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CaseID: 20164

Date: Friday March 17, 2023
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Turffontein Solar 1 (Pty) Ltd

The activities entail the development of an up to 240MW photovoltaic solar facility and associated infrastructure on Portion 4 of the Farm Turffontein No. 126, the Portion 4 of the Farm Turffontein No. 126, the Remaining Extent, Portion 1 and Portion 3 of the Farm Kleinfontein No. 141, and Portions 1, 11, 23 and 28 of the Farm Doornfontein No. 118, situated within the Merafong Local Municipality and JB Marks Local Municipality area of jurisdiction, in the Gauteng and North West Provinces respectively. The town of Carletonville is located approximately 17km northeast of the proposed development. The project entails the generation of up to 240MW electrical power through photovoltaic (PV) panels. The total footprint of the project will approximately be 480 hectares (including supporting infrastructure on site).

Van Schalkwyk, J. December 2022. Phase 1 Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment: The Development Of The Turffontein Solar 1 Photovoltaic Solar Energy Facility, Near Carletonville, Gauteng And North West Provinces

Butler, E. 2022 Palaeontological Impact Assessment Turffontein 1 Solar Photovoltaic Energy Facility, Near Carletonville, Gauteng And North West Province

The proposed development entails a photovoltaic facility and associated infrastructure.

The archaeological assessment revealed no sites, features or objects of cultural significance.

The palaeontological assessment revealed that the Turffontein Solar 1 development is underlain by the Malmani Subgroup (Chuniespoort Group, Transvaal Supergroup). A site-specific field survey of the development footprint revealed no fossiliferous outcrops. If fossil remains are discovered during any phase of construction, either on the surface or uncovered by excavations, the site manager in charge of these developments must be notified immediately; the discoveries must be secured and the site manager must alert SAHRA so that appropriate mitigation can be undertaken by a professional palaeontologist.

Final Comment



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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In terms of archaeological and palaeontological heritage, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objections to this proposed development, provided that the recommendations in the above specialist reports and this comment are adhered to, and in addition, on the following conditions:

- A palaeontological Chance Find Protocol must be implemented by the Environmental Control Officer or site manager in charge of these developments.
- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments and charcoal/ash concentrations) or palaeontological remains are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, based on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow.

Should the project be granted Environmental Authorisation, SAHRA must be notified and all relevant documents submitted to the case on SAHRIS.

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

Yours faithfully

Andrew Salomon
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Proposed Turffontein Solar 1 near Carletonville, Gauteng and North West Provinces

Our Ref: 20164



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Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/609349>

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.