# **Archaeological Impact Assessment**

# For the proposed OfriZX Photovoltaic Plant. Keimoes, Northern Cape

# Prepared For

# Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Ву



TEL: +27 82 373 8491. E -MAIL JACO.HERITAGE@GMAIL.COM

VERSION 1.0 30 October 2011 Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

**CLIENT:** 

<b>CONTACT PERSON:</b>	Tammy Kruger
	Cell: 079 884 5123
	Tel: 011 234 6621
	Fax: 086 684 0547
	Unit 606, 1410 Eglin Office Park, 14 Eglin Road, Sunninghill
	PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
SIGNATURE:	<del></del>
LEADING CONSULTANT:	Haritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC
LEADING CONSULTANT.	Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC
CONTACT PERSON:	Jaco van der Walt
	Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting
	Professional Member of the Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologist (#159)
	ed representative of Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC, hereby alist and declare that neither I nor the Heritage Contracts and Archaeological
Consulting CC have any interest, be it	t business, financial, personal or other, in any proposed activity, application or was appointed as Environmental Assessment practitioner, other than fair
	Walt.
SIGNATURE:	

3

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** 

Site name and location: The proposed OfriZX photovoltaic plant is located approximately 5 km northwest of Keimoes in the Northern Cape. The proposed project is located on the remaining extend of the

farm Bok se Puts 616 within the Kai Garib Local Municipality and the Siyanda District Municipality.

Purpose of the study: Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment to determine the presence of cultural

heritage sites and the impact of the proposed project on these resources within the areas demarcated for

the solar development.

1:50 000 Topographic Map: 2820 DB.

EIA Consultant: Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Developer: S28 Degrees Energy (Pty) Ltd

**Heritage Consultant:** Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC (HCAC).

Contact person: Jaco van der Walt Tel: +27 82 373 8491

E -mail jaco.heritage@gmail.com.

Date of Report: 31 October 2011

# **Findings of the Assessment:**

Wide-spread scatters of mainly MSA artefacts made from quarts and quartzite are distributed in low density across the study area. The tools are exposed to a high degree of sheet erosion, are not in situ, and therefore considered of low significance. The MSA artefacts scattered over the study area indicate the use of the wider landscape during this period. One site of low significance was found, and no further

action is necessary for this site.

From a heritage point of view, there is no reason why the development cannot commence.

If during construction any possible finds are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist be contacted for an assessment of the find.

General

Due to high sand cover, low ground visibility was experienced on portions of the site. The possible occurrence of unmarked or informal graves and subsurface finds can thus not be excluded. If during construction any possible finds such as stone tool scatters or artefacts or bone and fossil remains are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist be contacted for an assessment of the find.

**Disclaimer:** Although all possible care is taken to identify sites of cultural importance during the investigation of study areas, it is always possible that hidden or sub-surface sites could be overlooked during the study. Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC and its personnel will not be held liable for such oversights or for costs incurred as a result of such oversights.

Copyright: Copyright in all documents, drawings and records whether manually or electronically produced, which form part of the submission and any subsequent report or project document shall vest in Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC. None of the documents, drawings or records may be used or applied in any manner, nor may they be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means whatsoever for or to any other person, without the prior written consent of Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC. The Client, on acceptance of any submission by Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC and on condition that the Client pays to Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC the full price for the work as agreed, shall be entitled to use for its own benefit and for the specified project only:

- The results of the project;
- The technology described in any report
- Recommendations delivered to the Client.

# **CONTENTS**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3	
ABBREVIATIONS	7	
GLOSSARY	7	
1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION	8	
1.1 Terms of Reference	9 11 11	
1.3.2. Location Map		
1.3.3. Google Maps	12	
2.1 Phase 1 - Desktop Study	1313131313131315151515	
5. HERITAGE SITE SIGNIFICANCE AND MITIGATION MEASURES		
5.1. Field Rating Of Sites		
5.2 Impact Rating Of Assessment		
6.1 Site Layout Map	21	
6.3. Site Descriptions		
6.3.1 Site 1		
7. RECOMMENDATIONS	26	
8. CONCLUSIONS	26	
9. PROJECT TEAM	26	
10. STATEMENT OF COMPETENCY	26	
11 REFERENCES	27	

# **FIGURES**

Table 1 Documented Sites

TABLES	
Figure 5 Thick sand cover in southern part of the study area2	24
Figure 3: Showing the distribution of heritage sites and the area that was surveyed2 Figure 4 Stone Tools found at Site 12	
Figure 2: Google image showing the study area in blue and track log of the areas that was covered1	
Figure 1: Location map of the proposed project and the areas that was assessed in red.	

27

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ASAPA: Association of South African	SAHRA: South African Heritage Resources
Professional Archaeologists	Agency
CRM: Cultural Resource Management	MIA: Middle Iron Age
EIA Practitioner: Environmental Impact	EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment*
Assessment Practitioner	
EIA: Early Iron Age*	ESA: Early Stone Age
GPS: Global Positioning System	HIA: Heritage Impact Assessment
LSA: Late Stone Age	LIA: Late Iron Age
MSA: Middle Stone Age	

<sup>\*</sup>Although EIA refers to both Environmental Impact Assessment and the Early Iron Age both are internationally accepted abbreviations and must be read and interpreted in the context it is used.

## **GLOSSARY**

Archaeological site (remains of human activity over 100 years old)

Early Stone Age (2.6 million to 250 000 years ago)

Middle Stone Age (250 000 to 25 000 years ago)

Late Stone Age (25 000 to 500 years ago)

The Iron Age (AD 400 to 1840)

Historic (AD 1840 to 1950)

Historic building (over 60 years old)

#### 1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Kind of Study	Archaeological Impact Assessment	
Type of development	Solar Facility	
Rezoning/ subdivision of land	Rezoning	
Developer:	S28 Degrees Energy (Pty) Ltd	
Consultant:	Savannah Environmental	
Farm Owner:	Hermanus Daniel Hanekom	

A heritage scoping report was conducted by Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC (2011) and the company was also contracted by Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment for the proposed Ofri ZX Solar Facility, close to Keimoes in the Northern Cape. This report forms part of the EIA for the proposed project.

The aim of the study is to identify cultural heritage sites, document, and assess their importance within Local, Provincial and national context. To assess the impact of the proposed project on non-renewable heritage resources and to submit appropriate recommendations with regard to the responsible cultural resources management measures that might be required to assist the developer in managing the discovered heritage resources in a responsible manner, in order to protect, preserve, and develop them within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999).

The report outlines the approach and methodology utilized before and during the survey, which includes in Phase 1: Review of the heritage scoping report that includes collection from various sources and consultations; Phase 2: Physical surveying of the area on foot and by vehicle and Phase 3: Reporting the outcome of the study.

During the survey one heritage site was identified. General site conditions and features on sites were recorded by means of photos, GPS location, and description. Possible impacts were identified and mitigation measures are proposed in the following report.

This report must also be submitted to SAHRA provincial office for peer review.

#### 1.1 Terms of Reference

# Conduct a field study to:

Systematically survey the proposed project area to locate, identify record, photograph and describe sites of archaeological, historical or cultural interest; and record GPS points of significant areas identified. Determine the levels of significance of the various types of heritage resources recorded in the project area:

#### Reporting

Identify the anticipated impacts, as well as cumulative impacts, of the operational units of the proposed project activity on the identified heritage resources for all 3 phases of the project, i.e. construction, operation and decommissioning phases. Consider alternatives should any significant sites be impacted adversely by the proposed project. Ensure that all studies and results are sufficient to comply with the relevant legislation and the code of ethics and guidelines of the Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologist (ASAPA).

To assist the developer in managing the discovered heritage resources in a responsible manner, in order to protect, preserve, and develop them within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999).

#### 1.2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL LEGISLATION AND BEST PRACTICE

Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessments or Heritage Impact Assessments are a pre-requisite for development in South Africa as prescribed by SAHRA and stipulated by legislation. The overall purpose of a heritage specialist input is to:

- Identify any heritage resources, which may be affected;
- Assess the nature and degree of significance of such resources;
- Establish heritage informants/constraints to guide the development process through establishing thresholds of impact significance;
- Assess the negative and positive impact of the development on these resources;
- Make recommendations for the appropriate heritage management of these impacts.

The AIA or HIA, as a specialist sub-section of the Environmental Impact Assessment [EIA] is required under the National Heritage Resources Act NHRA of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999)., Section 38(1), Section 38(8) the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA).

The AIA should be submitted, as part of the EIA, BIA or Environmental Management Plan [EMP], to the PHRA if established in the province or to SAHRA. SAHRA will be ultimately responsible for the professional evaluation of Phase 1 AIA reports upon which review comments will be issued. 'Best practice' requires Phase 1 AIA reports and required additional development information, as per the EIA, BIA / EMP, to be submitted in duplicate to SAHRA after completion of the study. SAHRA accepts Phase 1 AIA reports authored by professional archaeologists, accredited with ASAPA.

Minimum accreditation requirements include an Honours degree in archaeology or related discipline and 3 years post-university CRM experience (field supervisor level).

Minimum standards for reports, site documentation and descriptions are set by the Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists [ASAPA] in collaboration with SAHRA. ASAPA is a legal body, based in South Africa, representing professional archaeology in the Southern African Development Community [SADC] region. ASAPA is primarily involved in the overseeing of archaeological ethical practice and standards. Membership is based on proposal and secondment by other professional members.

Phase 1 AIA's are primarily concerned with the location and identification of sites situated within a proposed development area. Identified sites should be assessed according to their significance. Relevant conservation or Phase2 mitigation recommendations should be made. Recommendations are subject to evaluation by SAHRA.

Conservation or Phase 2 mitigation recommendations, as approved by SAHRA, are to be used as guidance in the developer's decision making process:

Phase 2 archaeological projects are primarily based on salvage / mitigation excavations preceding development destruction or impact on a site. Phase 2 excavations should be done under a permit issued by SAHRA to the appointed archaeologist. Permit conditions are prescribed by SAHRA and includes as minimum requirements reporting back strategies to SAHRA and deposition of excavated material at an accredited repository.

In the event of a site conservation option being preferred by the developer a site management plan, prepared by a professional archaeologist and approved by SAHRA, will suffice as minimum requirement.

After mitigation is conducted on a site, a destruction permit must be applied for from SAHRA before development may proceed.

Human remains older than 60 years are protected by the National Heritage Resources Act, with reference to Section 36. Graves older than 60 years, but younger than 100 years fall under Section 36 of Act 25 of 1999 (National Heritage Resources Act) as well as the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983) and are the jurisdiction of the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA). The procedure for Consultation Regarding Burial Grounds and Graves (Section 36(5) of Act 25 of 1999) is applicable to graves older than 60 years that are situated outside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority. Graves in the category located inside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority will also require the same authorisation as set out for graves younger than 60 years over and above SAHRA authorisation. If the grave is not situated inside a formal cemetery but is to be relocated to one, permission from the local authority is required and all regulations, laws and by-laws set by the cemetery authority must be adhered to.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are protected under Section 2(1) of the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance (Ordinance no. 7 of 1925) as well as the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983) and are the jurisdiction of the National Department of Health and the relevant Provincial Department of Health and must be submitted for final approval to the Office of the relevant Provincial Premier. This function is usually delegated to the Provincial MEC for Local Government and Planning, or in some cases the MEC for Housing and Welfare.

Authorisation for exhumation and reinterment must also be obtained from the relevant local or regional council where the grave is situated, as well as the relevant local or regional council to where the grave is being relocated. All local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws must also be adhered to. In order to handle and transport human remains the institution conducting the relocation should be authorised under Section 24 of Act 65 of 1983 (Human Tissues Act).

## 1.3 Description Of Study Area

## 1.3.1 Location Data

The study area is located 5km north-west of Keimoes to the north of the Orange River. There are various drainage lines draining the study area all flowing in a southern direction to the Orange River. The topography of the area is relatively gentle sloping in a southern direction towards the Orange River.

The climate can be described as arid to semi-arid with rainfall occurring from November to April. Historical imagery on Google earth indicates that the land has been fallow for a number of years.

# 1.3.2. Location Map

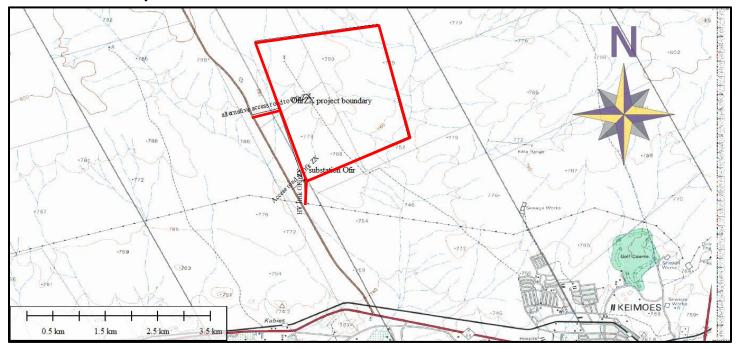


Figure 1: Location map of the proposed project.

# 1.3.3. Google Maps



Figure 2: Google image showing the study area in blue and track log of the areas that was covered.

#### 2. APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

The aim of the study is to cover archaeological databases and historical sources to compile a background history of the study area followed by field verification; this was accomplished by means of the following phases.

# 2.1 Phase 1 - Desktop Study

The first phase comprised of a desktop study, gathering data to compile a background history of the area in question, looking at archaeological sites, historical sites, graves, architecture, oral history and ethnographical information on the inhabitants of the area. This phase comprised of a heritage scoping report done by Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC 2011.

#### 2.1.1 Literature Search

See Annexure A for the full Heritage Scoping Report. In addition to the information from the scoping study the following actions was taken.

#### 2.1.2 Information Collection

The SAHRA report mapping project (Version 1.0) was consulted to further collect data from CRM practitioners who undertook work in the area to provide the most comprehensive account of the history of the area where possible.

#### 2.1.3 Public Consultation

A Brief consultation with the landowner was conducted during this phase.

# 2.1.4 Google Earth And Mapping Survey

Google Earth and 1:50 000 maps of the area were utilised to identify possible places where heritage significant sites might be located.

# 2.1.5 Genealogical Society Of South Africa

The database of the genealogical society was consulted to collect data on any known graves in the area.

# 2.2 Phase 2 - Physical Surveying

Due to the nature of cultural remains, the majority that occurs below surface, a field survey of the study area of 400ha was conducted, focussing on drainage lines, hills and outcrops, high lying areas and disturbances in the topography. The study area was surveyed by means of vehicle and extensive surveys on foot.

All sites discovered inside the proposed development area was plotted on 1:50 000 maps and their GPS co-ordinates noted. 35mm photographs on digital film were taken at all the sites.

#### 2.3. Restrictions

Due to the nature of cultural remains that occur, in most cases, below surface, the possibility remains that some cultural remains may not have been discovered during the survey. Low ground visibility is present on parts of the study area due to deep sand cover and the possibility of the occurrence of unmarked graves and cultural material cannot be excluded. Only the surface infrastructure footprint area was surveyed as indicated

in the location map and not the entire farm. Although Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC surveyed the area as thorough as possible, it is incumbent upon the developer to inform the relevant heritage agency should further cultural remains be unearthed or laid open during the process of development.

#### **3 NATURE OF THE DEVELOPMENT**

The proposed photovoltaic plant will have a maximum generating capacity of 100 MW to be developed in phases on 400ha of the remaining extend of the farm Bok se Puts 616.

The following associated infrastructure is part of the project proposal:

- » Numerous arrays of photovoltaic panels, which will be linked together to form individual strings.
- » Underground cabling of 33 kV in order to distribute the power to a central on-site substation.
- » A transformer together with the on-site substation to step-up the power from 33 kV 132kV to be distributed between the photovoltaic plant and the Eskom grid.
- » Connection of each facility to the power distribution grid consisting of a loop-in/loop-out connection
- » Internal access roads for construction and maintenance purposes.
- » Maintenance, security buildings, and a workshop.

#### 4. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY AREA

#### 4.1 Databases Consulted

# Wits and McGregor Museum Archaeological Data Bases

On the 1.50 000 map sheet 2820DB no previously recorded sites exists.

# SAHRA Report Mapping Project

Several unpublished CRM projects were conducted in the general study area (.Beaumont 2005 & 2008, Van Ryneveld 2007a & 2007b, Dreyer, 2006). These studies identified Early and Middle Stone Age assemblages as well as historical structures.

#### Genealogical society and Google Earth Monuments

Neither the genealogical society nor the monuments database at Google Earth (Google Earth also include some archaeological sites and historical battlefields) have any recorded sites in the study area.

# **Public Consultation**

During consultation with the landowner no significant heritage sites were mentioned

# 4.2 Archaeological and Historical Information Available on the Study Area

This scoping study revealed that a range of heritage sites occur in the larger region and similar sites can be expected within the study area. A school was opened on the farm in 1941 and the farm was being farmed and had various owners as from 1937.

Every site is relevant to the Heritage Landscape, but it is anticipated that few if any sites in the area have conservation value.

There is a high likelihood of Stone Age sites in the area as well as historical sites, based on the human occupation of the area from the 1800's as well as people moving through the area. The possibility of graves and cemeteries in the area cannot be excluded.

#### 5. HERITAGE SITE SIGNIFICANCE AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The presence and distribution of heritage resources define a Heritage Landscape. In this landscape, every site is relevant. In addition, because heritage resources are non-renewable, heritage surveys need to investigate an entire project area, or a representative sample, depending on the nature of the project. In the case of OfriZX Solar Facility the local extent of its impact necessitates a representative sample and only the footprint of the areas demarcated for development were surveyed. In all initial investigations, however, the specialists are responsible only for the identification of resources visible on the surface.

This chapter describes the evaluation criteria used for determining the significance of archaeological and heritage sites. The following criteria were used to establish site significance

- » The unique nature of a site;
- » The integrity of the archaeological/cultural heritage deposit;
- » The wider historic, archaeological and geographic context of the site;
- » The location of the site in relation to other similar sites or features;
- » The depth of the archaeological deposit (when it can be determined or is known);
- » The preservation condition of the site;
- » Potential to answer present research questions.

According to the Heritage Act the following criteria should also be taken into account. The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999, Sec 3) distinguishes nine criteria for places and objects to qualify as 'part of the national estate if they have cultural significance or other special value. These criteria are the following:

- its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
- » its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- » its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects;
- » its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group;
- » its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period;
- » its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;
- » its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa;
- » sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa

# 5.1. Field Rating Of Sites

Site significance classification standards prescribed by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (2006) and approved by the Association for Southern African Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA) for the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region, were used for the purpose of this report. The recommendations for each site should be read in conjunction with section 9 of this report.

FIELD RATING	GRADE	SIGNIFICANCE	RECOMMENDED MITIGATION
National Significance (NS)	Grade 1	-	Conservation; National Site nomination
Provincial Significance (PS)	Grade 2	-	Conservation; Provincial Site nomination
Local Significance (LS)	Grade 3A	High Significance	Conservation; Mitigation not advised
Local Significance (LS)	Grade 3B	High Significance	Mitigation (Part of site should be retained)
Generally Protected A (GP.A)	-	High / Medium Significance	Mitigation before destruction
Generally Protected B (GP.B)	-	Medium Significance	Recording before destruction
Generally Protected C (GP.C)	-	Low Significance	Destruction

# 5.2 Impact Rating Of Assessment

The following criteria are used to establish the impact rating of a site as provided by the client:

- The nature, which shall include a description of what causes the effect, what will be affected and how it will be affected.
- » The **extent**, wherein it will be indicated whether the impact will be local (limited to the immediate area or site of development) or regional, and a value between 1 and 5 will be assigned as appropriate (with 1 being low and 5 being high):
- » The **duration**, wherein it will be indicated whether:
  - \* the lifetime of the impact will be of a very short duration (0-1 years) assigned a score of 1;
  - \* the lifetime of the impact will be of a short duration (2-5 years) assigned a score of 2;
  - \* medium-term (5-15 years) assigned a score of 3;
  - \* long term (> 15 years) assigned a score of 4; or
  - \* permanent assigned a score of 5;
- The magnitude, quantified on a scale from 0-10, where 0 is small and will have no effect on the environment, 2 is minor and will not result in an impact on processes, 4 is low and will cause a slight impact on processes, 6 is moderate and will result in processes continuing but in a modified way, 8 is high (processes are altered to the extent that they temporarily cease), and 10 is very high and results in complete destruction of patterns and permanent cessation of processes.
- The **probability** of occurrence, which shall describe the likelihood of the impact actually occurring. Probability will be estimated on a scale of 1–5, where 1 is very improbable (probably will not happen), 2 is improbable (some possibility, but low likelihood), 3 is probable (distinct possibility), 4 is highly probable (most likely) and 5 is definite (impact will occur regardless of any prevention measures).
- » the **significance**, which shall be determined through a synthesis of the characteristics described above and can be assessed as low, medium or high; and
- » the **status**, which will be described as either positive, negative or neutral.
- » the degree to which the impact can be reversed.
- » the degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources.
- » the *degree* to which the impact can be *mitigated*.





S = Significance weighting

E = Extent

D = Duration

M = Magnitude

P = Probability

# The **significance weightings** for each potential impact are as follows:

- > < 30 points: Low (i.e. where this impact would not have a direct influence on the decision to develop in the area),
- » 30-60 points: Medium (i.e. where the impact could influence the decision to develop in the area unless it is effectively mitigated),
- » > 60 points: High (i.e. where the impact must have an influence on the decision process to develop in the area).

## **6. BASELINE STUDY - DESCRIPTION OF SITES**

# 6.1 Site Layout Map

It is important to note that the entire farm was not surveyed but only the footprint of the proposed PV Layout area with access routes and connection to the power grid as indicated in figure 1.

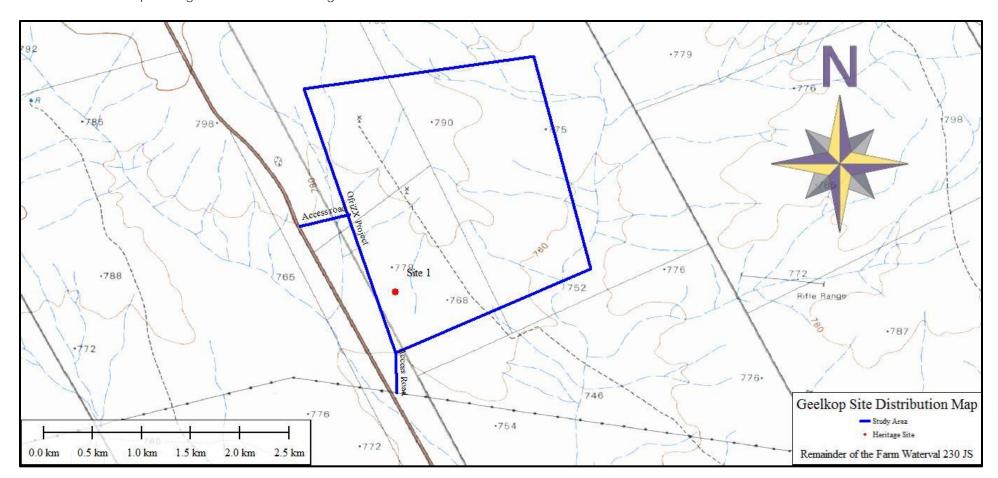


Figure 3: Showing the distribution of heritage sites and the area that was surveyed.

# **6.2. Sites with Coordinates**

Site Number	Landscape	Type Site	Cultural Markers	Co ordinate
Site 1	Archaeological and Cultural Heritage	Middle Stone Age	Stone tools with facets on the striking platform	S28 40 25.2 E20 54 49.8

# 6.3. Site Descriptions

# 6.3.1 Site 1

Site Number	Site 1 <b>1:50 000 map nr</b> 2820 DA		
Site Data	Description:		
Type of site	Open scatter		
Site categories	Middle Stone Age		
Context	The site consists of MSA artefacts gravitating down from a small ridge next to an old drainage line. The site is characterised by sheet erosion and represents a low density of MSA artefacts.		
Cultural affinities, approximate age and significant features of the site;	Approximate age for MSA in this region dates to 30 – 300 thousand		
Description of artefacts	Almost all of the artefacts are made from quartz, quartzite and banded iron stone. Artefacts include convergent flakes with prominent dorsal ridges and cores. Features on the tools include facets on the striking platform, a feature considered characteristic of the Middle Stone Age. Artefact ratio is approximately 3 artefacts per m <sup>2</sup> and therefore fairly low.		
Estimation or measurement of the extent	Artefacts are found scattered around an area of approximate 20 x 15		
Depth and stratification of the site			

# **Photographs**







Figure 5: Thick sand cover in southern part of the study area.

# Field Rating

(Recommended grading or field significance) of the site:

Generally Protected B

Statement of Significance (Heritage Value)

Low to Medium significance.

# **Impact Evaluation**

**Nature:** During the construction phase activities resulting in disturbance of surfaces and/or sub-surfaces may destroy, damage, alter, or remove from its original position Stone Age Material or objects.

	Without mitigation	With mitigation
Extent	Local (2)	Local (1)
Duration	Permanent (5)	Permanent (5)
Magnitude	High (7)	Low (2)
Probability	Probable (3)	Probable (3)
Significance	42 (Medium)	24 (Low)
Status (positive or	Negative	Negative
negative)		
Reversibility	Not reversible	Not reversible
Irreplaceable loss of	Yes	Yes
resources?		
Can impacts be	Yes	
mitigated?		

# Mitigation:

If impact on the site is definite surface sampling should be conducted and the site should be monitored during construction. Alternatively the site should be demarcated to avoid impact on the site.

# Cumulative impacts:

Archaeological sites are non-renewable and impact on any archaeological context or material will be permanent and destructive.

**Residual Impacts:** Depletion of Archaeological record of the area.

#### 7. RECOMMENDATIONS

One MSA site was identified during the survey, but some LSA material can also be expected on the site. Site 1 is heavily eroded and represents a low density scatter of mainly MSA material. This material is not *in situ* and is considered of low significance. MSA artefacts are scattered in low densities over the entire study area and site 1 represents a slightly higher concentration. No further action is necessary for this site.

From a heritage point of view, there is no reason why the development cannot commence.

#### 8. CONCLUSIONS

Scatters of mainly MSA artefacts made from quarts and quartzite as raw material is wide spread in low density across the study area. The tools are exposed to a high degree of sheet erosion and are not in situ and therefor of low significance. The MSA manifestations found scattered over the study area indicate the use of the wider landscape during the MSA period.

If during construction any possible finds are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist be contacted for an assessment of the find.

#### General

Low ground visibility is present on portions of the site due to high sand cover in the area and the possibility of the occurrence of unmarked or informal graves and subsurface finds cannot be excluded. If during construction any possible finds are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist be contacted for an assessment of the find.

#### 9. PROJECT TEAM

Jaco van der Walt, Project Manager

Dr. Marlize Lombard, Principle Investigator

# 10. STATEMENT OF COMPETENCY

I (Jaco van der Walt) am a member of ASAPA (no 159), and accredited in the following fields of the CRM Section of the association: Iron Age Archaeology, Colonial Period Archaeology, Stone Age Archaeology and Grave Relocation. This accreditation is also valid for/acknowledged by SAHRA and AMAFA.

Currently, I serve as Council Member for the CRM Section of ASAPA, and have been involved in research and contract work in South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Tanzania; having conducted more than 300 AIAs since 2000.

Dr Marlize Lombard lectures in the Anthropology Department of the University of Johannesburg, where she also conducts research and publishes on the Stone Age of Southern Africa,. She is an accredited Stone Age Principal Investigator with ASAPA, SAHRA and AMAFA..

#### 11. REFERENCES

Acocks, J.P.H. 1975. Veld Types of South Africa. Memoirs of the Botanical Survey of South Africa, No. 40. Pretoria: Botanical Research Institute.

Beaumont, P.B. 2005. Archaeological Impact Assessment at and in the vicinity of a quartzite quarry on Portion 4 of the Farm Droogehout 442 near Upington.

Beaumont, P.B. 2008. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment Report on a portion of the farm Keboes 37, near Kanoneiland, Siyanda District Municipality, Northern Cape.

Dreyer, C. 2006. First phase Archaeological and cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of the Proposed Concentrated Solar Thermal Plant (Csp), at the farms Olyfenhoutsdrift, Upington, Bokpoort 390 and Tampansrus 294/295, Groblershoop, Nortern Cape.

Van Ryneveld, K. 2007. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment – Portion of the farm Cnydas East 439, Upington District, Northern Cape, South Africa.

Van Ryneveld, K. 2007. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment – Portion of the farm Boksputs 118, Groblershoop, Northern Cape, South Africa.

South African Heritage Resources Agency, Report Mapping Project. Version 1.0, 2009.