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HERITAGE INVESTIGATION FOR THE PROPOSED 10MW SOLAR POWER FARM PLANT ON STAND 16066 OF FARM MMABATHO TOWN AND TOWNLANDS 301 IN MAFIKENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF NGAKA MODIRI-MOLEMA DISTRICT, NORTH WEST PROVINCE.

REPORT CONDUCTED BY:	CONDUCTED FOR:	ON BEHALF OF:
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DISCLAIMER

Even though all care is taken to identify sites of heritage significance during survey, it's important to mention that the scenery of sites in southern Africa, are often contextualised such that it often is possible that certain sites could be unnoticed during the survey. Accordingly, *VHUBVO ARCHAEO-HERITAGE CONSULTANT CC* and its employees will not be held accountable for such oversights or for costs incurred as a result thereof.



DECLARATION

ABILITY TO CONDUCT THE PROJECT

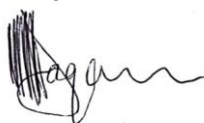
Munyadziwa Magoma is a professional archaeologist, having obtained his BA degree in Archaeology and Anthropology at University of South Africa (UNISA), an Honours degree at the University of Venda (UNIVEN), and currently completing his MA at the University of Pretoria (UP). He is an accredited Cultural Resource Management (CRM) member of Association for southern African Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA) and Amafa aKwazulu Natali. Munyadziwa is further affiliated to the South African Archaeological Society (SAAS), the Society of Africanist Archaeologists (SAfA), and the International Council of Archaeozoology (ICAZ). He has more than seven years experience in Cultural Resources Management, having worked for different CRM organisations and government heritage authorities. Munyadziwa has completed over hundred Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) in several provinces of the Republic of South Africa. The HIA projects he has been involved with are diverse, and include the establishment of major substation, upgrade and establishment of roads, establishment and extension of mines, alteration to heritage buildings, and the relocation of graves. His detailed CV is available on request.

INDEPENDENCE

I, Munyadziwa Magoma declare that this report has been prepared independently of any influence as may be specified by all relevant department, institution and organisation.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Elansmoware Investments intends to develop a 10 **MW** solar power farm that will be grid integrated (FIT based). This project is for putting up a 10 MW solar power using Sun as the principal source of energy. Photovoltaic's is the field of technology related to the application of solar cells which convert solar energy (sunlight, including ultra violet radiation) directly into electricity. They are best known as a method for generating electric power by using solar cells to convert energy from the sun into electricity. .

To achieve this Elansmoware Investments requested Phaki Phakanani to undertake Basic assessment process as per Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010. Vhubvo Archaeo-Heritage Consulting Cc was then requested by Phaki Phakanani to conduct the Heritage study of the proposed photovoltaic plant energy in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act No. 25 of 1999. This study is often commissioned as part of a component of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and is required under Section 38(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999).

Initially, desktop study, review of heritage studies that has been conducted in the region, as well as consultation with local authority were accomplished to familiarize and determine the heritage variability of the area. Oral interview was also initiated. Finally, the Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment was then conducted on the 16th of August 2012.

This proposed development is in keeping with the landscape.

The Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessments for the proposed solar photovoltaic plant energy revealed no heritage resources within the footprint of the proposed area. However, the developer is made aware that archaeological material (e.g. pottery, remains of stone-walling, graves, etc) and fossils are often located underground. Thus, unavailability of archaeological material does not mean absenteeism; archaeological material might be concealed underground as such the client is reminded to take precautions during the proposed development.



From an archaeological and cultural heritage resources perspective we recommend South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) to approve the project to proceed with no further heritage mitigation.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENT	PAGE
COPYRIGHT INFORMATION.....	2
DECLARATION	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	3
1. INTRODUCTION.....	7
2. PURPOSE AND MEANING OF THE STUDY.....	7
3. HERITAGE LEGISLATURE AND TERMINOLOGY	8
4. SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION.....	12
5. NATURE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT	12
6. METHODOLOGY	15
7. DEGREES OF SIGNIFICANCE	15
8. SURVEY FINDINGS.....	17
9. RECOMMENDATIONS	19
10. CONCLUSION	20
REFERENCE CITED.....	21
APPENDIX 1: SITE SIGNIFICANCE	22
APPENDIX 2: GRAVE	23
APPENDIX 3: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	24
Table 1.....	17





INTRODUCTION

Vhubvo Archaeo-Heritage Consultant was requested by Phaki Phakanani Environmental Company to undertake the heritage study for the proposed 10 MW Solar Power Farm at Motsoseng area, of the North West Province in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act No. 25 of 1999. Heritage Impact Assessment is often commissioned as part of the heritage component of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and is required under Section 38(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999); Section 38(8) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the Mineral Amendment Act, No. 103 of 1993.



PURPOSE AND MEANING OF THE STUDY

The purpose of the study was to conduct a detailed site survey and have a holistic understanding of the heritage-sensitivity of the area proposed 10 MW Solar Power Farm development. From a cultural heritage point of view this survey which for the purpose of this report will be referred to as heritage impact assessment is used to integrate cultural heritage management with the impact of planning proposals prepared to provide a detailed and holistic framework for decision making, and for the implementation of a coherent set of appropriate actions for the conservation and preservation of cultural heritage sites if found. Impact assessments highlight the many issues facing sites in terms of site management, conservation, monitoring and maintenance and the environment in and around the site. Thus, cultural heritage impact assessment involves the following:

- Taking responsibility to ensure protection of identified cultural and heritage material that may be affected by the proposals. Thus, as a result of an impact assessment, proposals may be modified to avoid or minimize harm,
- Identification and recording of heritage resources that will be affected by the proposed development,
- Decision-makers who provide a basis for decisions on whether a proposal safeguards cultural heritage,



- All participants in determining the basis for cultural heritage management and monitoring if a proposal proceeds,
- Incorporation of all stakeholders' views in assessment and decision-making processes,



HERITAGE LEGISLATURE AND TERMINOLOGY

Several Acts exist for the protection and preservation of both cultural and natural resources, these include the National Environment Management Act, No. 107 of 1998; Mineral Amendment Act, No 103 of 1993; Tourism Act, No. 72 of 1993; Cultural Institution Act, No. 119 of 1998, and the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999, Section 38 (1) of this Act requires the conduction of Heritage Impact Assessment in case of:

- (a) *the construction of a road, wall, powerline, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier exceeding 300m in length;*
- (b) *the construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50 m in length; and*
- (c) *any development or other activity which will change the character of an area of land, or water -*
 - (i) *exceeding 5 000 m² in extent;*
 - (ii) *involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof; or*
 - (iii) *involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past five years; or*
 - (iv) *the costs of which will exceed a sum set in terms of regulations by SAHRA or a Provincial Heritage Resources Authority;*
- (d) *the re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m² in extent; or*
- (e) *any other category of development provided for in regulations by SAHRA or a Provincial Heritage Resources Authority, must at the very earliest stages of initiating such a development, notify the responsible heritage resources authority and furnish it with details regarding the location, nature and extent of the proposed development.*

Section 3 of the national heritage resource Act (25 of 1999) lists a wide range of national resources that qualify as part of South Africa national estate. When conducting a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) the following heritage resources had to be identified:

- (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 natural features of cultural significance*
- (e) *Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance*
- (f) *Archaeological and paleontological sites*
- (g) *Graves and burial grounds including-*



- (i) *ancestral graves*
- (ii) *royal graves and graves of traditional leaders*
- (iii) *graves of victims of conflict*
- (iv) *graves of individuals designated by the Minister by notice in the Gazette*
- (v) *historical graves and cemeteries; and*
- (vi) *other human remains which are not covered by in terms of the Human Tissue Act, 1983 (Act No. 65 of 1983)*
- (h) *Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa*
- (i) *moveable objects, including -*
 - (i) *objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and paleontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens*
 - (ii) *objects to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage*
 - (iii) *ethnographic art and objects*
 - (iv) *military objects*
 - (v) *objects of decorative or fine art*
 - (vi) *objects of scientific or technological interest; and*
 - (vii) *books, records, documents, photographic positives and negatives, graphic, film or video material or sound recordings, excluding those that are public records as defined in section 1 of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996).*

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

- (a) *Its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history*
- (b) *Its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage*
- (c) *Its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage*
- (d) *Its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects*
- (e) *Its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group*
- (f) *Its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at particular period*
- (g) *Its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons*
- (h) *Its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa; and*
- (i) *Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.*

Other sections of the Act with relevance are the following:



Section 34(1) No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure, which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

Section 35(4) No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority:

- destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite

Section 36 (3) No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority:

- destroy, damage, alter, exhume, remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or
- bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave any excavation equipment, or any equipment which assists in detection or recovery of metals.

According to the National Heritage Resources Act No. 25 of 1999, the following definitions are relevant:

(1) **“archaeological”** means—

- (a) material remains resulting from human activity which are in a state of disuse and are in or on land and which are older than 100 years, including artefacts, human and hominid remains and artificial features and structures;
- (b) rock art, being any form of painting, engraving or other graphic representation on a fixed rock surface or loose rock or stone, which was executed by human agency and which is older than 100 years, including any area within 10m of such representation;
- (c) wrecks, being any vessel or aircraft, or any part thereof, which was wrecked in South Africa, whether on land, in the internal waters, the territorial waters or in the maritime culture zone of the Republic, as defined respectively in sections 3, 4 and 6 of the Maritime Zones Act, 1994 (Act No. 15 of 1994), and any cargo, debris or artefacts found or associated therewith, which is older than 60 years or which SAHRA considers to be worthy of conservation; and
- (d) features, structures and artefacts associated with military history which are older than 75 years and the sites on which they are found;

(2) **“conservation”**, in relation to heritage resources, includes protection, maintenance, preservation and sustainable use of places or objects so as to safeguard their cultural significance;

(3) **“cultural significance”** means aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological value or significance;

(4) **“development”** means any physical intervention, excavation, or action, other than those caused by natural forces, which may in the opinion of a heritage authority in any way result in a change to the nature, appearance or physical nature of a place, or influence its stability and future well-being

(5) **“grave”** means a place of interment and includes the contents, headstone or other marker of such a place, and any other structure on or associated with such place;

(6) **“heritage resource”** means any place or object of cultural significance;



- (7) **“land”** includes land covered by water and the air space above the land;
- (8) **“living heritage”** means the intangible aspects of inherited culture, and may include—
- (a) cultural tradition; (b) oral history; (c) performance; (d) ritual; (e) popular memory; (f) skills and techniques; (g) indigenous knowledge systems; and (h) the holistic approach to nature, society and social relationships;
- (9) **“object”** means any movable property of cultural significance which may be protected in terms of any provisions of this Act, including—
- (a) any archaeological artefact;
 - (b) palaeontological and rare geological specimens;
 - (c) meteorites; and
 - (d) other objects referred to in section 3;
- (10) **“owner”** includes the owner's authorised agent and any person with a real interest in the property;
- (11) **“palaeontological”** means any fossilised remains or fossil trace of animals or plants which lived in the geological past, other than fossil fuels or fossiliferous rock intended for industrial use, and any site which contains such fossilised remains or trances;
- (12) **“place”** includes—
- (a) a site, area or region;
 - (b) a building or other structure which may include equipment, furniture, fittings and articles associated with or connected with such building or other structure;
 - (c) a group of buildings or other structures which may include equipment, furniture, fittings and articles associated with or connected with group of buildings or other structures;
 - (d) an open space, including a public square, street or park; and
 - (e) in relation to the management of a place, includes the immediate surroundings of a place;
- (13) **“planning”** means urban and regional planning, as contemplated in the Physical Planning Act, 1991 (Act No. 125 of 1991), and provincial town planning and land use planning legislation;
- (14) **“victims of conflict”** means—
- (a) certain persons who died in any area now included in the Republic as a direct result of any war or conflict as specified in the regulations, but excluding victims of conflict covered by the Commonwealth War Graves Act, 1992 (Act No. 8 of 1992);
 - (b) members of the forces of Great Britain and the former British Empire who died in active service in any area now included in the Republic prior to 4 August 1914;
 - (c) persons who, during the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) were removed as prisoners of war from any place now included in the Republic to any place outside South Africa and who died there; and
 - (d) certain categories of persons who died in the “liberation struggle” as defined in the regulations, and in areas included in the Republic as well as outside the Republic;



STEP
4

SITES LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

This proposed area is vastly disturbed and give an indication of an area that was utilized for agricultural purposes in the past. The topography of the proposed area is gentle-sloping, almost flat and characterised by the concentrated of small shrubs. This proposed project will encompass an area of approximately 19ha, on stand 16066 of farm Mmabatho Town and Townlands 301 in the Mafikeng Local Municipality, of the North West Province. Furthermore, the area is approximately 10km south-west of the City of Mmabatho and the Town of Mafikeng is east and about 15km. To the north the area is bordered by Phatsime village, to the south by Motsoseng village, while to the east is business area and to the west is zoned for agriculture. Currently, the land is vacant.

The geographic co-ordinates of the approximate centre of the proposed site are the following: **S 25° 52' 20.5'' / E 25° 33' 51.0''**

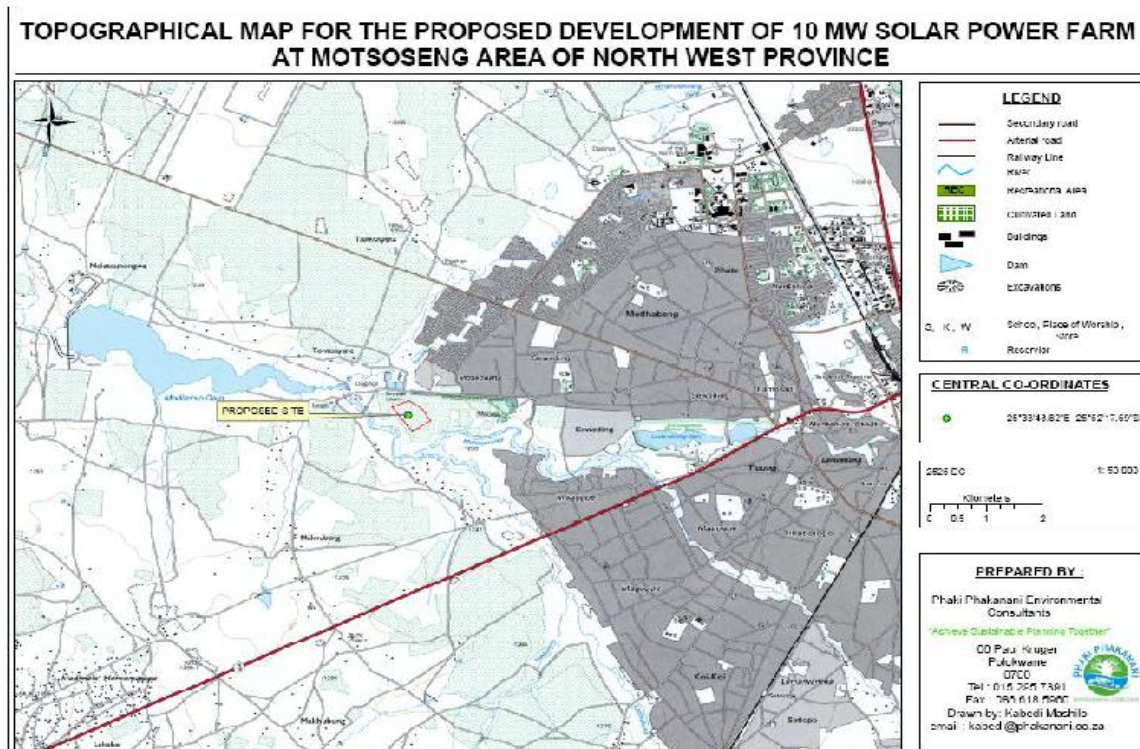


Figure 1: Topographical map of the proposed area (Courtesy Phaki Phakanani).





Figure 2: Google map of the area proposed for the construction of Photovoltaic plant (Courtesy Google Earth).

STEP
5

NATURE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT (Information provided by the client)

The Integrated Resource Plan (IRP 2010) is aimed at achieving an affordable electricity price to meet the global energy requirements competitively. Apart from reducing carbon emissions, it aims to provide employment and a sustainable economy. Energy security assumes a critical position to achieve global competitiveness. In this context, Elasmoware Investments takes pride to come forward to contribute to the green energy revolution by developing solar power plants in South Africa. Elasmoware Investments intends to develop a 10 **MW** solar power farm that will be grid integrated (FIT based).





Figure 3: Example of illustration of photovoltaic plant that will be constructed.

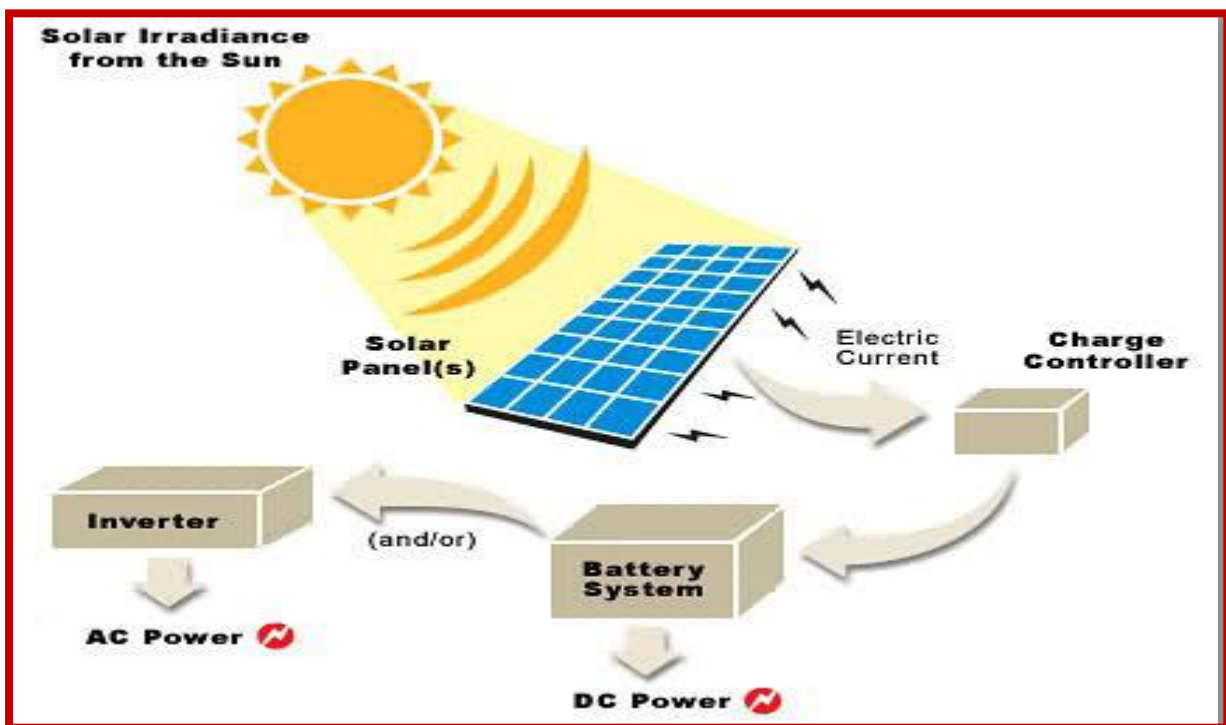


Figure 4: Example of illustration of how energy is generated through photovoltaic plant.





METHODOLOGY

- A desktop study and research of heritage study already conducted in the region was first undertaken to better understand the nature of the activity.
- A site survey took place on the **16th of August 2012**.
- The entire survey was conducted on foot.
- To make solid defensible judgment, a ground survey through acceptable heritage standard was undertaken with no attempt to alter with the environment. The survey lasted approximately three hours. Special attention was given to area that shows erosion, areas that were burrowed by rodent, were also given attention.
- Photos were taken with a 10.1 mega-pixel Sony Cybershort Digital Camera, and a hand-held Garmin etrex Venture HC was used to plot the site.
- The visibility of the soil was good. It is important to note that there was no research which was undertaken on the subsurface, since a permit is required to interfere with a site.
 - **Limitation**
None.
 - **Oral Interview**
Oral interview was conducted with neighboring people (see Appendix 3)



DEGREES OF SIGNIFICANCE

This category requires a broad, but detailed knowledge of the various disciplines that might be involved. Large sites, for example, may not be very important, but a small site, on the other hand, may have great significance as it is unique for the region.

7.1 Significance rating of sites

(i) High (ii) Medium (iii) Low

This category relates to the actual artefact or site in terms of its actual value as it is found today, and refers more specifically to the condition that the item is in. For



example, an archaeological site may be the only one of its kind in the region, thus its regional significance is high, but there is heavy erosion of the greater part of the site, therefore its significance rating would be medium to low. Generally speaking, the following are guidelines for the nature of the mitigation that must take place as Phase 2 of the project.

High

- This is a do not touch situation, alternative must be sought for the project, examples would be natural and cultural landscapes like the Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape World Heritage Site, or the house in which John Langalibalele live in.
- Certain sites, or features may be exceptionally important, but do not warrant leaving entirely alone. In such cases, detailed mapping of the site and all its features is imperative, as is the collection of diagnostic artefactual material on the surface of the site. Extensive excavations must be done to retrieve as much information as possible before destruction. Such excavations might cover more than half the site and would be mandatory; it would also be advisable to negotiate with the client to see what mutual agreement in writing could be reached, whereby part of the site is left for future research.

Medium

- Sites of medium significance require detailed mapping of all the features and the collection of diagnostic artefactual material from the surface of the site. A series of test trenches and test pits should be excavated to retrieve basic information before destruction.

Low

- These sites require minimum or no mitigation. Minimum mitigation recommended could be a collection of all surface materials and/ or detailed site mapping and documentation. No excavations would be considered to be necessary.

In all the above scenarios permits will be required from the National Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) as per the relevant law, namely the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) destruction of any heritage site may only take place



when a permit has been issued by SAHRA or its provincial equivalent should this exist. The following table is used to grade:

Level	Significance	Possible action
National (Grade I)	Site of National Value	Nominated to be declared by SAHRA
Provincial (Grade II)	Site of Provincial Value	Nominated to be declared by PHRA
Local Grade (IIIA)	Site of High Value Locally	Retained as heritage
Local Grade (IIIB)	Site of High Value Locally	Mitigated and part retained as heritage
General Protected Area A	Site of High to Medium	Mitigation necessary before destruction
General Protected Area B	Medium Value	Recording before destruction
General Protected Area C	Low Value	No action required before destruction

Table 1: Grading and rating systems of identified heritage resources in terms of National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999).



SURVEY FINDINGS

This study found no archaeological or heritage material within the footprint of the proposed area. The area is vastly disturbed by past activities (i.e., farming). In addition, there were no specific places to which oral traditions can be attached to, this was confirmed in consultation with members of the community.





Figure 5: An overview of the Southern section.



Figure 6: View of the Northern section, note Phatsime township on the background.





Figure 7: View of the Western section.



Figure 8: View of the eastern Section.





RECOMMENDATIONS

In compliance with the National Heritage Legislature, there was no observable development activities associated with the proposed project.

Although there were no heritage resources observed in the footprint of the study, the developer is reminded that archaeological material (e.g. pottery, remains of stone-walling, graves, etc) and fossils are often located underground. Thus, unavailability of archaeological material does not mean absenteeism, archaeological material might be hidden underground, as such, the client is reminded to take precautions during construction of the proposed project, should any archaic material be unearthed, construction should be halted immediately and SAHRA be consulted.

It must be borne in mind that this survey may not have detect all the heritage resources in a given project area. Some remains may simply be missed during surveys; others may occur below the surface and may only be exposed once development began. In addition, SAHRA might request further recommended mitigation measure beyond what has been recommended in this report.



CONCLUSION

From an archaeological and cultural heritage resources perspective, we have no objections to the proposed project, as such; we recommend SAHRA to approve the project to proceed with no further heritage mitigation. It is of significance to mention that this report is void without comments from SAHRA.



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National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999)

http://sagns.dac.gov.za/local_authorities.asp



APPENDIX 1: SITE SIGNIFICANCE

The following guidelines for determining site significance were developed by SAHRA in 2003. It must be kept in mind that the various aspects are not mutually exclusive, and that the evaluation of any site is done with reference to any number of these.

(a) Historic value

- Is it important in the community, or pattern of history?
- Does it have strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organization of importance in history?
- Does it have significance relating to the history of slavery?

(b) Aesthetic value

- Is it important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group?

(c) Scientific value

- Does it have potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of natural or cultural heritage?
- Is it important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period?

(d) Social value

- Does it have strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons?

(e) Rarity

- Does it possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or cultural heritage?

(f) Representivity

- Is it important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of natural or cultural places or objects?
- What is the importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a range of landscapes or environments, the attributes of which identify it as being characteristic of its class?
- Is it important in demonstrating the principal characteristics 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 2: GRAVE

A grave is a place of interment and includes all that is associated with such a place, and should be avoided by all means possible unless when totally impossible. If accidental found during construction, the constructor should immediately halt construction and notify SAHRA (or PHRA), the nearest Police Station and a Museum (preferably where there is an Archaeologist), or an independent Archaeologist, so that the discovery can be speedily investigated and facilitated. In the mean time, a buffer of about ten meters from the grave should be maintained, and if the grave is to be relocated, the correct procedure which involve, notification, consultation and permit application should be followed. If the grave is less than 60 years of age, it is subject to provision 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 sought from the descendent (where known), the national department of health, provincial department of health, premier of the province and local police. Furthermore permission must also be sought from the landowners before exhumation can take place. Human remains can only be handled by a registered undertaker or an institution declared under the human tissues act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended). This act states that a survey and an evaluation of cultural resources should be undertaken in areas where development, which will change the face of the environment, is to be made.



APPENDIX 3: LIST OF PEOPLE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE STUDY

- ❖ Re Msumbu
- ❖ Mme Lefifi
- ❖ Antoinette Leshiba
- ❖ Peter Mokgade

