HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 38(8) OF THE NHRA (No. 25 OF 1999)

FOR THE PROPOSED OVERVAAL TRUST PV FACILITY, BUFFELSPOORT, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

Type of development:

PV Facility

Client:

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

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Project Reference:

HCAC Project number 2170506

Report date:

May 2017

APPROVAL PAGE

Project Name	**OVERVAAL TRUST PV FACILITY**
Report Title	Heritage Impact Assessment Overvaal Trust Pv Facility
Authority Reference Number	TBC
Report Status	Final Report
Applicant Name	Bojanala District Municipality

	Name	Signature	Qualifications and Certifications	Date
Document Compilation	Jaco van der Walt		MA Archaeology ASAPA #159	May 2017
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Amendments on Document

Date	Report Reference Number	Description of Amendment
19 June 2017	2170506b	Environmental regulations

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REPORT OUTLINE

Appendix 6 of the GNR 326 EIA Regulations published on 7 April 2017 provides the requirements for specialist reports undertaken. In line with this, Table 1 provides an overview of Appendix 6 together with information on how these requirements have been met.

Table 1. Specialist Report Requirements.

Requirement from Appendix 6 GNR 326 2017	Chapter
(a) Details of - (i) the specialist who prepared the report; and (ii) the expertise of that specialist to compile a specialist report including a curriculum vitae	Section a Section 12
(b) Declaration that the specialist is independent in a form as may be specified by the competent authority	*Declaration of Independence*
(c) Indication of the scope of, and the purpose for which, the report was prepared	Section 1
(cA)an indication of the quality and age of base data used for the specialist report	Section 3.4 and 7.1.
(cB) a description of existing impacts on the site, cumulative impacts of the proposed development and levels of acceptable change;	Section 8 and 9
(d) Duration, Date and season of the site investigation and the relevance of the season to the outcome of the assessment	Section 3.4
(e) Description of the methodology adopted in preparing the report or carrying out the specialised process inclusive of equipment and modelling used	Section 3
(f) details of an assessment of the specific identified sensitivity of the site related to the proposed activity or activities and its associated structures and infrastructure, inclusive of a site plan identifying site alternatives;	Section 8 and 9
(g) Identification of any areas to be avoided, including buffers	Section 9
(h) Map superimposing the activity including the associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the site including areas to be avoided, including buffers	Section 8
(I) Description of any assumptions made and any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge	Section 3.7
(j) a description of the findings and potential implications of such findings on the impact of the proposed activity including identified alternatives on the environment or activities;	Section 9
(k) Mitigation measures for inclusion in the EMPr	Section 9 and 10
(I) Conditions for inclusion in the environmental authorisation	Section 9 and 10
(m) Monitoring requirements for inclusion in the EMPr or environmental authorisation	Section 9 and 10

Requirement from Appendix 6 GNR 326 2017	Chapter
(n) Reasoned opinion - (i) as to whether the proposed activity, activities or portions thereof should be authorised; (iA) regarding the acceptability of the proposed activity or activities; and (ii) if the opinion is that the proposed activity, activities or portions thereof should be authorised, any avoidance, management and mitigation measures that should be included in the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan	Section 10.2
(o) Description of any consultation process that was undertaken during the course of preparing the specialist report	Section 6
(p) A summary and copies of any comments received during any consultation process and where applicable all responses thereto; and	Refer to PP report
(q) Any other information requested by the competent authority	Section 10

Executive Summary

Savannah Environmental was appointed by PV Solutions to facilitate the necessary environmental approvals for the proposed PV development with associated uses, Overvaal Trust PV Facility. The study area is located close to Buffelspoort, North West Province. An analysis of the project concluded that only a Heritage Impact Assessment was required to be undertaken in terms of the requirements of the National Heritage Resources Act as the project does not trigger the need for an Environmental Authorisation under NEMA. HCAC was appointed to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment of the proposed project to determine the presence of cultural heritage sites and the impact of the proposed development on these non-renewable resources. The study area was assessed both on desktop level and by a field survey. The field survey was conducted as a non-intrusive pedestrian survey to cover the extent of the development footprint.

In terms of the archaeological component of the study no sites or material was recorded during the survey and no further mitigation prior to construction is recommended in terms of the archaeological component of Section 35 for the proposed development to proceed. The study area is underlain by igneous rocks of the Rustenberg Layered Suite of the Precambrian Bushveld Igneous Complex. The Bushveld Igneous Complex is Precambrian in age and is of igneous origin. It is therefore unlikely that fossils will be affected by the proposed solar plant development. Furthermore the study area is highly disturbed by agricultural activities and there is no surface evidence of any paleontological resources. It is therefore recommended that a chance find procedure should be in place in the unlikely event that paleontological resources are exposed during development.

In terms of the built environment of the area (Section 34), no standing structures older than 60 years occur within the study area. In terms of Section 36 of the Act no burial sites were recorded. However, if any graves are located in future they should ideally be preserved *in-situ* or alternatively relocated according to existing legislation. No public monuments are located within or close to the study area.

Due to the lack of significant heritage resources in the study area the impact of the proposed project on heritage resources is considered low, it is recommended that the proposed project can commence on the condition that the following recommendations are implemented and based on approval from SAHRA:

- Implementation of a chance find procedure.

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Declaration of Independence

Specialist Name	Jaco van der Walt
Declaration of Independence	I declare, as a specialist appointed in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 108 of 1998) and the associated 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, that I: • 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	
Date	12/05/2017

a) Expertise of the specialist

Jaco van der Walt has been practising as a CRM archaeologist for 15 years. He obtained an MA degree in Archaeology from the University of the Witwatersrand focussing on the Iron Age in 2012 and is a PhD candidate at the University of Johannesburg focussing on Stone Age Archaeology with specific interest in the Middle Stone Age (MSA) and Later Stone Age (LSA). Jaco is an accredited member of ASAPA (#159) and have conducted more than 500 impact assessments in Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West, Free State, Gauteng, KZN as well as he Northern and Eastern Cape Provinces in South Africa.

Jaco has worked on various international projects in Zimbabwe, Botswana, Mozambique, Lesotho, DRC Zambia and Tanzania. Through this he has a sound understanding of the IFC Performance Standard requirements, with specific reference to Performance Standard 8 – Cultural Heritage.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AIA: Archaeological Impact Assessment
ASAPA: Association of South African Professional Archaeologists
BGG Burial Ground and Graves
BIA: Basic Impact Assessment
CFPs: Chance Find Procedures
CMP: Conservation Management Plan
CRR: Comments and Response Report
CRM: Cultural Resource Management
DEA: Department of Environmental Affairs
EA: Environmental Authorisation
EAP: Environmental Assessment Practitioner
ECO: Environmental Control Officer
EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment*
EIA: Early Iron Age*
EIA Practitioner: Environmental Impact Assessment Practitioner
EMP: Environmental Management Programme
ESA: Early Stone Age
ESIA: Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
GIS Geographical Information System
GPS: Global Positioning System
GRP Grave Relocation Plan
HIA: Heritage Impact Assessment
LIA: Late Iron Age
LSA: Late Stone Age
MEC: Member of the Executive Council
MIA: Middle Iron Age
MPRDA: Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act
MSA: Middle Stone Age
NEMA National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)
NHRA National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999)
NID Notification of Intent to Develop
NoK Next-of-Kin
PRHA: Provincial Heritage Resource Agency
SADC: Southern African Development Community
SAHRA: South African Heritage Resources Agency

**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 40-25 000 years ago)
Later Stone Age (~ 40-25 000, to recently, 100 years ago)
The Iron Age (~ AD 400 to 1840)
Historic (~ AD 1840 to 1950)
Historic building (over 60 years old)

1 Introduction and Terms of Reference:

Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC (**HCAC)** has been contracted by Savannah Environmental to conduct a heritage impact assessment of the proposed infrastructure for a PV development with associated uses.

The aim of the study is to survey the proposed development footprint to identify cultural heritage sites, document, and assess their importance within local, provincial and national context. It serves 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. It is also conducted to protect, preserve, and develop such resources within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act No 25 of 1999). The report outlines the approach and methodology utilized before and during the survey, which includes: Phase 1, review of relevant literature; Phase 2, the physical surveying of the area on foot and by vehicle; Phase 3, reporting the outcome of the study.

During the survey, no heritage sites were identified. General site conditions and features on sites were recorded by means of photographs, GPS locations, and site descriptions. Possible impacts were identified and mitigation measures are proposed in the following report.

1.1 Terms of Reference

Field study

Conduct a field study to: (a) locate, identify, record, photograph and describe sites of archaeological, historical or cultural interest; b) record GPS points of sites/areas identified as significant areas; c) determine the levels of significance of the various types of heritage resources affected by the proposed towers.

Reporting

Report on the identification of anticipated and cumulative impacts the operational units of the proposed project activity may have 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 comply with the relevant legislation, SAHRA minimum standards and the code of ethics and guidelines of ASAPA.

To assist the developer in managing the discovered heritage resources in a responsible manner, and to protect, preserve, and develop them within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act No 25 of 1999).

Table 2: Project Description

Size of farm and portions	Less than 1 Hectare on the farm Rietfontein 348 Portion RE/ 23/348
Magisterial District	
1: 50 000 map sheet number	2527CD
Central co-ordinate of the development	25° 49' 44.1859" S 27° 22' 20.3542" E

Table 3: Infrastructure and project activities

Type of development	PV Development
Project size	Less than 1 hectare
Project Components	Capacity of approximately 990 kWp Overhead Powerline (11kV) exceeding 300 m

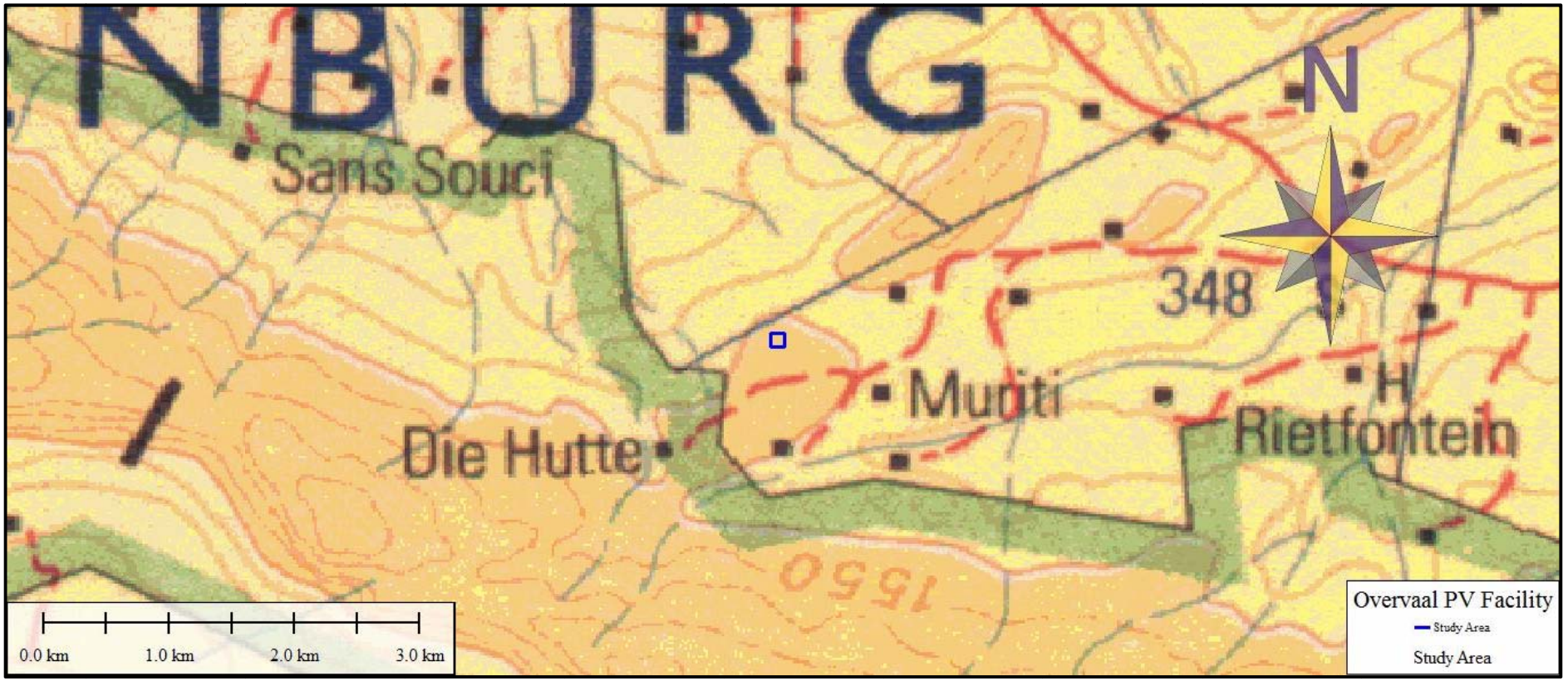

Figure 1. Provincial locality map (1: 250 000 topographical map)

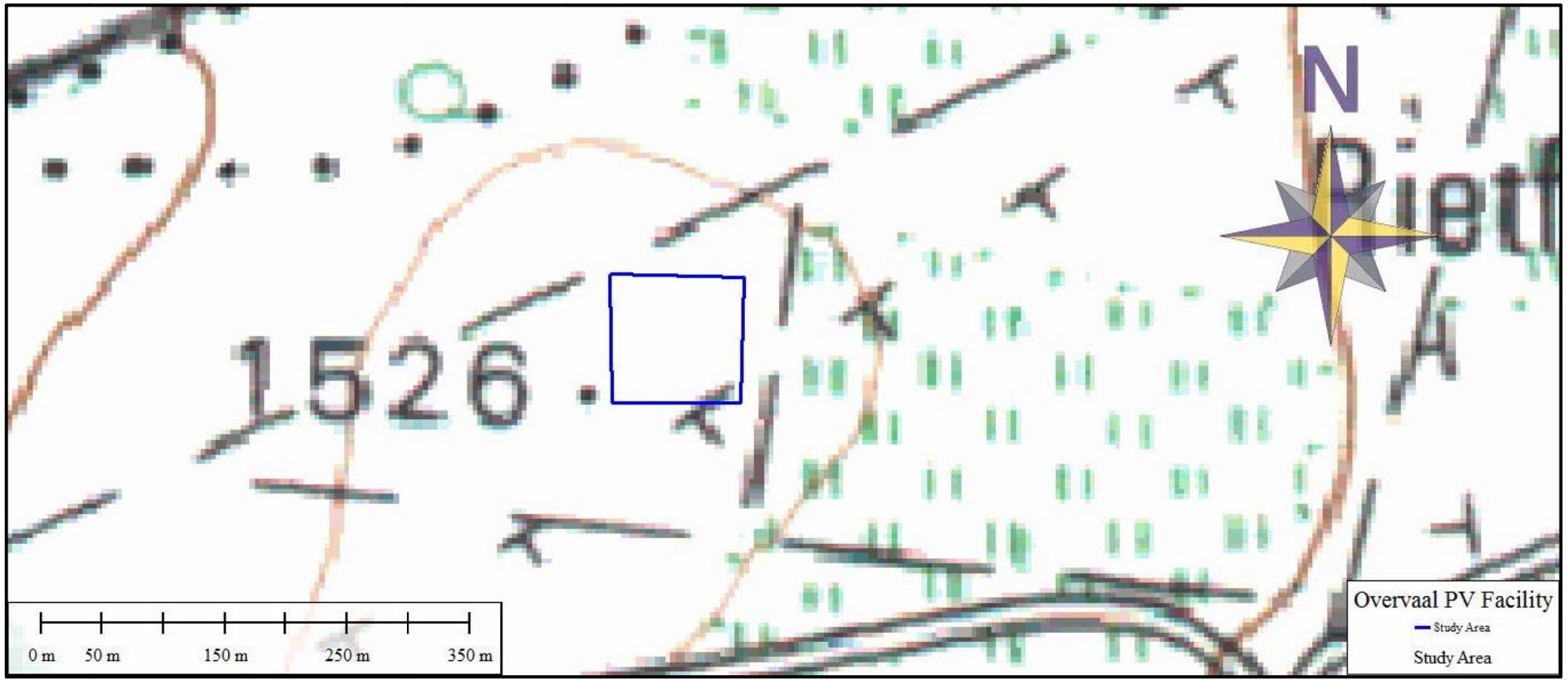

Figure 2: Regional locality map (1:50 000 topographical map).

2 Legislative Requirements

The HIA, as a specialist sub-section of the EIA, is required under the following legislation:

- National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), Act No. 25 of 1999)
- National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act No. 107 of 1998 - Section 23(2)(b)
- Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA), Act No. 28 of 2002 - Section 39(3)(b)(iii)

A Phase 1 HIA is a pre-requisite for development in South Africa as prescribed by SAHRA and stipulated by legislation. The overall purpose of 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; and
- Make recommendations for the appropriate heritage management of these impacts.

The HIA should be submitted, as part of the impact assessment report or EMPr (if required for the project), to the PHRA if established in the province or to SAHRA. SAHRA will ultimately be 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 additional development information, as per the impact assessment report and/or EMPr, 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 or with a proven ability to do archaeological work.

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 ASAPA in collaboration with SAHRA. ASAPA is based in South Africa, representing professional archaeology in the SADC region. ASAPA is primarily involved in the overseeing of ethical practice and standards regarding the archaeological profession. Membership is based on proposal and secondment by other professional members.

Phase 1 AIA's are primarily concerned with the location and identification of heritage sites situated within a proposed development area. Identified sites should be assessed according to their significance. Relevant conservation or Phase 2 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 guidelines 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 can only be conducted with 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 of a site, a destruction permit must be applied for with SAHRA by the applicant 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 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 this age category, located inside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority, require the same authorisation as set out for graves younger than 60 years, in addition to 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 reinternment 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. 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).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Literature Review

A brief survey of available literature was conducted to extract data and information on the area in question to provide general heritage context into which the development would be set. This literature search included published material, unpublished commercial reports and online material, including reports sourced from the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS).

3.2 Genealogical Society and Google Earth Monuments

Google Earth and 1:50 000 maps of the area were utilised to identify possible places where sites of heritage significance might be located; these locations were marked and visited during the field work phase. The database of the Genealogical Society was consulted to collect data on any known graves in the area.

3.3 Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement:

No public participation was conducted for this project as no BA process was undertaken for this study.

3.4 Site Investigation

Conduct a field study to: a) systematically survey the proposed project area to locate, identify, record, photograph and describe sites of archaeological, historical or cultural interest; b) record GPS points of sites/areas identified as significant areas; c) determine the levels of significance of the various types of heritage resources recorded in the project area.

Table 4: Site Investigation Details

	Site Investigation
Date	19 April 2017
Season	Autumn –due to agricultural activities archaeological visibility is high. The impact area was sufficiently covered (Figure 4) to adequately record the presence of heritage resources.

Figure 3: Track logs of the survey in black.

3.5 Site Significance and Field Rating

Section 3 of the NHRA 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:

- Its importance in/to 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.

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 the proposed project 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 section describes the evaluation criteria used for determining the significance of archaeological and heritage sites. The following criteria were used to establish site significance with cognisance of Section 3 of the NHRA:

- The unique nature of a site;
- The integrity of the archaeological/cultural heritage deposits;
- 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/is known);
- The preservation condition of the sites; and
- Potential to answer present research questions.

In addition to this criteria field ratings prescribed by SAHRA (2006), and acknowledged by ASAPA for the SADC region, were used for the purpose of this report. The recommendations for each site should be read in conjunction with section 10 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

3.6 Impact Assessment Methodology

The criteria below are used to establish the impact rating on sites:

- 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.

The **significance** is calculated by combining the criteria in the following formula:
S=(E+D+M)P
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).

3.7 Limitations and Constraints of the study

The authors acknowledge that the brief literature review is not exhaustive on the literature of the area. Due to the subsurface nature of archaeological artefacts, the possibility exists that some features or artefacts may not have been discovered/recorded during the survey and the possible occurrence of unmarked graves and other cultural material cannot be excluded. Similarly the depth of the deposit of heritage sites cannot be accurately determined due its subsurface nature. This report only deals with the footprint area of the proposed development and consisted of non-intrusive surface surveys. This study did not assess the impact on medicinal plants and intangible heritage as it is assumed that these components would have been highlighted through the public consultation process if relevant. It is possible that new information could come to light in future, which might change the results of this Impact Assessment.

4 Description of Socio Economic Environment

The 2012 Integrated Development Plan highlighted the following Socio-Economic information in the Bojanala District Municipality, the population of the Bojanala Platinum District is estimated to be 1 323 921. This is approximately 38 % of the total population of the North-West Province. The majority of the area can be classified as rural with very low densities that makes the provision of basic services very difficult and expensive. The area has an unemployment rate of 14.6%.

5 Description of the Physical Environment:

The farm Rietfontein and some of the surrounding properties are commercial farms with their main focus on the production of fruit and berries from planted orchards and greenhouse tunnels. They are situated within a belt of protected areas and nature reserves along the Magaliesberg mountain range. These areas are largely undisturbed and are known for their biodiversity and natural beauty.

The proposed area for the PV facility was previously used for the commercial growth of proteas, but the current owners opted for the use of greenhouse tunnels for the production of blueberries and orchards with peach trees and other fruit. The area was recently cleared from the proteas to facilitate the proposed PV plant. The previous agricultural activities and the recent site clearance all contributed to the disturbances across the site.

The study area measures approximately one hectare in size of which the footprint of the proposed PV facility will cover approximately 8000m². The proposed facility will have a capacity of approximately 990kWp which will be fed through an overhead 11kV power line into the existing on-site network. The power line will run from the proposed PV facility along an existing farm dirt road down to an existing transformer and will be approximately 800m long.

The proposed site is situated on a slight rise in the topography and is relatively flat. From the flat summit, it slopes gently down to the east and to the Sterkstroom in the south. The proposed site is bordered by a peach orchard on the western side, old protea fields on the southern side, and a newly planted orchard on the eastern side. Greenhouse tunnels are situated on the northern side of the proposed facility.

The site is open and some dumped rocks and boulders as well as removed protea plant material are situated within the central parts of the site. A disused and disabled windmill is situated in the far southern extent of the surveyed area. The vegetation and landscape is described by Mucina and Rutherford (2006) as Goldreef Mountain Bushveld.

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6 Results of Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement:

Mr. Nols De Wet, the farm owner and manager, was interviewed during the survey and he said that he was not aware of any heritage sites (such as graves) within the proposed study area. No other public consultation was conducted.

7 Literature / Background Study:

7.1 Literature Review

Thirty-seven previously recorded sites are on record for the 2527 DB topographic map at the Wits database. These sites all consist of MSA, LSA, Rock paintings and LIA Moloko stonewalled sites (referenced 2009). None of these sites are in close proximity to the study area.

The following CRM reports were conducted in the greater area and were consulted for this report:

Author	Year	Project	Findings
Van Schalkwyk, J.A. & Pelser, A.J.	1997	A Survey of Cultural Resources on the Farm Kroondal 304 JQ, East of Rustenburg.	Stone Age sites and Iron Age stone walling
Van Schalkwyk, J.A. & Pelser, A.J.	1999	A Survey of Cultural Resources on the Farms Spruitfontein 341 JQ and Kafferskraal 342 JQ, Rustenberg District.	Iron Age sites and graves.
Pistorius, J.C.C.	2002a	A Heritage Impact Assessment for Eskom's New Proposed 88 kV Powerline From the Middelkraal Substation to the Big Horn/Wonderkoppies Power Stations on the Farm Elandsdrif 467 JQ and Middelkraal 466 JQ Near Marikana and Mooinooi in the North West Province.	Late Iron Age Sites and graves
Pistorius, J.C.C.	2002b	A Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Salene Mining Area near Marikana in the Central Bankeveld in the North-West Province.	Iron Age sites and grave yards
Pistorius, J.C.C,	2002c	A Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment Study of Portions of the Farm Modderfontein 332 JQ on the Northern Foot of the Magaliesberg in the Rustenburg District of the North-West Province	Historical structure
Van Schalkwyk, J.A.	2007	Heritage Survey Report for Various Portions of the Farm Waterkloof 305 JQ, Rustenburg Municipal District, North West Province.	Farmhouse and a grave yard
Van Vollenhoven, A.C. & Pelser, A.J.	2008	A Report on a Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Development of Waterval Portion 8 in Rustenburg, North West Province.	Historical structures and infrastructure.
Coetzee, F.P.	2008	Cultural Heritage Survey of the Farm Rietfontein 338 JQ, Rustenburg District, North West Province	Iron Age settlements

7.1.1 Genealogical Society and Google Earth Monuments

No known grave sites are indicated close to the study area.

7.2 General History of the area

7.2.1 Archaeology of the area

7.2.1.1 The Stone Age

South Africa has a long and complex Stone Age sequence of more than 2 million years. The broad sequence includes the Later Stone Age, the Middle Stone Age and the Earlier Stone Age. Each of these phases contain sub-phases or industrial complexes, and within these we can expect regional variation regarding characteristics and time ranges. The three main phases can be divided as follows;

∗ Later Stone Age; associated with Khoi and San societies and their immediate predecessors. Recently to ~30 thousand years ago

∗ Middle Stone Age; associated with Homo sapiens and archaic modern humans. 30-300 thousand years ago.

∗ Earlier Stone Age; associated with early Homo groups such as Homo habilis and Homo erectus. 400 000- > 2 million years ago.

The ESA is represented in the area by the Wonderboom site on the southern slopes of the Magaliesberg north of Pretoria. This site is characterised by numerous cleavers, hand axes, cores and flakes (Mason, 1958). The nearby Jubilee shelter has been excavated and provides a record from the Late Pleistocene to the 7th Century AD (Turner, 1986), an extended cultural sequence with assemblages' characteristic of the Middle Stone Age, Early Later Stone Age and Later Stone Age including assemblages from the Oakhurst and Wilton industries (Wadley, 1986). The Jubilee shelter provides evidence of hunter–gatherer occupation during three phases of agro pastoralist contact, beginning in 225 AD and characterised by cooperative contact, prior to the hunter-gatherers being either assimilated or dispersed to other areas (Wadley, 1996).

7.2.1.2 The Iron Age

The Iron Age as a whole represents the spread of Bantu speaking people and includes both the pre-Historic and Historic periods. It can be divided into three distinct periods:

- The Early Iron Age: Most of the first millennium AD.
- The Middle Iron Age: 10th to 13th centuries AD
- The Late Iron Age: 14th century to colonial period.

The Iron Age is characterised by the ability of these early people to manipulate and work Iron ore into implements that assisted them in creating a favourable environment to make a better living.

There are however signs that the present-day Rustenburg is located in an area that used to be a large Late Iron Age (1000-1800) terrain. (Bergh 1999: 7)

Since the beginning of the 19th century, there was a presence of Fokeng, Kwena and Tuang settlements in the present-day Rustenburg area. The Fokeng tribe had its settlement at Phokeng, to the northwest of Rustenburg, and were able to live there up until the time of the Difaqane, when Mzilikazi's Khumalo-Ndebeles drove all other black communities from the area. The Fokeng, under the authority of Nôgê, was one of the few groups that resisted Mzilikazi, and without success. (Bergh 1999: 10-11; 110-111) The Difaqane (Sotho), or Mfekane ("the crushing" in Nguni) was a time of bloody upheavals in Natal and on the Highveld, which occurred around the early 1820's until the late 1830's. (Bergh 1999: 10) It came about in response to heightened competition for land and trade, and caused population groups like gun-carrying Griquas and Shaka's Zulus to attack other tribes. (Bergh 1999: 14; 116-119).

The Broederstroom Early Iron Age site to the east of the study area is characterised by around 250 years of occupation by iron and copper producers (Mason, 1981) and provided evidence on the role of cattle and the central cattle pattern in spatial arrangement of Early Iron Age sites (Huffman 1993). The copper smelting sites (Middle Iron Age) at Uitkomst and Ifafa from the 15th/16th Centuries were described by Mason (1962). The Late Iron Age in the area is characterised by extensive stone walled sites (Mason, 1986; Dreyer, 1995) of the Sotho-Tswana (Pistorius 1992). Rock engravings from the Magaliesberg include depictions of animals, shields, animal pens and settlements and are attributed to the Tswana people who occupied the area (Mason, 1986; Maggs, 1995).

7.3 Historical Information

During the time of the Difaqane, a northwards migration of white settlers from the Cape was also taking place. Some travellers, missionaries and adventurers had gone on expeditions to the northern areas in South Africa, some already as early as the 1720's. In 1829, Robert Scoon and McLuckie made a journey from Mzilikazi's Kraal, along the area directly to the north of Rustenburg, to the north of Zeerust and finally down to Danielskuil. In the same year, Moffat and Archbell travelled from Mzilikazi's Kraal (to the north of Pretoria), through Rustenburg and all the way Zeerust and then to Kuruman in the southwest. In 1835, Dr. Andrew Smith, a natural and medical scientist, travelled between Mzilikazi's kraal and Rustenburg, and finally much further to the north, almost up to Mahalapye. (Bergh 1999: 12-13)

It was however only by the late 1820's that a mass-movement of Dutch speaking people in the Cape Colony started advancing into the northern areas. This was due to feelings of mounting dissatisfaction caused by economical and other circumstances in the Cape. This movement later became known as the Great Trek. This migration resulted in a massive increase in the extent of that proportion of modern South Africa dominated by people of European descent. (Ross 2002: 39)

As can be expected, the movement of whites into the northern provinces would have a significant impact on the black people who populated the land. This was also the case in the North-West Province. Farms were surveyed in a large area, which included the present-day Rustenburg district, between 1839 and 1840. (Bergh 1999: 15). By 1860, the population of whites in the central Transvaal was already very dense and the administrative machinery of their leaders was firmly in place. Many of the policies that would later be entrenched as legislation during the period of apartheid had already been developed. (Bergh 1999: 170)

By 1899, quite a large number of farms to the north of Rustenburg had been bought by blacks. By 1904 several properties were still in black ownership. (Bergh 1999: 40-41). The 1913 Native Land Act and the 1936 Native Trust and Land Act ensured that black "homelands" were established in various areas in South Africa. A rather large portion of land, a small distance to the north of Rustenburg, was allocated as a homeland. Another portion of land to the east of Rustenburg, also became a homeland. (Bergh 1999: 42) By 1993, a large area to the north of Rustenburg had been declared as the Bophuthatswana Independent Black State (Bergh 1999: 43)

7.3.1 Anglo-Boer War

The Anglo-Boer War, which took place between 1899 and 1902 in South Africa, was one of the most turbulent times in South Africa's history. Even before the outbreak of war in October 1899 British politicians, including Sir Alfred Milner and Mr. Chamberlain, had declared that should Britain's differences with the Z.A.R. result in violence, it would mean the end of republican independence. This decision was not immediately publicized, and as a consequence republican leaders based their assessment of British intentions on the more moderate public utterances of British leaders. Consequently, in March 1900, they asked Lord Salisbury to agree to peace on the basis of the status quo ante bellum. Salisbury's reply was, however, a clear statement of British war aims. (Du Preez 1977)

One battalion of British troops moved through Rustenburg between February and September 1900. This was the regiment of General Major R. S. S. Baden-Powell. The Boer war-hero General Jacobus Herculaas de la Rey (more commonly known as Koos de la Rey) also moved past Rustenburg on his route between Barberton and Lichtenburg. (Bergh 1999: 51).
Rustenburg was under siege on 14 June 1900, when Colonel Herbert Plumer accepted the surrender of the Rustenburg Field Cornet Piet Kruger. Kruger, on his part, had been unable to get the Burghers to put up any resistance against the British forces. The British camped near the old goal, but on strict order from General Baden-Powell that there were no demonstrations. On the same day, the demoralized Burghers handed 1000 rifles to the British authorities, and it is perhaps safe to assume that an equivalent number signed the oath of neutrality. (Wulfsohn 1992: 50-51). In December of the same year De la Rey and his troops celebrated a victory over an unsuspecting British convoy. Approximately 120 soldiers were put out of action and 126 fully loaded wagons were captured containing supplies such as boots and clothes as well as a variety of delicacies and Christmas presents for the garrison at Rustenburg (https://www.geocaching.com).

8 Findings of the Survey

It is important to note that only the development footprint was surveyed. The proposed area for the PV facility was previously used for the commercial growth of proteas, but the current owners opted for the use of greenhouse tunnels for the production of blueberries and orchards with peach trees and other fruit. The area was recently cleared from the proteas to facilitate the proposed PV plant. The previous agricultural activities and the recent site clearance all contributed to the disturbances across the site.

The site is open and some dumped rocks and boulders as well as removed protea plant material are situated within the central parts of the site. A disused and disabled windmill is situated in the far southern extent of the surveyed area.

No sites or finds of any heritage value or significance were identified within the study area.

Figure 4. Disused windmill

Figure 5. Dumped rocks

Figure 6. Protea Fields

Figure 7. Existing transformer

Figure 8. General site conditions – peach orchard

Figure 9. Existing road and tunnels

9 Description of Identified Heritage Resources

No sites or finds of any heritage value or significance were identified within the proposed study area.

9.1 Built Environment (Section 34 of the NHRA)

No standing structures older than 60 years occur in the study area.

9.2 Archaeological resources (Section 35 of the NHRA)

No archaeological sites or material was recorded during the survey. Therefore, no further mitigation prior to construction is recommended in terms of the archaeological component of Section 35 for the proposed development to proceed

9.3 Burial Grounds and Graves (Section 36 of the NHRA)

In terms of Section 36 of the Act no burial sites were recorded. However, if any graves are located in future they should ideally be preserved *in-situ* or alternatively relocated according to existing legislation.

9.4 Cultural Landscapes, Intangible and Living Heritage.

Long term impact on the cultural landscape is considered to be negligible as the surrounding area consists of a densely-developed zone. Visual impacts to scenic routes and sense of place are also considered to be low.

9.5 Palaeontological Resources

The study area is underlain by the by igneous rocks of the Rustenberg Layered Suite of the Precambrian Bushveld Igneous Complex. The Bushveld Igneous Complex is an intrusive igneous body comprising a series of ultramafic-mafic layers and a suite of associated granitoid rocks. A similar project was conducted in the general area and Rubidge (2011) found that the rocks of the Bushveld Igneous Complex are Precambrian in age and are of igneous origin and therefore it is highly unlikely that fossils will be affected by the proposed solar plant development. The study area is highly disturbed by agricultural activities and there is no surface evidence of any paleontological resources. As the study area is indicated as of high paleontological significance it is recommended that a chance find procedure should be in place in terms of paleontological resources.

Figure 10. The study area indicated on the SAHRA Paleontological Sensitivity Map.

Legend to the SAHRA paleontological sensitivity map:

Colour	Sensitivity	Required Action
RED	VERY HIGH	Field assessment and protocol for finds is required
ORANGE/YELLOW	HIGH	Desktop study is required and based on the outcome of the desktop study, a field assessment is likely
GREEN	MODERATE	Desktop study is required
BLUE	LOW	No palaeontological studies are required however a protocol for finds is required
GREY	INSIGNIFICANT/ZERO	No palaeontological studies are required
WHITE/CLEAR	UNKNOWN	These areas will require a minimum of a desktop study.

9.6 Battlefields and Concentration Camps

Rustenburg was under siege on 14 June 1900, when Colonel Herbert Plumer accepted the surrender of the Rustenburg Field Cornet Piet Kruger. Kruger, on his part, had been unable to get the Burghers to put up any resistance against the British forces. The British camped near the old goal, but on strict order from General Baden-Powell that there were no demonstrations. On the same day, the demoralized Burghers handed 1000 rifles to the British authorities, and it is perhaps safe to assume that an equivalent number signed the oath of neutrality. (Wulfsohn 1992: 50-51). The Battle of Buffelspoort took place in the greater study area. There are however no battlefields or related concentration camp sites that will be impacted on by the development.

9.7 Potential Impact

The chances of impacting unknown archaeological sites in the study area is considered to be negligible. Any direct impacts that did occur would be during the construction phase only and would be of very low significance. Cumulative impacts occur from the combination of effects of various impacts on heritage resources. The importance of identifying and assessing cumulative impacts is that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. In the case of the development, it will, with the recommended mitigation measures and management actions, not impact any heritage resources directly. However, this and other projects in the area could have an indirect impact on the heritage landscape. The lack of any heritage resources in the immediate area minimises additional impact on the landscape.

9.7.1 Pre-Construction phase:

It is assumed that the pre-construction phase involves the removal of topsoil and vegetation as well as the establishment of infrastructure needed for the construction phase. These activities can have a negative and irreversible impact on heritage sites. Impacts include destruction or partial destruction of non-renewable heritage resources.

9.7.2 Construction Phase

During this phase, the impacts and effects are similar in nature but more extensive than the pre-construction phase. These activities can have a negative and irreversible impact on heritage sites. Impacts include destruction or partial destruction of non-renewable heritage resources.

9.7.3 Operation Phase:

No impact is envisaged heritage resources during this phase.

Table 5. Impact table – Archaeological heritage resources.

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 archaeological material or objects.		
	Without mitigation	**With mitigation (Preservation / excavation of site)**
Extent	Local (1)	Local (1)
Duration	Permanent (5)	Permanent (5)
Magnitude	Low (2)	Low (2)
Probability	Not probable (2)	Not probable (2)
Significance	**16 (Low)**	**16 (Low)**
Status (positive or negative)	Negative	Negative
Reversibility	Not reversible	Not reversible
Irreplaceable loss of resources?	No resources were recorded	No resources were recorded.
Can impacts be mitigated?	Yes, a chance find procedure should be implemented.	Yes
Mitigation: Due to the lack of apparent significant archaeological resources no further mitigation is required prior to construction.		
Cumulative impacts: A Chance Find Procedure should be implemented for the project should any sites be identified during the construction process.		
Residual Impacts: If sites are destroyed this results in the depletion of archaeological record of the area. However, if sites are recorded and preserved or mitigated this adds to the record of the area.		

10 Recommendations and conclusion

No archaeological sites or material was recorded during the survey. Therefore, no further mitigation prior to construction is recommended in terms of the archaeological component of Section 35 for the proposed development to proceed. The study area is underlain by igneous rocks of the Rustenberg Layered Suite of the Precambrian Bushveld Igneous Complex. Since the Bushveld Igneous Complex is Precambrian in age and is of igneous origin it is highly unlikely that fossils will be affected by the proposed solar plant development. Furthermore the study area is highly disturbed by agricultural activities and there is no surface evidence of any paleontological resources. It is therefore recommended that a chance find procedure should be in place in the unlikely event that paleontological resources are exposed during development.

In terms of the built environment of the area (Section 34), no standing structures older than 60 years occur within the study area. In terms of Section 36 of the Act no burial sites were recorded. However, if any graves are located in future they should ideally be preserved *in-situ* or alternatively relocated according to existing legislation. No public monuments are located within or close to the study area.

Due to the lack of significant heritage resources in the study area the impact of the proposed project on heritage resources is considered low and it is recommended that the proposed project can commence on the condition that the following recommendations are implemented for the project and based on approval from SAHRA.

- Implementation of a chance find procedure as detailed below.

The possibility of the occurrence of subsurface finds cannot be excluded. Therefore, if during construction any possible finds such as stone tool scatters, artefacts or bone and fossil remains are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist must be contacted for an assessment of the find and therefor chance find procedures should be put in place as part of the EMP. A short summary of chance find procedures is discussed below.

This procedure applies to the developer's permanent employees, its subsidiaries, contractors and subcontractors, and service providers. The aim of this procedure is to establish monitoring and reporting procedures to ensure compliance with this policy and its associated procedures. Construction crews must be properly inducted to ensure they are fully aware of the procedures regarding chance finds as discussed below.

- If during the pre-construction phase, construction, operations or closure phases of this project, any person employed by the developer, one of its subsidiaries, contractors and subcontractors, or service provider, finds any artefact of cultural significance or heritage site, this person must cease work at the site of the find and report this find to their immediate supervisor, and through their supervisor to the senior on-site manager.
- It is the responsibility of the senior on-site Manager to make an initial assessment of the extent of the find, and confirm the extent of the work stoppage in that area.

- The senior on-site Manager will inform the ECO of the chance find and its immediate impact on operations. The ECO will then contact a professional archaeologist for an assessment of the finds who will notify the SAHRA.

10.1 Reasoned Opinion

The impact of the proposed project on heritage resources is considered low and no further pre-construction mitigation in terms of archaeological resources is required based on approval from SAHRA. Furthermore, the socio-economic benefits also outweigh the possible impacts of the development if the correct mitigation measures (i.e. chance find procedure) are implemented for the project.

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12 Appendices:

Curriculum Vitae of Specialist

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Education:

Particulars of degrees/diplomas and/or other qualifications:

Name of University or Institution:		University of Pretoria
Degree obtained	**:**	BA Heritage Tourism & Archaeology
Year of graduation	**:**	2001
Name of University or Institution:		University of the Witwatersrand
Degree obtained	**:**	BA Hons Archaeology
Year of graduation	**:**	2002
Name of University or Institution	**:**	University of the Witwatersrand
Degree Obtained	**:**	MA (Archaeology)
Year of Graduation	:	2012
Name of University or Institution	**:**	University of Johannesburg
Degree	**:**	PhD
Year	:	Currently Enrolled

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

2011 – Present:	**Owner – HCAC (Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC)**.
2007 – 2010 :	**CRM Archaeologist,** Managed the Heritage Contracts Unit at the University of the Witwatersrand.
2005 - 2007:	**CRM Archaeologist**, Director of Matakoma Heritage Consultants
2004:	**Technical Assistant**, Department of Anatomy University of Pretoria
2003:	**Archaeologist**, Mapungubwe World Heritage Site
2001 - 2002:	**CRM Archaeologists,** For R & R Cultural Resource Consultants, Polokwane
2000:	**Museum Assistant**, Fort Klapperkop.

Countries of work experience include:

Republic of South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Tanzania, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho and Zambia.

SELECTED PROJECTS INCLUDE:

Archaeological Impact Assessments (Phase 1)

Heritage Impact Assessment Proposed Discharge Of Treated Mine Water Via The Wonderfontein Spruit Receiving Water Body Specialist as part of team conducting an Archaeological Assessment for the Mmamabula mining project and power supply, Botswana

Archaeological Impact Assessment Mmamethlake Landfill

Archaeological Impact Assessment Libangeni Landfill

Linear Developments

Archaeological Impact Assessment Link Northern Waterline Project At The Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve

Archaeological Impact Assessment Medupi – Spitskop Power Line,

Archaeological Impact Assessment Nelspruit Road Development

Renewable Energy developments

Archaeological Impact Assessment Karoshoek Solar Project

Grave Relocation Projects

Relocation of graves and site monitoring at Chloorkop as well as permit application and liaison with local authorities and social processes with local stakeholders, Gauteng Province.

Relocation of the grave of Rifle Man Maritz as well as permit application and liaison with local authorities and social processes with local stakeholders, Ndumo, Kwa Zulu Natal.

Relocation of the Magolwane graves for the office of the premier, Kwa Zulu Natal

Relocation of the OSuthu Royal Graves office of the premier, Kwa Zulu Natal

Phase 2 Mitigation Projects

Field Director for the Archaeological Mitigation For Booysendal Platinum Mine, Steelpoort, Limpopo Province. Principle investigator Prof. T. Huffman

Monitoring of heritage sites affected by the ARUP Transnet Multipurpose Pipeline under directorship of Gavin Anderson.

Field Director for the Phase 2 mapping of a late Iron Age site located on the farm Kameelbult, Zeerust, North West Province. Under directorship of Prof T. Huffman.

Field Director for the Phase 2 surface sampling of Stone Age sites effected by the Medupi – Spitskop Power Line, Limpopo Province

Heritage management projects

Platreef Mitigation project – mitigation of heritage sites and compilation of conservation management plan.

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

- Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists. Member number 159

  Accreditation:
  - Field Director Iron Age Archaeology
  - Field Supervisor Colonial Period Archaeology, Stone Age Archaeology and Grave Relocation
- Accredited CRM Archaeologist with SAHRA
- Accredited CRM Archaeologist with AMAFA
- Co-opted council member for the CRM Section of the Association of Southern African Association Professional Archaeologists (2011 – 2012)

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

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  - Poster presented at Faculty day, Faculty of Medicine University of Pretoria 2003
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- A War Uncovered: Human Remains from Thabantšho Hill (South Africa), 10 May 1864.
  - M. Steyn, WS Boshoff, WC Nienaber, J van der Walt
  - Paper read at the 12th Congress of the Pan-African Archaeological Association for Prehistory and Related Studies 2005
- Field Report on the mitigation measures conducted on the farm Bokfontein, Brits, North West Province .
  - J van der Walt, P Birkholtz, W. Fourie
  - Paper read at the Southern African Association of Archaeologists Biennial Conference 2007
- Field report on the mitigation measures employed at Early Farmer sites threatened by development in the Greater Sekhukhune area, Limpopo Province. J van der Walt
  - Paper read at the Southern African Association of Archaeologists Biennial Conference 2008
- Ceramic analysis of an Early Iron Age Site with vitrified dung, Limpopo Province South Africa.
  - J van der Walt. Poster presented at SAFA, Frankfurt Germany 2008

- Bantu Speaker Rock Engravings in the Schoemanskloof Valley, Lydenburg District, Mpumalanga (*In Prep)*
    - J van der Walt and J.P Celliers
- Sterkspruit: Micro-layout of late Iron Age stone walling, Lydenburg, Mpumalanga. W. Fourie and J van der Walt. A Poster presented at the Southern African Association of Archaeologists Biennial Conference 2011
- Detailed mapping of LIA stone-walled settlements' in Lydenburg, Mpumalanga. J van der Walt and J.P Celliers
    - Paper read at the Southern African Association of Archaeologists Biennial Conference 2011
- Bantu-Speaker Rock engravings in the Schoemanskloof Valley, Lydenburg District, Mpumalanga. J.P Celliers and J van der Walt
    - Paper read at the Southern African Association of Archaeologists Biennial Conference 2011
- Pleistocene hominin land use on the western trans-Vaal Highveld ecoregion, South Africa, Jaco van der Walt.
    - J van der Walt. Poster presented at SAFA, Toulouse, France. Biennial Conference 2016

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