

ANNEXURE 2
CULTURAL HERITAGE SURVEY OF SITES
FOR
SOLAR POWER PROJECT
Report: Farm Vanderlindeskraal, No. 79
Northern Cape Province

Background Information:

In January 2011, the author of this appendix was appointed by the Scatec Solar to undertake a cultural heritage review of the proposed establishment of photo voltaic (solar power) panels on the farm Taaiboschfontein No. 41 situated near the town of Hanover in the Northern Cape Province. A site visit was undertaken on 25 January 2011.

Although several other farms had been identified as possible sites for the project, the cultural heritage review was only commissioned for the farm Taaiboschfontein. A report was issued in February 2011 regarding the heritage sites found on the farm and this report was included in the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAR) for the overall project.

In July 2011, Scatec Solar requested the author of this annexure to undertake a cultural heritage review of two additional sites in the Northern Cape.

It is the author's request to SAHRA to read this report as an annexure to the report titled *Cultural Heritage Review of the Proposed Establishment of Photo Voltaic (Solar Power) Panels on the Farm Taaiboschfontein, No. 41, Hanover District, Northern Cape* compiled by the same author that was submitted to SAHRA in July 2011.

The reason for the request is that several sections of the above-mentioned report remain the same for this annexure including *Section 2 – Legislative Requirements, Section 3 - Details of the Heritage Specialist; Section 6 – Project Motivation and Description* as well as the wider historical background found in *Section 8 – Historical Background*.

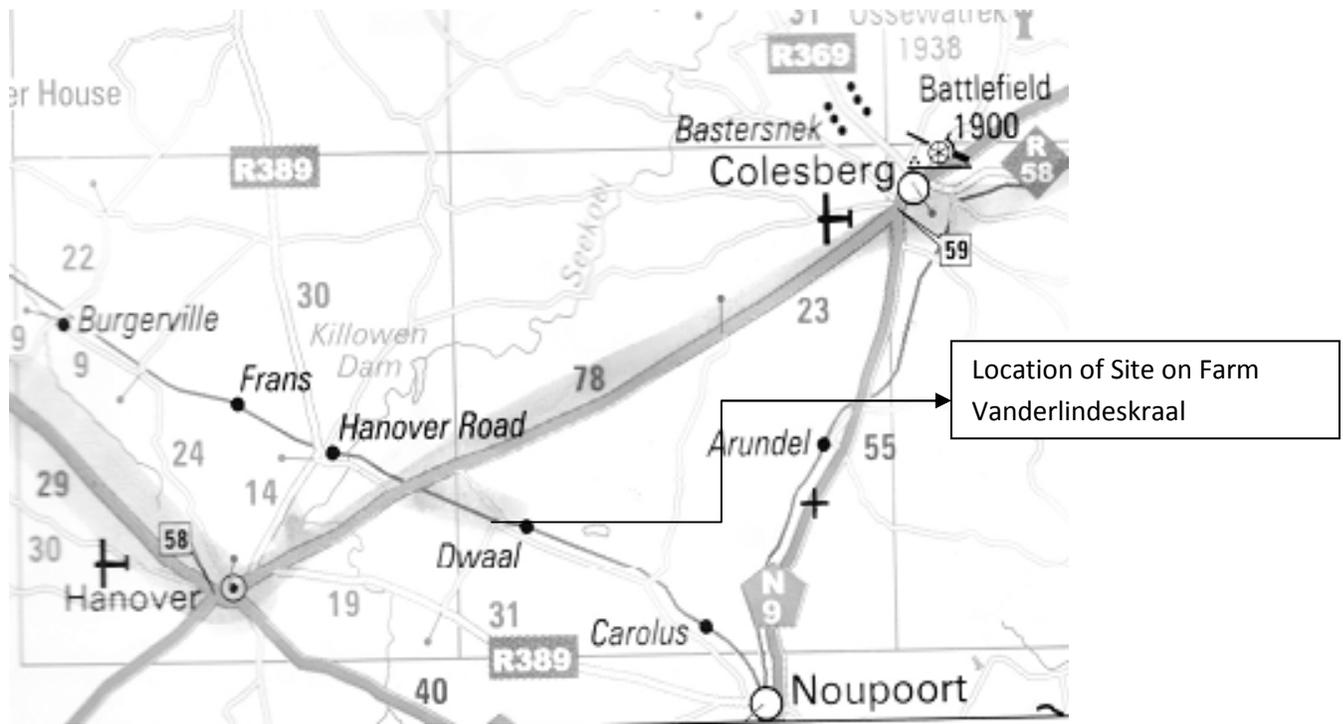
Introduction:

The two sites are situated on the farms Vanderlindeskraal No. 79 and New Kalkbult No. 181. The sites were inspected on 24 and 25 August 2011 respectively. This annexure report refers to the findings of the site visit on the farm **Vanderlindeskraal No. 79**. It should be noted that an internet search revealed general information regarding the larger area around the project site.

The site of the proposed project is situated between the towns of Colesberg and Hanover with the entrance to the farm off the N1 highway. The farm is on the eastern side of the N1. See maps below indicating location of the site.

The review or survey was undertaken in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999) with reference to sections 34 through to 38. The survey forms part of an environmental impact assessment process that was undertaken for the proposed establishment of photo voltaic farms for the creation of solar power.

Map 1: Approximate Location of Site



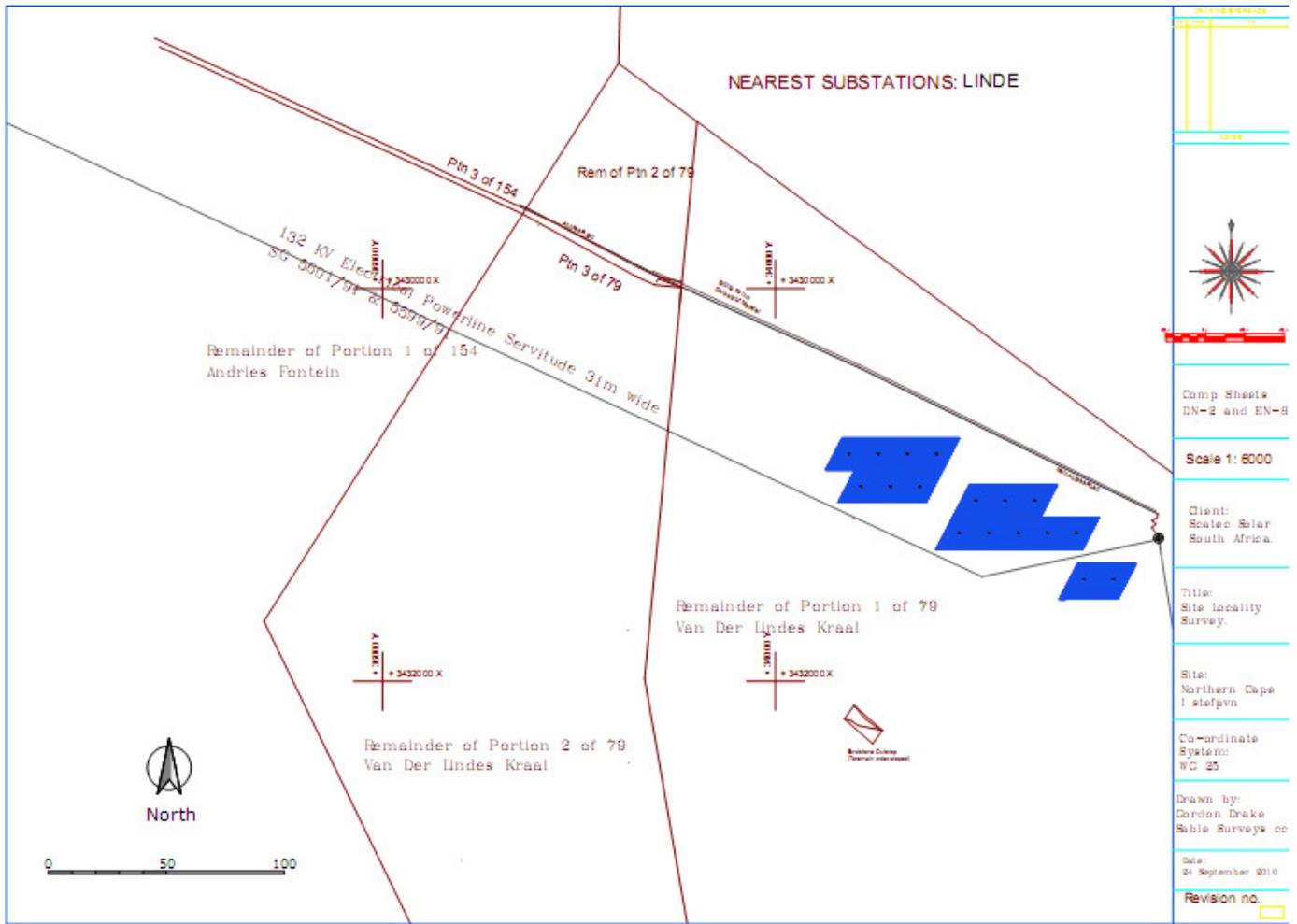
Map 2: Google Image of Site



Substation and railway line, project site to west of substation and south of railway line

The schematic diagram below indicates the proposed site on the farm Vanderlindeskraal. The blue areas with black dots are the proposed areas where the solar panels will be located within the project site.

Diagram 1: Schematic of Proposed Layout of Solar Panels on Farm Vanderlindeskraal



Historical Context:

The prehistory of the Great Karoo, like that of the rest of the country, is conventionally divided into the Early (approx. 2 million to 200 000 years ago), Middle (250 000 to 20 000 years ago) and Late Stone Ages (20 000 years BP to historic times). The Early Stone Age people who roamed the Karoo were essentially hunters and gatherers and used their stone tools for butchering meat, making other stone tools and cutting and shaping plants and wood. During the Middle Stone Age they hunted more efficiently and seemed to prefer caves and shelters to live in.¹

The Later Stone Age is characterised by the prehistory of the more recent and historically more familiar people of the Karoo, the San/Bushmen and Griqua, Korana/'Hottentots'. Iron Age crop farmers probably entered southern Africa along the north eastern coastal margins in or before the 3rd Century AD and within a few years descendants of these farmers moved westwards along river valleys.²

¹ www.karooqariep.co.za

² ditto

White farmers/trekboers settled in the Colesberg and Hanover area in the early 19th century. By 1814, a mission station had been established in the Colesberg district in the hopes of bringing peace to the frontier area of the Cape Colony. By 1820 several large farms had been established in the district and in 1822 the farmers petitioned for the establishment of a town. The government granted land on 27 January 1830 and so Colesberg (named after the Governor the Cape Colony, Sir Lowry Cole) was established.³

With regard to Hanover, one of the early farms was Petrusvallei which became Hanover. Petrusvallei was part of an outlying district of Graaff-Reinet and simply known as Bo-Zeekoeirivier. Farmers petitioned the Government for a town and on 17 July 1854, a six-man committee bought the farm to start a settlement. Hanover was declared a magisterial district on 13 November 1876.⁴

During the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902, the Hanover and Colesberg area was a hive of activity. Colesberg was one of the first districts in the Karoo to be invaded by the Boers on 14 November 1899. British forces attacked the town in January 1900 and there were several skirmishes in and around the town before the Boer forces retreated in March 1900.⁵

Site investigation:

The site was inspected on foot by the specialist on 24 August 2011. The site is situated close to and south of a railway line that goes to Noupoot. There is an existing Eskom substation, power lines and a number of access roads on the farm. The location of the development site (as provided by the schematic diagram above) is S31°00'08", E024°39'51".

The farm is used for sheep farming. The affected area is covered in fairly thick vegetation with small thorny scrub with a few large open patches of ground.

There are no visible structures or graves on the farm. However, some of the open patches of ground are very rocky, an example of which can be seen in photograph 1 below whilst some exposed areas have a small scattering of stones (see photograph 2 below). Exposed outcrops of rock, an example of which can be seen in photograph 3 below were found. It is unclear if these areas are of any archaeological significance. A number of stone tools were observed during the walk through.

David Morris, Head of Archaeology, McGregor Museum in Kimberley was approached to establish if any studies had taken place on the farm. Mr Morris informed the writer that no studies had taken place on the farm Vanderlindeskraal. He stated that because of the railway line there could be remains of Anglo-Boer blockhouses [or redoubts] that were used to protect the railway line from attacks by the Boer forces. In addition, he said that there could be Stone Age surface scatters across the site of the development⁶

³ www.heritage.org.za/karoo/cole.htm. p 1

⁴ www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hanover_Northern_Cape

⁵ www.colesberginfo.co.za/history.html, p 1

⁶ Email received from David Morris on 30 August 2011

During the site visit no remains of blockhouses or redoubts were found on the site of the proposed development.

Photograph 1: Exposed rocky patch of ground



Photograph 2: Exposed patch of ground



Photograph 3: Exposed outcrop



Conclusion and Recommendations:

No visible heritage resources of significance such as graves or structures were found on the site. However, several open patches of ground and exposed outcrops could be of archaeological interest but their significance is unclear.

It is the opinion of the heritage specialist that the proposed development of a solar farm on the farm Vanderlindeskraal can proceed as long as the following recommendations are implemented:

- An archaeological watching brief must be implemented during the construction of the solar panels. An archaeologist must be on site when construction starts especially when earthworks may take place for the frames on which the solar panels will be mounted; **or**
- An archaeologist is appointed to assess if the open areas and exposed outcrops described above are of any archaeological significance before construction starts.
- In the event that any heritage sites are discovered or unearthed during the construction process, work in the immediate vicinity of the find must be stopped and the Northern Cape Provincial Heritage Agency and the Cape Town office of the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be informed. If there is an on-site archaeologist, he/she should then undertake an assessment of the heritage resources found.
- All mitigation measures recommended by the heritage professional in terms of any sites found during construction must be implemented and adhered to.
- Existing access roads to be used where possible to avoid the building of new access roads.

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