



Archaetnos Culture & Cultural
Resource Consultants
BK 98 09854/23

**A REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE
PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A 115MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC
(PV) FACILITY IN SPRINGS, GAUTENG PROVINCE**

For:

WSP ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY AFRICA
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REPORT NO.: AE02118V

By:

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28 April 2021

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environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DETAILS OF THE SPECIALIST, DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND UNDERTAKING UNDER OATH

File Reference Number: NEAS Reference Number: Date Received:	(For official use only)
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Application for authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended (the Regulations)

PROJECT TITLE

Proposed establishment of a 115MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility in Springs, Gauteng

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Queries must be directed to the Directorate: Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support at:
Email: EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za

1. SPECIALIST INFORMATION

Specialist Company Name:	Archaetnos cc			
B-BBEE	Contribution level (indicate 1 to 8 or non-compliant)	4	Percentage Procurement recognition	100
Specialist name:	Prof AC van Vollenhoven			
Specialist Qualifications:	DPhil (Archaeology) & DPhil (History)			
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2. DECLARATION BY THE SPECIALIST

I, AC VAN VOLLENHOVEN, declare that –

- I act as the independent specialist in this application;
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant;
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have expertise in conducting the specialist report relevant to this application, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;
- all the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct; and
- I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 48 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act.



Signature of the Specialist

Archaetnos CC

Name of Company:

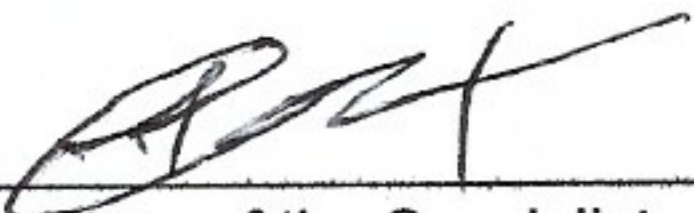
3/5/2021

Date

3. UNDERTAKING UNDER OATH/ AFFIRMATION

Details of Specialist, Declaration and Undertaking Under Oath

I, AC Vollehoven, swear under oath / affirm that all the information submitted or to be submitted for the purposes of this application is true and correct.

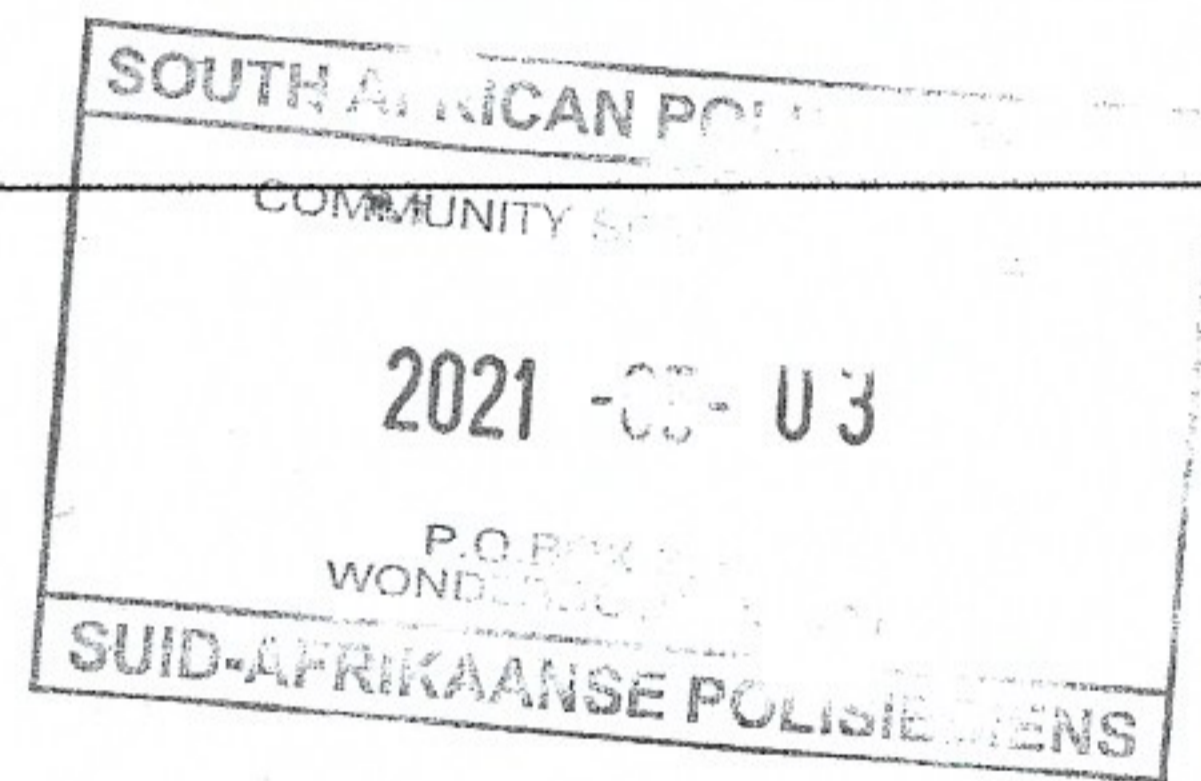

Signature of the Specialist

Architectus
Name of Company

3/5/2021
Date

Prosa 708672-2 Zanele Mkozi
Signature of the Commissioner of Oaths

2021 - 05 - 03
Date



SUBMISSION OF REPORT

Please note that the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) or one of its subsidiary bodies needs to comment on this report.

It is the client's responsibility to do the submission via the SAHRIS System on the SAHRA website.

Clients are advised not to proceed with any action before receiving the necessary comments from SAHRA.

DISCLAIMER

Although all possible care is taken to identify all sites of cultural importance during the survey of study areas, the nature of archaeological and historical sites is as such that it always is possible that hidden or subterranean sites could be overlooked during the study. Archaetnos and its personnel will not be held liable for such oversights or for costs incurred as a result thereof.

Should it be necessary to visit a site again as a result of the above mentioned, an additional appointment is required.

Reasonable editing of the report will be done upon request by the client if received within 60 days of the report date. However, editing will only be done once, and clients are therefore requested to send all possible changes in one request. Any format changes or changes requested due to insufficient or faulty information provided to Archaetnos on appointment, will only be done by additional appointment.

Any changes to the scope of a project will require an additional appointment.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose:

Archaetnos cc was requested by WSP Environment and Energy Africa to conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for the proposed establishment of a 115 megawatt (MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility in Springs. Springs is located in the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality. This is in the Gauteng Province.

Project description:

The type of project is a renewable energy (solar) development. The project is in a Basic Assessment process in applying for Environmental Authorisation for the proposed project. The developer, Calodex (Pty) Ltd is proposing the development of a 115 MW Solar PV Facility approximately 5km north of Springs. The Facility will be developed with a possible installed capacity of 115 MW of electricity from PV solar energy.

Methodology:

The methodology for the study includes a survey of literature and a field survey. The latter was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and was aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of cultural significance in the area of proposed development.

If required, the location/position of any site was determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS), while photographs were also taken where needed. The survey was undertaken by doing a physical survey via off-road vehicle and on foot and covered as much as possible of the area to be studied. Certain factors, such as accessibility, density of vegetation, etc. may however influence the coverage.

All sites, objects, features and structures identified were documented according to the general minimum standards accepted by the archaeological profession. Co-ordinates of individual localities were determined by means of the Global Positioning System (GPS). The information was added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

Findings:

The survey of the indicated area was completed successfully. No sites were identified.

The following is recommended:

- This report is seen as ample mitigation, since nothing of heritage value were identified in the surveyed area.
- The proposed development may continue.
- It should be noted that the subterranean presence of archaeological and/or historical sites, features or artifacts is always a distinct possibility. Due to the density of vegetation it also is possible that some sites may only become known later on. Operating controls and monitoring should therefore be aimed at the

possible unearthing of such features. Care should therefore be taken when development commences that if any of these are discovered, a qualified archaeologist be called in to investigate the occurrence.

- In this regards the following 'Chance find Procedure' should be followed:
 - Upon finding any archaeological or historical material all work at the affected area must cease.
 - The area should be demarcated in order to prevent any further work there until an investigation has been completed.
 - An archaeologist should be contacted immediately to provide advice on the matter.
 - Should it be a minor issue, the archaeologist will decide on future action, which could include adapting the HIA or not. Depending on the nature of the find, it may include a site visit.
 - SAHRA's Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit may also be notified.
 - If needed, the necessary permit will be applied for with SAHRA. This will be done in conjunction with the appointed archaeologist.
 - The removal of such archaeological material will be done by the archaeologist in lieu of the approval given by SAHRA, including any conditions stipulated by the latter.
 - Work on site will only continue after removal of the archaeological/historical material was done.

It is also important to take cognizance that it is the client's responsibility to do the submission of this report via the SAHRIS System on the SAHRA website. No work on site may commence before receiving the necessary comments from SAHRA.

CURRICULUM VITAE
Prof. Anton Carl van Vollenhoven

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Born: 20 January 1966, Pretoria, RSA
- Address: Archaetnos, PO Box 55, Groenkloof, 0027
- Cell phone: 083 291 6104
- Nationality: RSA
- E-mail: antonv@archaetnos.co.za

TERTIARY EDUCATION

- BA 1986, University of Pretoria
- BA (HONS) Archaeology 1988 (cum laude), University of Pretoria
- MA Archaeology 1992, University of Pretoria
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Museology 1993 (cum laude), University of Pretoria
- Diploma Tertiary Education 1993, University of Pretoria
- DPhil Archaeology 2001, University of Pretoria.
- MA Cultural History 1998 (cum laude), University of Stellenbosch
- Management Diploma 2007 (cum laude), Tshwane University of Technology
- DPhil History 2010, University of Stellenbosch

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- *1988-1991*: Fort Klapperkop Military Museum - Researcher
- *1991-1999*: National Cultural History Museum. Work as Archaeologist, as well as Curator/Manager of Pioneer Museum (1994-1997)
- *1999-2002*: City Council of Pretoria. Work as Curator: Fort Klapperkop Heritage Site and Acting Deputy Manager Museums and Heritage.
- *2002-2007*: City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality. Work as Deputy Manager Museums and Heritage.
- *August 2007* – present – Managing Director for Archaetnos Archaeologists.
- *1988-2003*: Part-time lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Pretoria and a part-time lecturer on Cultural Resources Management in the Department of History at the University of Pretoria.
- *2014-2015*: Part-time lecturer for the Honours degree in Museum Sciences in the Department of History and Heritage Studies at the University of Pretoria
- *Since 2015*: Extraordinary Professor of History at the Mahikeng campus of the Northwest University

OTHER

- Has published 36 peer-reviewed and 44 popular articles.
- Has written 11 books/book contributions/conference proceedings .
- Has been the author and co-author of over 1021 unpublished reports on cultural resources surveys and archaeological work.
- Has delivered more than 75 papers and lectures at national and international conferences.
- Member of SAHRA Council for 2003 – 2006.
- Member of the South African Academy for Science and Art.

- Member of Association for South African Professional Archaeologists.
- Member of the South African Society for Cultural History (Chairperson 2006-2008; 2012-2014; 2018-2020).
- Has been editor for the SA Journal of Cultural History 2002-2004.
- Editorial member of various scientific journals.
- Member of the Provincial Heritage Resources Agency, Gauteng's Council.
- Member of Provincial Heritage Resources Agency, Gauteng's HIA adjudication committee (Chairperson 2012-2020).

A list of reports can be viewed on www.archaetnos.co.za.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

I, Anton Carl van Vollenhoven from Archaetnos, hereby declare that I am an independent specialist within the field of heritage management.



Signed:

Date: 28 April 2021

LIST OF ACRONYMS:

AIA – Archaeological Impact Assessment
 CMP – Cultural Management Plan
 EAP – Environmental Assessment Practitioner
 EIA – Environmental Impact Assessment
 HIA – Heritage Impact Assessment
 PIA – Palaeontological Impact Assessment
 SAHRA –South African Heritage Resources Agency

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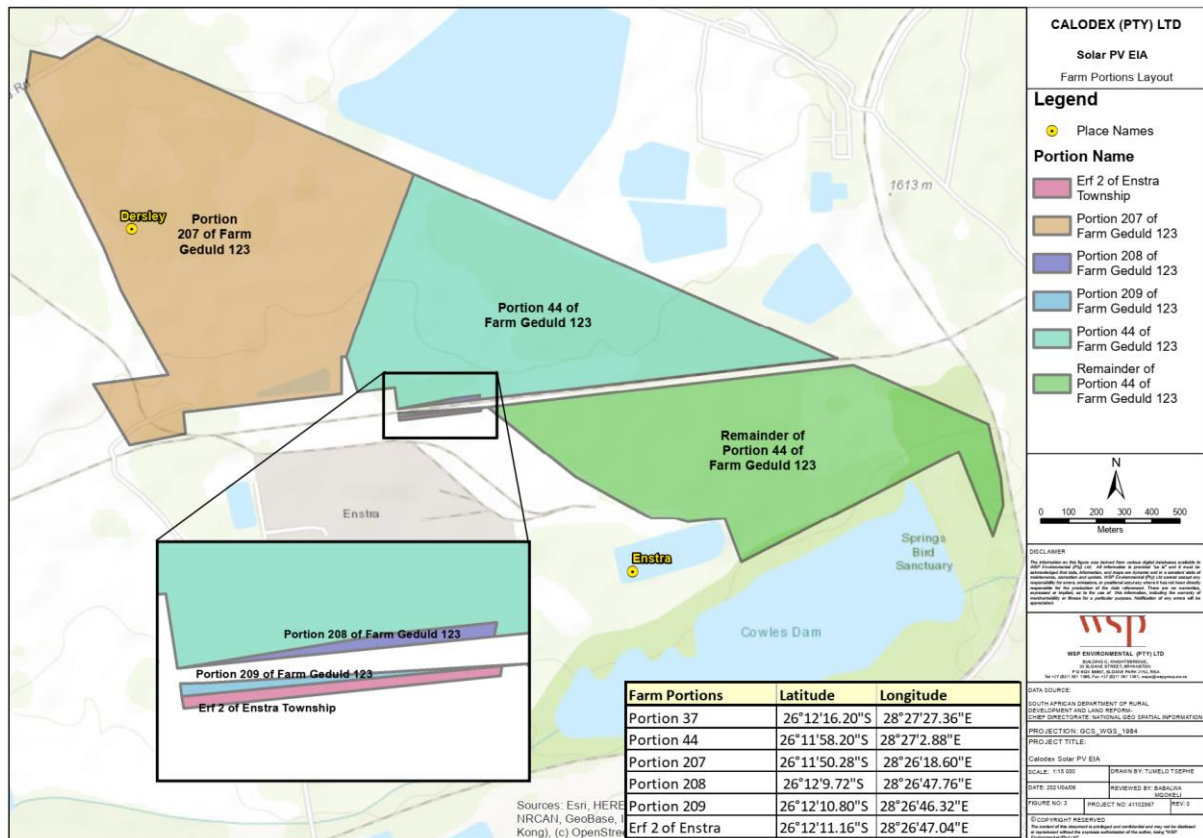


FIGURE 2: FARM PORTIONS (WSP ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY AFRICA).

The type of project is a renewable energy (solar) development. The project is in a Basic Assessment process in applying for Environmental Authorisation for the proposed project. The developer, Calodex (Pty) Ltd is proposing the development of a 115 MW Solar PV Facility approximately 5km north of Springs (Figure 3 and Figure 4). The Facility will be developed with a possible installed capacity of 115 MW of electricity from PV solar energy. The Solar PV Facility will consist of the following key components:

- Photovoltaic modules, which convert the solar radiation into direct current.
- The single-axis tracker, which supports and orients the PV modules to minimize the angle of incidence between the incoming sun rays and the PV modules surface during the day.
- The string combiner boxes, which consolidate the output of the strings of photovoltaic modules before reaching the inverter.
- Inverters, which convert DC from solar field to AC.
- Power Transformers, which raise the voltage level from low to medium.
- Power Stations, which hold the necessary equipment to convert the DC power to AC.
- On-site substation
- Medium voltage network connecting the power stations to the substation operating at 33 kV.

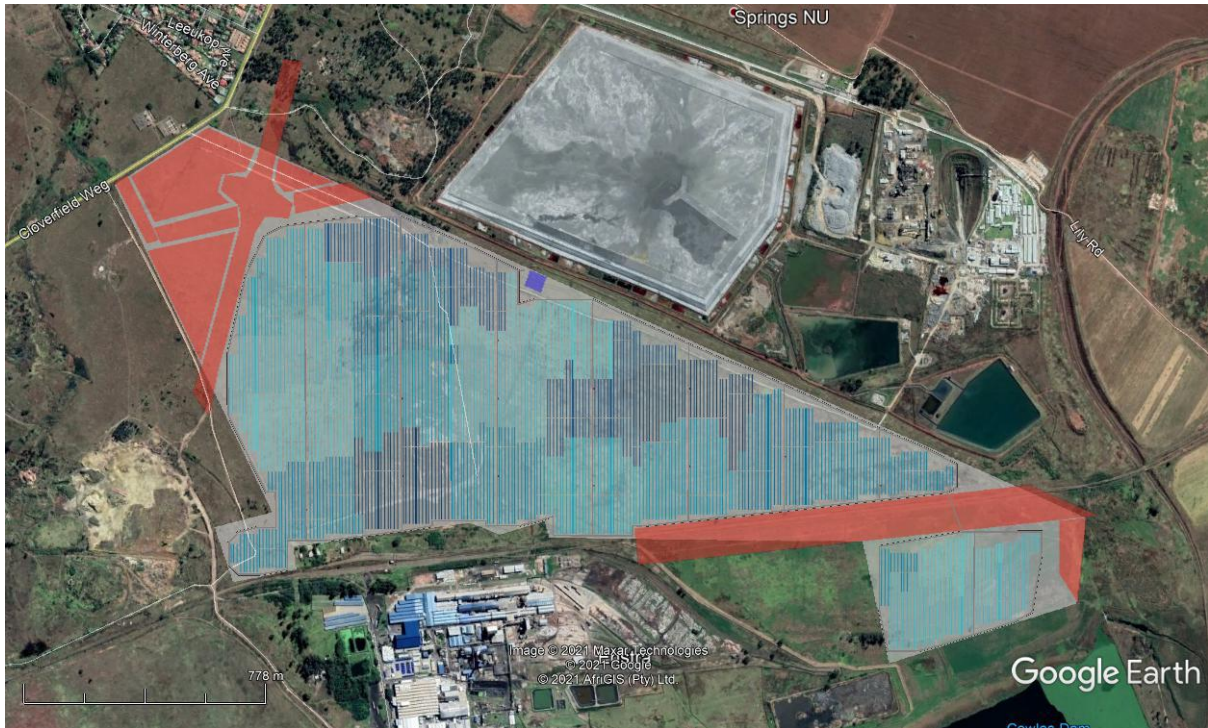


FIGURE 4: DETAIL OF THE DEVELOPMENT (PRELIMINARY DESIGN).

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference for the survey were to:

1. Identify objects, sites, occurrences and structures of an archaeological or historical nature (cultural heritage sites) located on the property (see Appendix A).
2. Document the found cultural heritage sites according to best practice standards for heritage related studies.
3. Study background information on the project area.
4. Assess the significance of the cultural resources in terms of their archaeological, historical, scientific, social, religious, aesthetic and tourism value (see Appendix B).
5. Describe the possible impact of the proposed project changes on these cultural remains, according to a standard set of conventions.
6. Recommend suitable mitigation measures to minimize possible negative impacts on the cultural resources by the proposed development.
7. Review applicable legislative requirements.

3. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are dealt with mainly in two acts. The first of these are the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) which deals with the cultural heritage of the Republic of South Africa. The second is the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) which inter alia deals with cultural heritage as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

3.1 The National Heritage Resources Act

According to the above-mentioned act the following is protected as cultural heritage resources:

- a. Archaeological artifacts, structures and sites older than 100 years
- b. Ethnographic art objects (e.g. prehistoric rock art) and ethnography
- c. Objects of decorative and visual arts
- d. Military objects, structures and sites older than 75 years
- e. Historical objects, structures and sites older than 60 years
- f. Proclaimed heritage sites
- g. Grave yards and graves older than 60 years
- h. Meteorites and fossils
- i. Objects, structures and sites of scientific or technological value.

The national estate (see Appendix D) includes the following:

- a. Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance
- b. Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage
- c. Historical settlements and townscapes
- d. Landscapes and features of cultural significance
- e. Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance
- f. Archaeological and paleontological importance
- g. Graves and burial grounds
- h. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery
- i. Movable objects (e.g. archaeological, paleontological, meteorites, geological specimens, military, ethnographic, books etc.)

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is the process to be followed in order to determine whether any heritage resources are located within the area to be developed as well as the possible impact of the proposed development thereon.

An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) only looks at archaeological resources. The different phases during the HIA/AIA process are described in Appendix E. It must be done under the following circumstances:

- a. The construction of a linear development (road, wall, power line canal etc.) exceeding 300m in length
- b. The construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length
- c. Any development or other activity that will change the character of a site and exceed 5 000m² or involve three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof
- d. Re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m²
- e. Any other category provided for in the regulations of SAHRA or a provincial heritage authority

Structures

Section 34 (1) of the mentioned act states that no person may demolish any structure or part thereof which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

A structure means any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated therewith.

Alter means any action affecting the structure, appearance or physical properties of a place or object, whether by way of structural or other works, by painting, plastering or the decoration or any other means.

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Section 35(4) of this act deals with archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites. The act states that no person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority (national or provincial):

- a. destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or paleontological site or any meteorite;
- b. destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or paleontological material or object or any meteorite;
- c. trade in, sell for private gain, export or attempt to export from the Republic any category of archaeological or paleontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- d. bring onto or use at an archaeological or paleontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment that assists in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and paleontological material or objects or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.
- e. alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years as protected.

The above mentioned may only be disturbed or moved by an archaeologist, after receiving a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). In

order to demolish such a site or structure, a destruction permit from SAHRA will also be needed.

Human remains

Graves and burial grounds are divided into the following:

- a. ancestral graves
- b. royal graves and graves of traditional leaders
- c. graves of victims of conflict
- d. graves designated by the Minister
- e. historical graves and cemeteries
- f. human remains

In terms of Section 36(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no person may, without a permit issued by the relevant heritage resources authority:

- a. destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb the grave of a victim of conflict, or any burial ground or part thereof which contains such graves;
- b. destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or
- c. bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

Unidentified/unknown graves are also handled as older than 60 until proven otherwise.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983) and to local regulations. Exhumation of graves must conform to the standards set out in the **Ordinance on Excavations (Ordinance no. 12 of 1980)** (replacing the old Transvaal Ordinance no. 7 of 1925).

Permission must also be gained from the descendants (where known), the National Department of Health, Provincial Department of Health, Premier of the Province and local police. Furthermore, permission must also be gained from the various landowners (i.e., where the graves are located and where they are to be relocated) before exhumation can take place. Human remains can only be handled by a registered undertaker or an institution declared under the **National Health Act (Act 61 of 2003)**.

3.2 The National Environmental Management Act

This act (Act 107 of 1998) states that a survey and evaluation of cultural resources must be done in areas where development projects, that will change the face of the

environment, will be undertaken. The impact of the development on these resources should be determined and proposals for the mitigation thereof made.

Environmental management should also take the cultural and social needs of people into account. Any disturbance of landscapes and sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage should be avoided as far as possible and where this is not possible the disturbance should be minimized and remedied.

3.3 The International Finance Corporations' performance standard for cultural heritage

This standard recognizes the importance of cultural heritage for current and future generations. It aims to ensure that clients protect cultural heritage in the course of their project activities.

This is done by clients abiding to the law and having heritage surveys done in order to identify and protect cultural heritage resources via field studies and the documentation of such resources. These need to be done by competent professionals (e.g. archaeologists and cultural historians). Any possible chance finds, encountered during the project development, also needs to be managed by not disturbing it and by having it assessed by professionals.

Impacts on the cultural heritage should be minimized. This includes the possible maintenance of such sites in situ, or when not possible, the restoration of the functionality of the cultural heritage in a different location. When cultural historical and archaeological artifacts and structures need to be removed, this should be done by professionals and by abiding to the applicable legislation. The removal of cultural heritage resources may, however, only be considered if there are no technically or financially feasible alternatives. In considering the removal of cultural resources, it should be outweighed by the benefits of the overall project to the affected communities. Again, professionals should carry out the work and adhere to the best available techniques.

Consultation with affected communities should be conducted. This entails that such communities should be granted access to their cultural heritage if this is applicable. Compensation for the loss of cultural heritage should only be given in extra-ordinary circumstances.

Critical cultural heritage may not be impacted on. Professionals should be used to advise on the assessment and protection thereof. Utilization of cultural heritage resources should always be done in consultation with the affected communities in order to be consistent with their customs and traditions and to come to agreements with relation to possible equitable sharing of benefits from commercialization.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 Survey of literature

A survey of literature was undertaken in order to obtain background information regarding the area. Sources consulted in this regard are indicated in the bibliography.

4.2 Reference to other specialist studies

On the existing SAHRA Database (SAHRIS) a number of heritage reports around the area were noted. Also, such reports were done in the wider area by Archaetnos (Archaetnos database). Some of these may be contextually linked to the project area. Reports on the palaeontology and visual impact are also being commissioned.

In previous reports a cemetery, and an old stone building have been identified (Coetzee 2015: 18-19, Huffman 2009: 4). Some of these may be contextually linked to the project area and are discussed below.

4.3 Public consultation and stakeholder engagement

General public consultation will be done by WSP. The various specialist reports will be utilized for this purpose.

4.4 Physical field survey

The survey was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and was aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of cultural significance in the area of proposed development. One regularly looks a bit wider than the demarcated area, as the surrounding context needs to be taken into consideration.

If required, the location/position of any site was determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS)¹, while photographs were also taken where needed. The survey was undertaken by doing a physical survey via off-road vehicle and on foot and covered as much as possible of the area to be studied (Figure 5).

Certain factors, such as accessibility, density of vegetation, etc. may however influence the coverage. In this instance the area was found to be reasonably disturbed, largely due to agriculture. The vegetation cover was mostly between medium to high in height and with dense under footing. The horizontal archaeological visibility was therefore fair and the vertical archaeological visibility poor. The area is relatively flat. Trees were only located in a small patch to the south next to a dirt road.

The size of the development is approximately 252 Ha. The survey took 6 hours to complete.

¹ A Garmin Oregon 550 with an accuracy factor of a few meters.



FIGURE 5: GPS TRACK OF THE SURVEY.

4.5 Documentation

All sites, objects, features and structures identified were documented according to the general minimum standards accepted by the archaeological profession. Co-ordinates of individual localities were determined by means of the GPS. The information was added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

4.6 Evaluation of Heritage sites

The evaluation of heritage sites is done by giving a field rating of each (see Appendix C) using the following criteria:

- The unique nature of a site
- The integrity of the archaeological 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
- Uniqueness of the site and
- Potential to answer present research questions.

5. CONDITIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS

The following conditions and assumptions have a direct bearing on the survey and the resulting report:

1. Cultural Resources are all non-physical and physical man-made occurrences, as well as natural occurrences associated with human activity (Appendix A). These include all sites, structures and artifacts of importance, either individually or in groups, in the history, architecture and archaeology of human (cultural) development. Graves and cemeteries are included in this.
2. The significance of the sites, structures and artifacts is determined by means of their historical, social, aesthetic, technological and scientific value in relation to their uniqueness, condition of preservation and research potential. The various aspects are not mutually exclusive, and the evaluation of any site is done with reference to any number of these aspects.
3. Cultural significance is site-specific and relates to the content and context of the site. Sites regarded as having low cultural significance have already been recorded in full and require no further mitigation. Sites with medium cultural significance may or may not require mitigation depending on other factors such as the significance of impact on the site. Sites with a high cultural significance require further mitigation (see Appendix C).
4. All recommendations are made with full cognizance of the relevant legislation.
5. It has to be mentioned that it is almost impossible to locate all the cultural resources in a given area, as it will be very time consuming. Developers should however note that the report should make it clear how to handle any other finds that might occur.
6. Large sections of the surveyed area have been disturbed by recent human interventions consisting largely of agricultural land, with mining activities to the north of the proposed development and therefore it is seen as low risk areas to reveal heritage sites.
7. The vegetation cover in certain areas was medium to high and consisting mostly of agricultural fields and open grasslands, the under footing was dense. These factors both effected the archaeological visibility negatively. Horizontal archaeological visibility was fair, and the vertical archaeological visibility was poor. However, due to the disturbance the project area is regarded as being a low risk area for containing cultural sites.

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The surveyed area is largely disturbed by past and present agricultural activities and consists of open grass fields and agricultural land (Figure 6 and Figure 7). Mining

infrastructure is located to the north of the surveyed area. A rail track and an old factory is located to the south of the proposed area (Figure 8 and Figure 9).

The surrounding landscape is associated with other surface water features such as a wetland and the Cowies Dam (Figure 10 and Figure 11). The vegetation in the surveyed area consists mostly of medium to high grasses, soya bean fields and pioneer plants, creating a thick under footing (Figure 12). There are only a small patch of eucalyptus trees in the south of the surveyed area.

The topography of the surveyed site is reasonably flat. The soil is loosely compacted and sandy in the cultivated areas and a mixture of clay and turf closer to Cowies Dam in the southeast.



FIGURE 6: OPEN GRASS FIELD IN THE SURVEYED AREA.



FIGURE 7: SOYA FIELD IN THE SURVEYED AREA.



FIGURE 8: MINING INFRASTRUCTURE NORTH OF THE SURVEYED AREA.



FIGURE 9: OLD FACTORY AND RAIL TRACK TO THE SOUTH OF THE SURVEYED AREA.



FIGURE 10: WETLAND TO THE EAST OF THE PROPOSED AREA.



FIGURE 11: THE COWIES DAM.



FIGURE 12: GENERAL VIEW OF VEGETATION OF THE SURVEYED AREA.

7. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

No sites of cultural heritage significance were located during the survey. Some background information is however given in order to place the surveyed area in a broad historical and geographical context and to contextualize possible finds that could be unearthed during construction activities.,

A number of heritage reports have been done in the wider Ekurhuleni area. Out of the three reports only two of the reports recorded sites of significance, a cemetery with no fencing (Huffman 2009: 4), and a stone structure (Coetzee 2015: 18-19). The third report identified no heritage sites (Van Schalkwyk 2011: 11) These relate to the historical age and gives an indication of what could be expected during the current survey (see Figure 15). One grave site was also identified in the Brakpan-Vlakplaats area (Van Vollenhoven et al 2020: 26-29).

7.1 Stone Age

The Stone Age is the period in human history when lithic material was mainly used to produce tools (Coertze & Coertze 1996: 293). In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided in three periods. It is, however, important to note that dates are relative and only provide a broad framework for interpretation. The division for the Stone Age according to Korsman & Meyer (1999: 93-94) is as follows:

- Early Stone Age (ESA) 2 million – 150 000 years ago;
- Middle Stone Age (MSA) 150 000 – 30 000 years ago; and
- Late Stone Age (LSA) 40 000 years ago – 1850 - A.D.

No Stone Age sites were identified out of the of heritage reports have been done in the wider Ekurhuleni area.

A few Stone Age sites were identified in the larger geographical area of the surveyed site by other scholars. This includes Middle and Late Stone Age sites in and around Johannesburg (Bergh 1999:4). Rock art is usually also associated with LSA people. The closest to the surveyed area are rock engravings that have been found around Krugersdorp on the West Rand (Bergh 1999: 5).

Although no natural shelter was identified during the survey, the close proximity to a wetland/river makes the area very suitable for human habitation. The area probably provided good grazing and therefore it is possible that Stone Age people may have utilized the site for hunting purposes. One may therefore find Stone Age material lying around in the area.

7.2 Iron Age

The Iron Age is the name given to the period of human history when metal was mainly used to produce metal artefacts (Coertze & Coertze 1996: 346). In South Africa it can

be divided in two separate phases according to Van der Ryst & Meyer (1999: 96-98), namely:

- Early Iron Age (EIA) 200 – 1000 A.D; and
- Late Iron Age (LIA) 1000 – 1850 A.D.

Huffman (2007: xiii) however, indicates that a Middle Iron Age should be included. His dates, which now seem to be widely accepted in archaeological circles, are:

- Early Iron Age (EIA) 250 – 900 A.D.;
- Middle Iron Age (MIA) 900 – 1300 A.D.; and
- Late Iron Age (LIA) 1300 – 1840 A.D.

Previous research indicates 794 Iron Age sites in an area to the south of Johannesburg and the East Rand (Bergh 1999: 7). These date to the Late Iron Age. These would however be closer to hills and areas where building material is found.

No Iron Age sites were identified out of the of heritage reports that have been done in the wider Ekurhuleni area. Again, the presence of water and natural grass cover may have contributed to people settling in the surveyed area during the Iron Age. It is indicated that a Tswana group, the Khudu, inhabited the area to the south of the surveyed area previously as well as during the 19th century. It does not seem as if someone settled closer to the surveyed area, but one has to take into consideration that the entire area may not have been researched yet (Bergh 1999: 10).

The subterranean presence of archaeological material is something that should however always be kept in mind. It also should be realized that the area may not have been surveyed before and therefore the possibility of finding new sites, or at least features, is always a reality.

7.3 Historical Age

The historical age began with the first recorded oral histories in the area. It includes the moving into the area of people that were literate. This era is often referred to as the Colonial era or the recent past. Due to factors such as population growth and a decrease in mortality rates, more people inhabited the country during the recent historical past. Therefore, much more cultural heritage resources from this era have been left on the landscape.

It however is important to note that all cultural resources older than 60 years are potentially regarded as part of the heritage and that detailed studies are required in order to determine whether these indeed have cultural significance. Factors to be considered include aesthetic, scientific, cultural and religious value of such resources.

During the Difaquane, in this case ca. 1827, the Ndebele of Mzilikazi did move through the larger geographical are where the study area is located (Bergh 1999: 11). The first white people to move through this area were the travellers Moffat and Archbell in 1829 (Bergh 1999: 12). Later other travellers also visited the area, being Harris in 1836

and Livingstone in 1847 (Bergh 1999: 13). The first white people to settle here were Voortrekkers during the 1839 and 1840 (Bergh 1999: 14-15).

Some historical sites are also known from the surveys done in the surrounding area. Two grave sites are known from the surveys done in the surrounding area indicated in green (Huffman 2009: 4; Van Vollenhoven et al 2020: 26-29) (Figure 13). One historical site is known and is associated with farming activities, e.g., historical house remains indicated in yellow (Coetzee 2015: 18-19) (Figure 14). These are not to be impacted on as it lies at least 3 km from the project site.

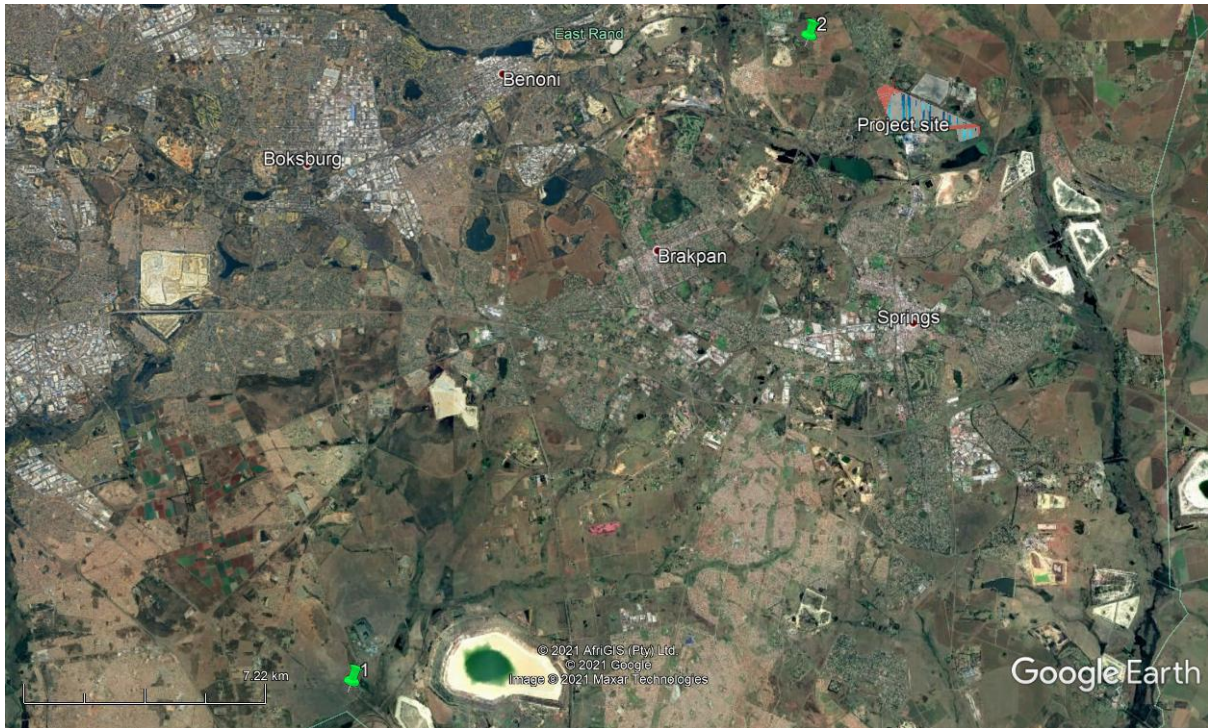


FIGURE 13: KNOWN GRAVE SITES IN THE SURROUNDING AREA OF THE SURVEYED SITE.



FIGURE 14: KNOWN HISTORIC SITES IN THE SURROUNDING AREA OF THE SURVEYED SITE.

8. SITES IDENTIFIED DURING THE SURVEY

No site of cultural heritage significance was identified in the surveyed area. A number of remains of old buildings and structures were however noted. These are merely ruins and floor levels remaining and thus have no heritage significance. (Figure 15-).



FIGURE 15: REMAINS OF AN OLD BUILDING.



FIGURE 16: MORE REMAINS OF ANOTHER BUILDING.



FIGURE 17: REMAINS OF YET ANOTHER BUILDING.



FIGURE 18: RUINED REMAINS OF A BUILDING.



FIGURE 19: REMAINS OF STRUCTURE – LIKELY A FORMER MINE SHAFT.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The survey of the proposed area for the establishment of a 115MW Solar PV Facility in Springs was completed successfully. No sites of heritage significance were identified.

Known sites in the vicinity are at least 3 km from the project site. It includes graves, indicated by green and historic structures, indicated by yellow (Figure 20).

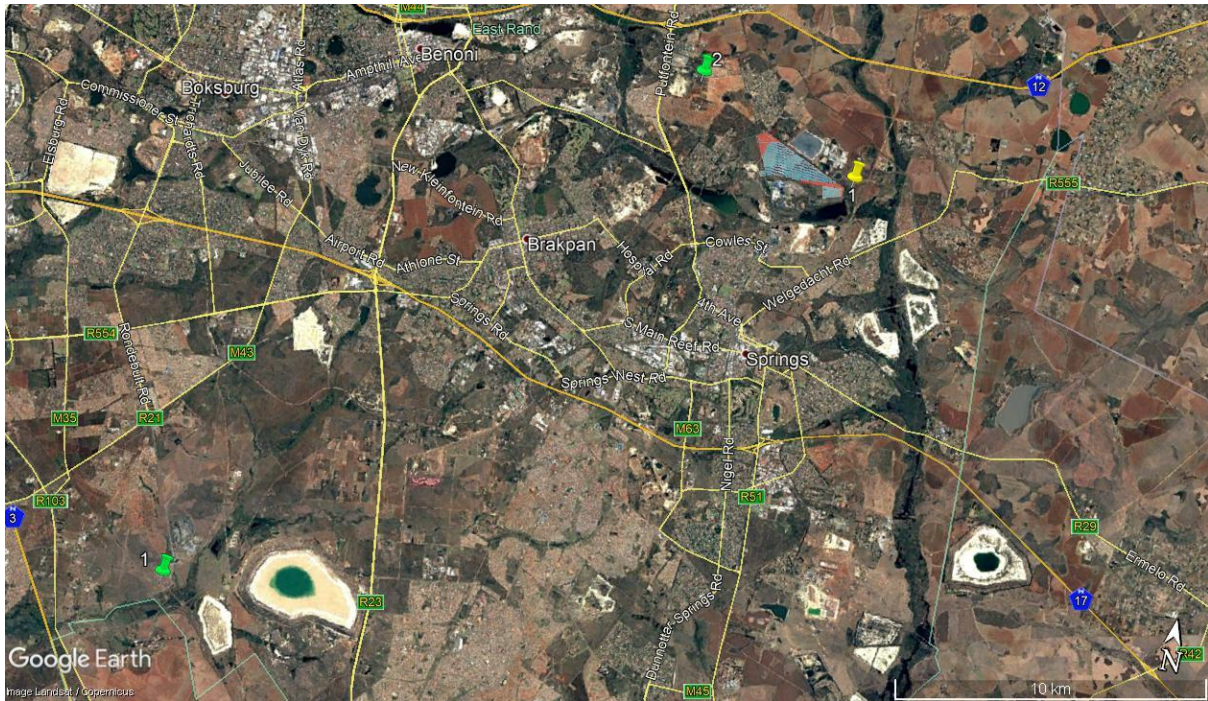


FIGURE 20: KNOWN SITES IN THE VICINITY OF THE CURRENT SURVEY.

The following is recommended:

- This report is seen as ample mitigation, since nothing of heritage value were identified in the surveyed area.
- The proposed development may continue.
- It should be noted that the subterranean presence of archaeological and/or historical sites, features or artifacts is always a distinct possibility. Due to the density of vegetation it also is possible that some sites may only become known later on. Operating controls and monitoring should therefore be aimed at the possible unearthing of such features. Care should therefore be taken when development commences that if any of these are discovered, a qualified archaeologist be called in to investigate the occurrence.
- In this regards the following 'Chance Find Procedure' should be followed:
 - Upon finding any archaeological or historical material all work at the affected area must cease.
 - The area should be demarcated in order to prevent any further work there until an investigation has been completed.
 - An archaeologist should be contacted immediately to provide advice on

the matter.

- Should it be a minor issue, the archaeologist will decide on future action, which could include adapting the HIA or not. Depending on the nature of the find, it may include a site visit.
- SAHRA's Archaeology Palaeontology and Meteoritis Unit may also be notified.
- If needed, the necessary permit will be applied for with SAHRA. This will be done in conjunction with the appointed archaeologist.
- The removal of such archaeological material will be done by the archaeologist in lieu of the approval given by SAHRA, including any conditions stipulated by the latter.
- Work on site will only continue after removal of the archaeological/historical material was done.

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APPENDIX A

DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Site: A large place with extensive structures and related cultural objects. It can also be a large assemblage of cultural artifacts, found on a single location.

Structure: A permanent building found in isolation or which forms a site in conjunction with other structures.

Feature: A coincidental find of movable cultural objects.

Object: Artifact (cultural object).

(Also see Knudson 1978: 20).

APPENDIX B

DEFINITION/ STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

- Historic value: Important in the community or pattern of history or has an association with the life or work of a person, group or organization of importance in history.
- Aesthetic value: Important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.
- Scientific value: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of natural or cultural history or is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement of a particular period
- Social value: Have a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.
- Rarity: Does it possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or cultural heritage.
- Representivity: Important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of natural or cultural places or object or a range of landscapes or environments characteristic of its class or of human activities (including way of life, philosophy, custom, process, land-use, function, design or technique) in the environment of the nation, province region or locality.

APPENDIX C

SIGNIFICANCE AND FIELD RATING:

Cultural significance:

- Negligible – The site has no heritage significance, although it may be older than 60 years.
- Low - A cultural object being found out of context, not being part of a site or without any related feature/structure in its surroundings. A site with minimal importance which is decreased by its bad state of decay.
- Low-Medium - A site of lesser importance, which is increased by a good state of preservation and contextual importance (e.g. a specific community).
- Medium - Any site, structure or feature being regarded less important due to a number of factors, such as date and frequency. Also, any important object found out of context.
- Medium-High - A site that has high importance due to its age or uniqueness, but which decreases due to its bad state of decay.
- High - Any site, structure or feature regarded as important because of its age or uniqueness. Also, any important object found within a specific context.
- Very High - A site of exceptional importance due to its age, uniqueness and good state of preservation.

Heritage significance:

- Grade I Heritage resources with exceptional qualities to the extent that they are of national significance
- Grade II Heritage resources with qualities giving it provincial or regional importance although it may form part of the national estate
- Grade III Other heritage resources of local importance and therefore worthy of conservation

Field ratings:

National Grade I significance: The site should be managed as part of the national estate, should be nominated as Grad I site, should be maintained in situ with a protected buffer zone and a CMP must be recommended. Score above 50.

Provincial Grade II significance: The site should be managed as part of the provincial estate, should be nominated as Grade II site, should be maintained in situ with a protected buffer zone and a CMP must be recommended. Score between 41 and 50.

Local Grade IIIA: The site should be included in the heritage register and not be mitigated (high significance), should be maintained in situ with a protected buffer zone and a CMP must be recommended. Score between 31 and 40.

Local Grade IIIB: The site should be included in the heritage register and may be mitigated (high/ medium significance). Mitigation is subject to a permit application lodged with the relevant heritage authority. Score between 6 and 30.

Local Grade IIIC: The description in the phase 1 heritage report is seen as sufficient recording (low significance) and it may be granted destruction at the discretion of the relevant heritage authority without a formal permit application, subjected to the granting of Environmental Authorisation. Score below 5.

APPENDIX D

PROTECTION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES:

Formal protection:

National heritage sites and Provincial heritage sites – grade I and II

Protected areas - an area surrounding a heritage site

Provisional protection – for a maximum period of two years

Heritage registers – listing grades II and III

Heritage areas – areas with more than one heritage site included

Heritage objects – e.g. archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, visual art, military, numismatic, books, etc.

General protection:

Objects protected by the laws of foreign states

Structures – older than 60 years

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Burial grounds and graves

Public monuments and memorials

APPENDIX E

HERITAGE/ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PHASES

1. Pre-assessment or scoping phase – establishment of the scope of the project and terms of reference.
2. Baseline assessment – establishment of a broad framework of the potential heritage of an area.
3. Phase I impact assessment – identifying sites, assess their significance, make comments on the impact of the development and makes recommendations for mitigation or conservation.
4. Letter of recommendation for exemption – if there is no likelihood that any sites will be impacted.
5. Phase II mitigation or rescue – planning for the protection of significant sites or sampling through excavation or collection (after receiving a permit) of sites that may be lost.
6. Phase III management plan – for rare cases where sites are so important that development cannot be allowed.