological sites or remains are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA APM Unit must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

In terms of palaeontological heritage resources, the SAHRA APM Unit supports the author's recommendations that the EAP of the project team should be made aware of the possible occurrence of fossils. If any fossils are recorded during initial field visits, a trained palaeontologist must be notified to assess the finds. Where construction is envisaged on areas with a Moderate sensitivity rating, a palaeontological site inspection by a qualified palaeontologist needs to be done to assess the presence of fossils.

Decisions relating to the Built Environment resources recorded must be obtained from the Free State Provincial Heritage Resources Authority.

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

Yours faithfully



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

Street Address: 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town 8000 \* Postal Address: PO Box 4637, Cape Town 8000  
\* Tel: +27 21 462 4502 \* Fax: +27 21 462 4509 \* Web: <http://www.sahra.org.za>

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Andrew Salomon  
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:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/158459>  
(DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/580)

**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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