# HERITAGE SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED IKWEZI 10 MW PV SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY, SITE 60826

# FOR COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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# **TABLE OF CONTENT**

INTRODUCTION	
NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT OF 1999	
METHOD	
Defining significance	
RESULTS	
DESKTOP STUDY	
FIELD SURVEY	
SIY01 and SIY02	
SIY03	
S1 and S2	
PALAEONTOLOGY	
MANAGEMENT PLAN	
CONCLUSION	
REFERENCES	
APPENDIX A	
SITE RECORD FORMS	2
TABLE OF FIGURES	
TABLE OF FIGURES	
FIG. 1 GENERAL LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT	ı
FIG. 2: AERIAL OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT	
FIG. 3: TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF THE PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT	
FIG. 4: LOCATION OF SETTLEMENTS IN 1959	
FIG. 5: LOCATIONS OF SURVEYED AREAS	
FIG. 6: LOCATIONS OF RECORDED SITES IN THE FINALIZED STUDY AREA	
FIG. 7A: STONE CAIRN AT SIY01	
FIG. 7B: STONE CAIRN AT SIY02	
FIG. 7C: LOCATION OF SIY01 IN RELATION TO THE FENCING AND BUFFER ZONE	2
FIG. 8: STONE TOOLS AT SIY03	
FIG. 9: LOCATION OF TWO SENSITIVE AREAS	
FIG. 10: VIEW OF THE SENSITIVE AREAS	
FIG. 11: PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING THE MAKELIB OF A PHOTOVOLTAIC APPAY	20

#### INTRODUCTION

Umlando was contracted by Coastal Environmental Services and Gehrlicher Ikhwezi (Pty) Ltd, to undertake the heritage survey of the proposed Ikhwezi 10 MW PV Solar Energy Facility in the East London Industrial Development Zone (IDZ) (fig. 1 -3). There are several sites marked for Solar Energy, and this report deals with site 60826. The development intends to install photovoltaic panels in various parts of the ELIDZ. These installations will be in a phased approach.

# The impacts will be:

- Sub surface support structures that may extend to a max depth of 0.5m deep.
- Subsurface connecting electricity cables to/from the sites. The main cable has already been built by the IDZ

The area is relatively undisturbed; however, subsurface servitudes have been installed in the vacant land. An adjacent plot has been levelled with the rocks deposited onto parts of the study area.

The area consists of mudstones with subordinate sandstone of the Adelaide Subgroup of the Beaufort Group of the Karoo Super group, underlying most of the area and is intruded by Karoo dolerite dykes and sills. The soil is not deep, and consists of colluvial (silty) clay soils of varying depths between 0.8m to 2.9m (Terreco 2011). Underneath this is a mudstone layer, referred to as the Beaufort Formation.

Vegetation within the ELIDZ consists of bushveld and grassland vegetation types and is typical of vegetation found along the Indian Ocean coastal belt. The Environmental Management Frame work for the ELIDZ identified vegetation units remaining in the IDZ after the installation of services as follows:

- A. Riparian vegetation (i.e. valley thicket);
- B. Grasslands (i.e. coastal grassland);
- C. Wetlands (inundated coastal grassland); and
- D. Thickets (dune thicket).

The survey located isolated stone tools dating to the Middle Stone Age (MSA) and Late Stone Age (LSA). The survey also noted three stone cairns that may be human graves. The graves will not be directly affected as it is outside of the study area; however, the IDZ management needs to be made aware of these for future developments.

The possible graves need to be fenced off by the IDZ. No further mitigation is required for this development.

FIG. 1 GENERAL LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT

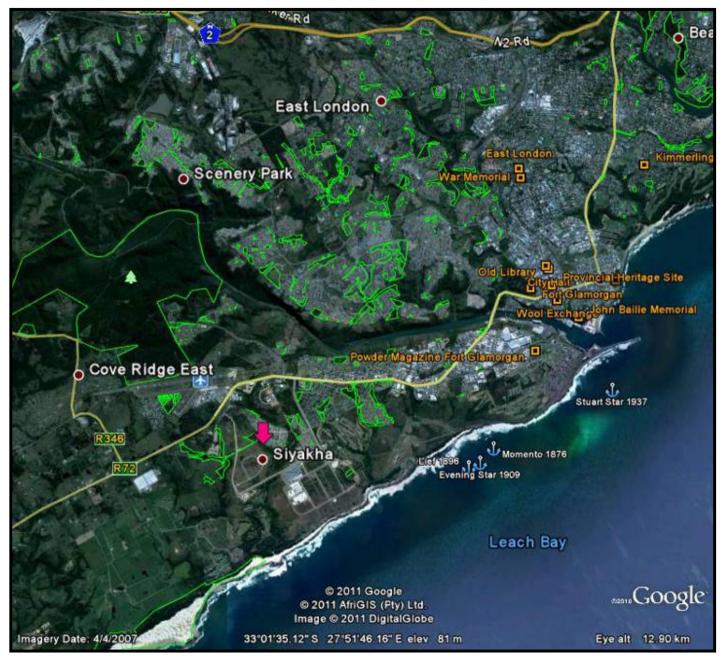


FIG. 2: AERIAL OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT

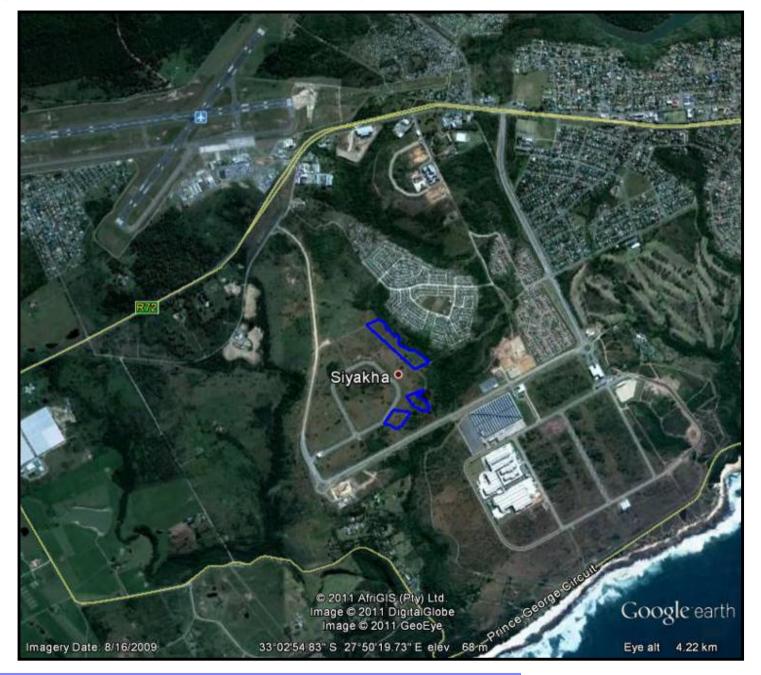
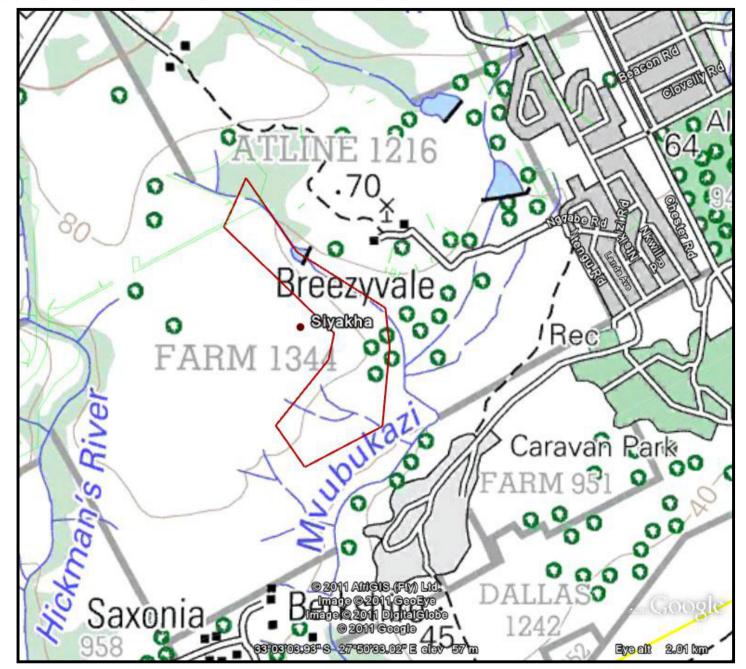


FIG. 3: TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF THE PROPOSED PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT



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#### **NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT OF 1999**

The National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (pp 12-14) protects a variety of heritage resources. This are resources are defined as follows:

- 1. "For the purposes of this Act, those heritage resources of South Africa which are of cultural significance or other special value for the present community and for future generations must be considered part of the national estate and fall within the sphere of operations of heritage resources authorities.
- 2. Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the national estate may include—
  - 2.1. Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance;
  - 2.2. Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
  - 2.3. Historical settlements and townscapes;
  - 2.4. Landscapes and natural features of cultural significance;
  - 2.5. Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance;
  - 2.6. Archaeological and palaeontological sites;
  - 2.7. Graves and burial grounds, including—
    - 2.7.1. Ancestral graves;
    - 2.7.2. Royal graves and graves of traditional leaders;
    - 2.7.3. Graves of victims of conflict;
    - 2.7.4. Graves of individuals designated by the Minister by notice in the Gazette;
    - 2.7.5. Historical graves and cemeteries; and
    - 2.7.6. Other human remains which are not covered in terms of the Human Tissue Act, 1983 (Act No. 65 of 1983);
- 3. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa;
  - 3.1. Movable objects, including—

- 4. Objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens;
  - 4.1. Objects to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
  - 4.2. Ethnographic art and objects;
  - 4.3. Military objects;
  - 4.4. objects of decorative or fine art;
  - 4.5. Objects of scientific or technological interest; and
  - 4.6. books, records, documents, photographic positives and negatives, graphic, film or video material or sound recordings, excluding those that are public records as defined in section 1(xiv) of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996).
- 5. Without limiting the generality of subsections (1) and (2), a place or object is to be considered part of the national estate if it has cultural significance or other special value because of—
  - 5.1. Its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
  - 5.2. Its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
  - 5.3. Its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
  - 5.4. Its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects;
  - 5.5. Its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group;
  - 5.6. Its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period;
  - 5.7. Its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;
  - 5.8. Its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa; and

5.9. sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa"

# **METHOD**

The method for Heritage assessment consists of several steps.

The first step forms part of the desktop assessment. Here we would consult the database that has been collated by Umlando. This databases contains archaeological site locations and basic information from several provinces (information from Umlando surveys and some colleagues), most of the national and provincial monuments and battlefields in Southern Africa (http://www.vuvuzela.com/googleearth/monuments.html) and cemeteries southern Africa (information supplied by the Genealogical Society of Southern Africa). We use 1st and 2nd edition 1:50 000 topographical and 1937 aerial photographs where available, to assist in general location and dating of buildings and/or graves. The database is in Google Earth format and thus used as a guick reference when undertaking desktop studies. Where required we would consult with a local data recording centre, however these tend to be fragmented between different institutions and areas and thus difficult to access at times. We also consult with an historical architect, palaeontologist, and an historian where necessary.

The survey results will define the significance of each recorded site, as well as a management plan.

All sites are grouped according to low, medium, and high significance for the purpose of this report. Sites of low significance have no diagnostic artefacts or features. Sites of medium significance have diagnostic artefacts or features and these sites tend to be sampled. Sampling includes the collection of artefacts for future analysis. All diagnostic pottery, such as rims, lips, and decorated sherds are sampled, while bone, stone, and shell are mostly noted. Sampling usually

occurs on most sites. Sites of high significance are excavated and/or extensively sampled. Those sites that are extensively sampled have high research potential, yet poor preservation of features.

# **Defining significance**

Heritage sites vary according to significance and several different criteria relate to each type of site. However, there are several criteria that allow for a general significance rating of archaeological sites.

#### These criteria are:

# 1. State of preservation of:

- 1.1. Organic remains:
- 1.1.1. Faunal
- 1.1.2. Botanical
- 1.2. Rock art
- 1.3. Walling
- 1.4. Presence of a cultural deposit
- 1.5. Features:
- 1.5.1. Ash Features
- 1.5.2. Graves
- 1.5.3. Middens
- 1.5.4. Cattle byres
- 1.5.5. Bedding and ash complexes

# 2. Spatial arrangements:

- 2.1. Internal housing arrangements
- 2.2. Intra-site settlement patterns
- 2.3. Inter-site settlement patterns

# 3. Features of the site:

3.1. Are there any unusual, unique, or rare artefacts or images at the site?

- 3.2. Is it a type-site?
- 3.3. Does the site have a very good example of a specific time period, feature, or artifact?

# 4. Research:

- 4.1. Providing information on current research projects
- 4.2. Salvaging information for potential future research projects

# 5. Inter- and intra-site variability

- 5.1. Can this particular site yield information regarding intra-site variability, i.e. spatial relationships between various features and artefacts?
- 5.2. Can this particular site yield information about a community's social relationships within itself, or between other communities?

# 6. Archaeological Experience:

6.1. The personal experience and expertise of the CRM practitioner should not be ignored. Experience can indicate sites that have potentially significant aspects, but need to be tested prior to any conclusions.

# 7. Educational:

- 7.1. Does the site have the potential to be used as an educational instrument?
  - 7.2. Does the site have the potential to become a tourist attraction?
- 7.3. The educational value of a site can only be fully determined after initial test-pit excavations and/or full excavations.

# 8. Other Heritage Significance:

- 8.1. Palaeontological sites
- 8.2. Historical buildings
- 8.3. Battlefields and general Anglo-Zulu and Anglo-Boer sites
- 8.4. Graves and/or community cemeteries
- 8.5. Living Heritage Sites
- 8.6. Cultural Landscapes, that includes old trees, hills, mountains, rivers, etc related to cultural or historical experiences.

The more a site can fulfill the above criteria, the more significant it becomes. Test-pit excavations are used to test the full potential of an archaeological deposit. This occurs in Phase 2. These test-pit excavations may require further excavations if the site is of significance (Phase 3). Sites may also be mapped and/or have artefacts sampled as a form of mitigation. Sampling normally occurs when the artefacts may be good examples of their type, but are not in a primary archaeological context. Mapping records the spatial relationship between features and artefacts.

# **RESULTS**

#### **DESKTOP STUDY**

The desktop study consisted of analysing various maps for evidence of prior habitation in the study area, as well as for previous archaeological surveys. The 1959 topographical map (fig. 4) indicates that there are three settlements in the study area. The co-ordinates for each settlement was noted and visited during the survey.

The area was previously surveyed by Binneman and Webley (1998). No sites were observed during this survey, due to dense vegetation. The area was marked as being sensitive and requiring an archaeologist on site during clearance. Anderson (2009) and Van Ryneveld (1998a-d) have surveyed adjacent areas (fig.5). Anderson recorded seven shell middens closer to the ocean. Van Ryneveld recorded historical buildings and Cove Rock itself as having cultural significance.

Rubidge (1998) has undertaken desktop study adjacent to the study area and noted that the Beaufort Formations is very sensitive and would require inspection if affected.

FIG. 4: LOCATION OF SETTLEMENTS IN 1959

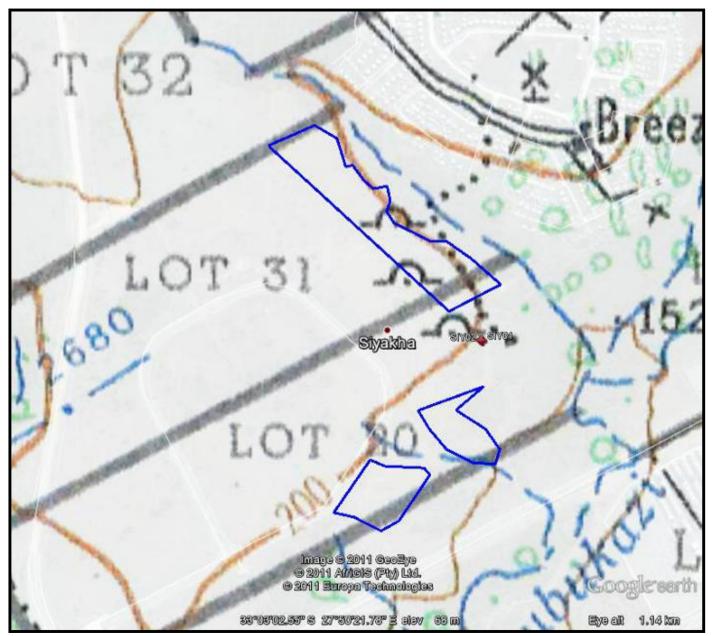


FIG. 5: LOCATIONS OF SURVEYED AREAS<sup>1</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Yellow = Binneman & Wadley (1996), Purple = van Ryneveld (2008a-d), red = Rubridge (2008); White = Anderson (2009 & this report)

FIG. 6: LOCATIONS OF RECORDED SITES IN THE FINALIZED STUDY AREA



#### FIELD SURVEY

The field survey was undertaken over one day in October 2011. Table 1. Figure 6 shows the locations of the finds.

Name	Description	South	East	Requires
				Mitigation
SIY01	Possible	33 03 03.96	27 50 30.36	Yes
	human grave			
SIY02	Possible	33 3 04.08	27 50 30.42	Yes
	human grave			
SIY03	Ephemeral	33 02 58.75	27 50 19.32	No
	stone tool			
	scatter			
Sensitive 1	Possible sub-	33 02 59.44	27 50 28.94	Yes
	surface			
	graves			
Sensitive 2	Possible sub-	33 02 58.45	27 50 27.19	Yes
	surface			
	graves			

# SIY01 and SIY02

SIY01 an SIY02 each consist of small rocks that have been placed in an oval shape (fig. 7a-b). Some rocks have been placed in the inside of the circle. The cairns are ~1m x m in size. The vegetation is very thick in this area and I could not assess further into the bushes, not obtain better views of the graves. There is a third feature just southwest of SIY01. The shape of these features and the location of these stones suggest that this is not a natural phenomenon. Figure 4 clearly shows one settlement near (within 50m²) these features. Thus given the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The topographical map is not 100% lined up

location of the three stone cairns in relation to the 1959 settlement, I would suggest that these are graves.

The features are located just outside the study area and about 4m from the concrete and electrified fence. However, they have been noted, as this is one route in which a cable may reach the northern study area.

Significance: Unless proven otherwise, these features must be considered as graves, and are thus high significance.

Mitigation: The graves do not fall under this specific project; however, the management of the IDZ will need to demarcate these possible graves. The settlements occur on the 1959 topographical map, suggesting they predate 1959. This age, and that they are ancestral graves, would make the graves protected by the NHRA. According to the NHRA there must be a 5m boundary between the edge of a grave, and no development may come within 20m of a grave. The demarcation is important as these graves are on the border of the fence buffer zone that is repeatedly mowed (see figure 7c).

# SIY03

SIY03 is located along the northern part of the development, although it probably extends across the entire hill. The area is densely vegetated in places, so I concentrated along those areas that had been exposed by some form of activity. I noted five stone tools in a ~50m radius (fig. 8). They are as follows:

- Upper grinding stone on quartzite (made from a river pebble)
- 1 x quartzite Middle Stone Age flake
- 1 x indeterminate quartzite flake
- 2 x Late Stone Age flakes (possibly on white quartz)

FIG. 7A: STONE CAIRN AT SIY01



# FIG. 7B: STONE CAIRN AT SIY02<sup>3</sup>



 $^{\rm 3}$  Note trees already growing on the cairn. GPS marks the middle of cairn

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# FIG. 7C: LOCATION OF SIY01 IN RELATION TO THE FENCING AND BUFFER ZONE



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I surveyed several other exposed areas along the ridge but did not find any more stone tools. This is thus an ephemeral scatter of tools, and not a site *per se*.

Significance: The artefacts are of low significance as the tools are few in number and a secondary context.

Mitigation: No further mitigation is required.





#### S1 and S2

Figure 4 indicates that there are three settlements in the northern area. SIY01 and SIY02 are related to the southern settlement, and I believe S1 and S2 are related to the other two settlements. Figure 9 shows the location of these two sensitive areas. Both areas are noted for large wattle trees and other bushes

along the upper part of the slope. Bother areas also have two smaller bushy areas 30m - 37m to the northeast of the wattle (fig. 10). I surveyed these areas but could not find any evidence of human occupation. The bushy areas, in relation to the topographical maps, do however indicate human settlements. The smaller bushy areas (fig. 8) may thus be areas of human graves. If these two areas were related to the southern site, then one would expect the possible graves would have stone cairns as well. This is not the case, and there is no physical evidence for graves and thus they are technically not graves. These two areas should be demarcated as sensitive areas, and should not have supporting poles inserted into the ground. Ideally, the areas should be demarcated; however there is no confirmation that these are graves. If any human remains are discovered during construction, then the area must be closed down and the incident reported to SAHRA. However, since there will not be any subsurface ground movement, it is unlikely that potential human remains would be observed.



FIG. 9: LOCATION OF TWO SENSITIVE AREAS

# FIG.10: VIEW OF THE SENSITIVE AREAS



#### **PALAEONTOLOGY**

Rubidge (1998) undertook a desktop study of the Cove Rock Farm. Therein he noted:

"The entire area is underlain by rocks of the Middleton Formation of the Beaufort Group. These rocks are known to contain fossil tetrapods of the *Pristerognathus*, *Tropidostoma*, and *Cistecephalus* assemblage zones which are Late Permian in age. At most localities the Middleton Formation is not very rich in fossils, but rocks in the area to be developed may well contain fossils. Because the entire area is covered by vegetation, no rocks are exposed and it is thus not possible to prospect for fossils in the area....

....because the underlying rocks of the Beaufort Group are known to be rich in fossil reptiles, fossils may be uncovered in the process of excavation. It is thus recommended that should extensive outcrops of mudrocks of the Beaufort Group be exposed in the course of the development, that the exposed rocks be searched by a qualified palaeontologist"

The Cove Rock report is 1.7km – 2km east of the study area, however it has the same geology, and thus similar potential for palaeontological remains.

The geotechnical report for this project (Terreco 2011) notes that colluvial (silty) clay soils occur up to 0.9m to 2.9m in areas, and that the Beaufort mudstones only occur below this. The supporting structures for the solar panels will be a max of 0.5m in depth, and thus unlikely impact on the rich fossil layers. I would suggest that the study area be exempt from a Palaeontological Impact Assessment or a Phase 0 assessment at the most. Two of the geotechnical reports of have been submitted to SAHRA.

#### **MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The proposed Photovoltaic farm is unlikely to directly impact on any heritage resources. Fig. 11 illustrates and shows the type of structures to be used. Each foot will have a supporting structure pole to a maximum of 50cm below the surface. The subsurface impact is thus negligible.

FIG. 11: PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING THE MAKEUP OF A PHOTOVOLTAIC ARRAY



The three possible graves occur outside of the northern project area, but may be affected by future developments. These graves should be demarcated under professional supervision, and the IDZ management should be made aware of these sites. The connecting cable linking the site to the distribution area, should not occur near these graves.

There are two sensitive areas at the northern area. However, given the photovoltaic array, these two sensitive areas can be avoided. These are **not** confirmed graves, and there is no evidence for them: my assumption is a probability of occurrence. The area should be noted as being possibly sensitive, but should not hinder the development.

The stone tools are of low significance and quantity, and do not constitute a site. They were noted as occurring in the area.

# **CONCLUSION**

A heritage survey was undertaken for the proposed Ikhwezi 10 MW PV Solar Energy Facility, East London. A literature review indicated that the area was sensitive for heritage sites, however only historical buildings and shell middens had been previously located.

Three areas had been identified for this facility, and they were subsequently surveyed as well as servitude routes. Three possible graves were noted outside of the northern area, and these need to be fenced off by the IDZ. Two sensitive areas for possible graves were noted; however these can be avoided by setting up the photovoltaic arrays correctly. Only five stone tools were observed and the study area appears to have a low density of Stone Age artefacts.

There are no heritage features or sites, specifically related to this project that requires further mitigation.

#### **REFERENCES**

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Van Ryneveld, K. 2008a. Residential Development, Portions 1 & 4 Of Farm 1245, Cove Rock, East London, Eastern Cape, South Africa. Report for Biotechnology & Environmental Specialist Consultancy cc

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Van Ryneveld, K. 2008c. Industrial Development, Erven 17532&49336, Orange Grove, East London, Eastern Cape, South Africa. Report for Biotechnology & Environmental Specialist Consultancy cc

Van Ryneveld, K. 2008d Cove Rock Golf Estate, Cove Rock, East London, Eastern Cape, South Africa. Report for Biotechnology & Environmental Specialist Consultancy cc

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# APPENDIX A SITE RECORD FORMS

# UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

**SITE CATEGORY:** (X where applicable)

Stone Age: Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age Historical Period: X

Recorder's Site No.: SIY01 Official Name: Farm 1344

Local Name:

Map Sheet: 3327BB East London

GPS reading: 33°3'4.02"S 27°50'30.27"E



# **DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.**

Drive from EL along the R72 towards the airport. Just before the airport turnoff, turn left into Chester Road, and take 2<sup>nd</sup> right at traffic circle, towards the (old) fire station. Continue to end of the road, and take right at next traffic circle. Take 1rst right into security gates, and follow the road. At 2nd bend in road walk/drive along the path for 170m towards the fence, and then another 67m northwards along the fence. Site is in the bushes.

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Possible Grave Merits conservation: yes

Threats: Yes

What threats: IDZ development

**RECORDING:** 

Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 12/10/2011 Owner: State

# Description of site and artefactual content.

Site consists of one stone cairn that is probably a human grave.

# UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

**SITE CATEGORY:** (X where applicable)

Stone Age: Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: SIY0 Official Name: Farm 1344:

Local Name:

Map Sheet: 3327BB East London

GPS reading: 33°3'4.11"S 27°50'30.39"E



# **DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.**

Drive from EL along the R72 towards the airport. Just before the airport turnoff, turn left into Chester Road, and take 2<sup>nd</sup> right at traffic circle, towards the (old) fire station. Continue to end of the road, and take right at next traffic circle. Take 1rst right into security gates, and follow the road. At 2nd bend in road walk/drive along the path for 170m towards the fence, and then another 67m northwards along the fence. Site is in the bushes.

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Possible grave Merits conservation: yes

Threats: Yes

What threats: IDZ development

**RECORDING:** 

Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: Owner: References:

# Description of site and artefactual content.

Site consists of two stone cairns are probably graves predating 1959.

# UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

**SITE CATEGORY:** (X where applicable)

Stone Age: MSA/LSA Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age Historical Period:

Recorder's Site No.: SIY03 Official Name: Farm 1344:

Local Name:

Map Sheet: 3327BB East London

GPS reading: 33° 2'58.75"S 27°50'19.32"E

# DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

Drive from EL along the R72 towards the airport. Just before the airport turnoff, turn left into Chester Road, and take  $2^{nd}$  right at traffic circle, towards the (old) fire station. Continue to end of the road, and take right at next traffic circle. Take 1rst right into security gates, and follow the road. At  $4^{th}$  bend in road is the scatter of tools.

# SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open Merits conservation: no

Threats: Yes

What threats: IDZ development

RECORDING: Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: Owner: References:

# Description of site and artefactual content.

Site consists of an ephemeral scatter of 5 stone tools. More tools probably occur over the entire hill, of which half of the hill has already been removed for development.

