

**Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed
development of the Springhaas PV facilities consisting
of seven new solar PV facilities and associated
infrastructure near Dealesville,
Free State Province**

Desktop Study (Phase 1)

For

ASHA Consulting

19 November 2021

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Expertise of Specialist

The Palaeontologist Consultant: Prof Marion Bamford

Qualifications: PhD (Wits Univ, 1990); FRSSAf, ASSAf

Experience: 32 years research; 24 years PIA studies

Declaration of Independence

This report has been compiled by Professor Marion Bamford, of the University of the Witwatersrand, sub-contracted by ASHA Consulting, Muizenberg, South Africa. The views expressed in this report are entirely those of the author and no other interest was displayed during the decision making process for the Project.

Specialist: Prof Marion Bamford

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Bamford', with a horizontal line underneath.

Executive Summary

A Palaeontological Impact Assessment was requested for seven proposed Springhaas photovoltaic facilities and related infrastructure near Dealesville. The project area is 4800 ha and includes a number of adjacent farms southwest of Dealesville, Free State Province.

To comply with the regulations of the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) in terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA), a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) was completed for the proposed development.

The proposed site lies mostly on the Quaternary calcrete and aeolian sands, and partly on the shales of the Tierberg Formation (Early Permian Ecca Group, Karoo Supergroup; trace fossils). There are Quaternary pans and dunes in the area and these might trap more robust but fragmentary fossils. None was seen during the site visit and walk through by an archaeologist. Nonetheless, a Fossil Chance Find Protocol should be added to the EMP. Based on this information it is recommended that no further palaeontological impact assessment is required unless fossils are found by the developer/ environmental officer/ other designated responsible person once excavations/drilling activities have commenced. As far as the palaeontology is concerned, the project should be authorised for all seven PV facilities in this cluster. There is no no-go area.

The palaeontological significance pre-mitigation is very low negative, and post-mitigation is very low positive.

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1. Background

The proposed development consists of a cluster of seven separate photo voltaic facilities (PVs), to be known as the Springhaas (SPH) facilities (SPH1, SPH3, SPH4, SPH5, SPH6, SPH8 and SPH9). The site includes a number of adjacent farms to the southwest of Dealesville in the Free State Province. (Figures 1-3). The total area is approximately 4 800 ha and the project involves the construction of solar arrays, electrical cabling, access roads, on-site electrical infrastructure (substations, battery energy storage facility), auxiliary buildings and perimeter fencing. The full, detailed project descriptions for all seven facilities and the farm portions on which they fall are available in the main heritage impact assessment report.

The alternatives which need to be assessed by the PIA are the same as for the AIA:

- Location alternatives
 - Electrical infrastructure compound for SPH1 (2 alternatives)
 - Temporary laydown area alternative for SPH3
 - Technology alternative for the BESS (redox flow vs lithium ion batteries)
 - No-go alternative

SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is generally flat, sandy and covered with grass. Several pans occur and both these and some animal burrows reveal calcrete below ground in places. A low dolerite ridge occurs in the western side of the site and rare surface level dolerite gravel exposures were noted by the archaeologist.

A Palaeontological Impact Assessment was requested for the Dealesville Springhaas PV facilities. To comply with the regulations of the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) in terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA), a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) was completed for the proposed development and is reported herein.

Table 1: Specialist report requirements in terms of Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations (amended 2017)

	A specialist report prepared in terms of the Environmental Impact Regulations of 2017 must contain:	Relevant section in report
ai	Details of the specialist who prepared the report	Appendix B
a ii	The expertise of that person to compile a specialist report including a curriculum vitae	Appendix B
b	A declaration that the person is independent in a form as may be specified by the competent authority	Page 2
c	An indication of the scope of, and the purpose for which, the report was prepared	Section 1
ci	An indication of the quality and age of the base data used for the specialist report: SAHRIS palaeosensitivity map accessed – date of this report	Yes

cii	A description of existing impacts on the site, cumulative impacts of the proposed development and levels of acceptable change	Section 4
d	The date, duration and season of the site investigation and the relevance of the season to the outcome of the assessment	N/A
e	A description of the methodology adopted in preparing the report or carrying out the specialised process, inclusive of equipment and modelling used.	Section 2
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 4
g	An identification of any areas to be avoided, including buffers	N/A
h	A 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 3
i	A description of any assumptions made and any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge;	Section 5
j	A description of the findings and potential implications of such findings on the impact of the proposed activity or activities, including identified alternatives, on the environment	Section 4
k	Any mitigation measures for inclusion in the EMPr	Section 8, Appendix A
l	Any conditions for inclusion in the environmental authorisation	N/A
m	Any monitoring requirements for inclusion in the EMPr or environmental authorisation	Section 8, Appendix A
ni	A reasoned opinion as to whether the proposed activity or activities or portions thereof should be authorised regarding the acceptability	Section 6
nii	If the opinion is that the proposed activity or 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	Sections 6, 8
o	A description of any consultation process that was undertaken during the course of carrying out the study	None for the PIA but see the DBAR
p	A summary and copies if any comments that were received during any consultation process	None to date but see the dbar
q	Any other information requested by the competent authority.	N/A



Figure 1: Google Earth map of the proposed development of the proposed Springhaas PV facilities, with the study area shown by the red outline.

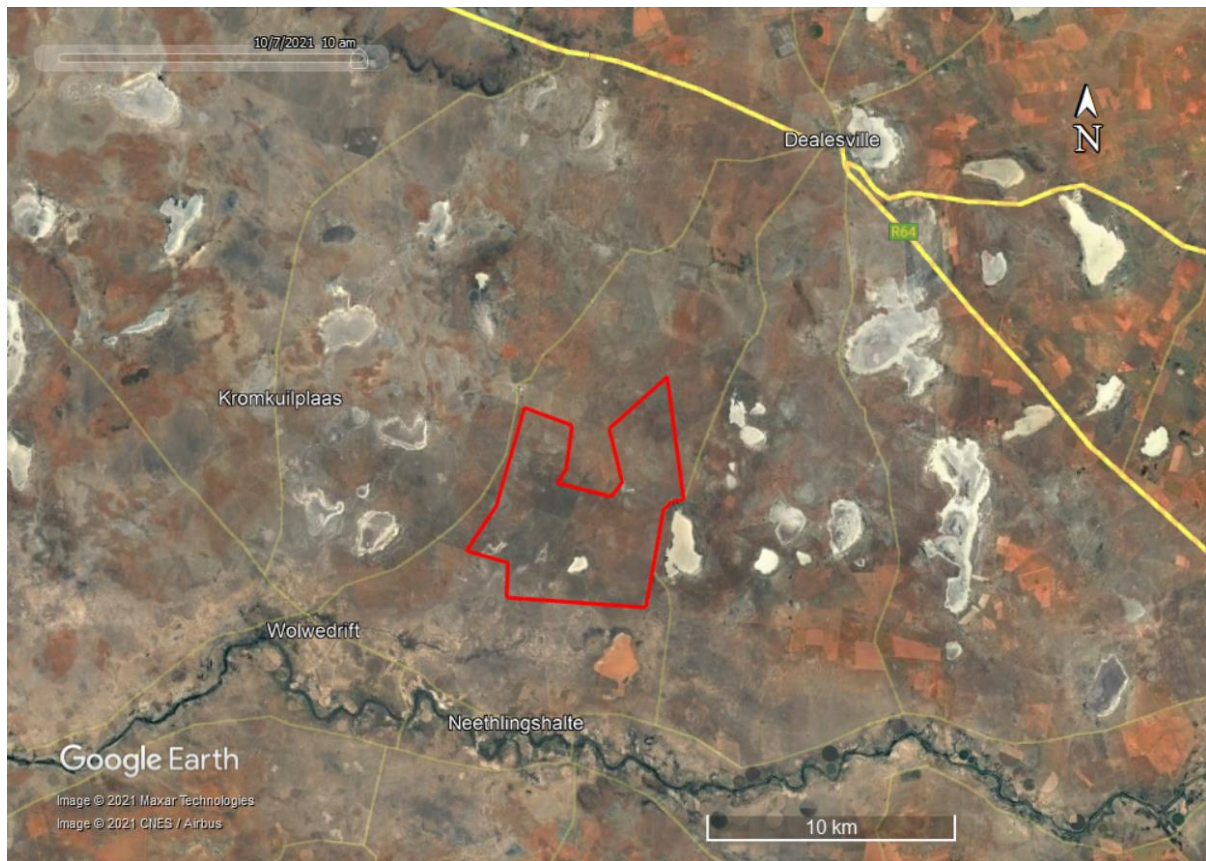


Figure 2: Google Earth map to show the outline of the combined project area (red) for the proposed Springhaas PV facilities

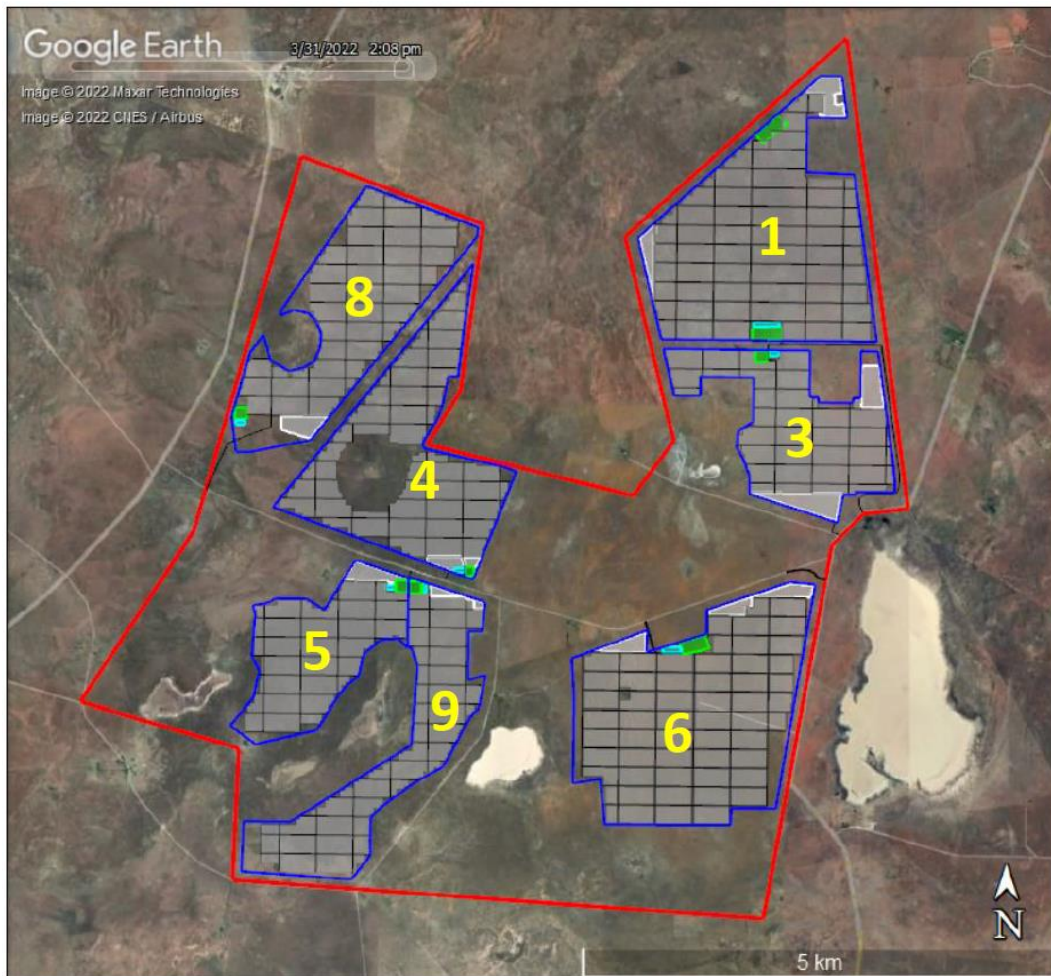


Figure 3: Google Earth map showing the proposed layouts of the seven solar energy facilities (numbered in yellow). Blue = fenced areas, grey = solar panels, black = roads, green = electrical infrastructure compound, turquoise = buildings, white = laydown areas.

2. Methods and Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference (ToR) for this study were to undertake a PIA and provide feasible management measures to comply with the requirements of SAHRA.

The methods employed to address the ToR included:

1. Consultation of geological maps, literature, palaeontological databases, published and unpublished records to determine the likelihood of fossils occurring in the affected areas. Sources included records housed at the Evolutionary Studies Institute at the University of the Witwatersrand and SAHRA databases;
2. Where necessary, site visits by a qualified palaeontologist to locate any fossils and assess their importance (*not applicable to this assessment, but field observations from the archaeologist have been included*);
3. Where appropriate, collection of unique or rare fossils with the necessary permits for storage and curation at an appropriate facility (*not applicable to this assessment*); and
4. Determination of fossils' representivity or scientific importance to decide if the fossils can be destroyed or a representative sample collected (*not applicable to this assessment*).

3. Geology and Palaeontology

i. Project location and geological context

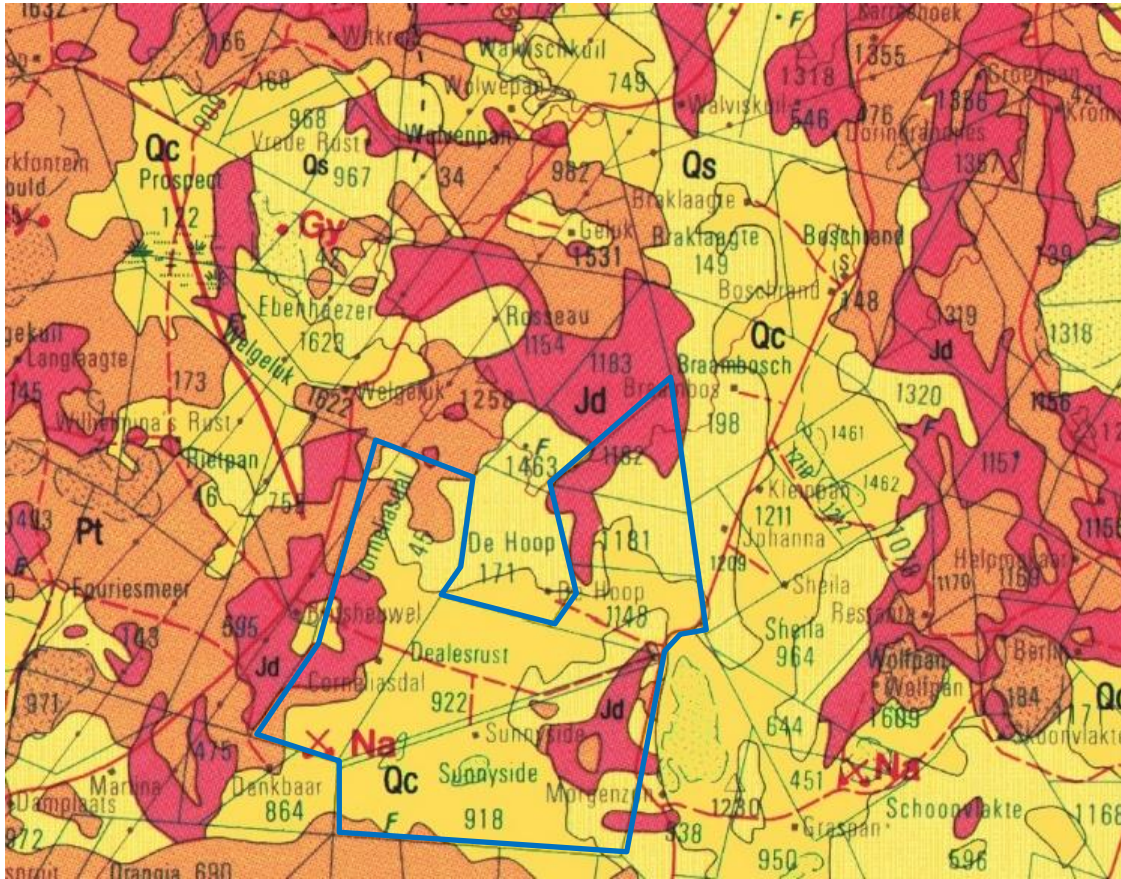


Figure 4: Geological map of the area south of Dealesville where the Springhaas PV facilities will be situated. The location of the proposed project is indicated within the blue polygon. Abbreviations of the rock types are explained in Table 2. Map enlarged from the Geological Survey 1: 250 000 map 2824 Kimberley.

Table 2: Explanation of symbols for the geological map and approximate ages (Johnson et al., 2006; Matmon et al., 2015; Partridge et al., 2006). SG = Supergroup; Fm = Formation; Ma = million years; grey shading = formations impacted by the project.

Symbol	Group/Formation	Lithology	Approximate Age
Qs	Quaternary	Alluvium, sand, calcrete	Quaternary, ca 1.2 – 1.0 Ma
Qc	Kalahari sands	Calcrete. Calcified pan dune	Quaternary, ca 1.2 – 1.0 Ma
Jd	Jurassic dykes	Dolerite dykes, intrusive	Jurassic, approx. 180 Ma
Pt	Tierberg Fm, Ecca Group, Karoo SG	Shales, siltstones, sandstone,	Early Permian, ca 290 Ma

The project is located in the north central part of the Karoo Basin where Karoo Supergroup rocks cover a very large proportion of South Africa and have preserved a diversity of fossil plants, insects, vertebrates and invertebrates.

During the Carboniferous Period South Africa was part of the huge continental landmass known as Gondwanaland and it was positioned over the South Pole. As a result, there were several ice sheets that formed and melted, and covered most of South Africa. Gradual melting of the ice as the continental mass moved northwards and the earth warmed, formed fine-grained sediments in the large inland sea. These are the oldest rocks in the system and are exposed around the outer part of the ancient Karoo Basin, and are known as the Dwyka Group. They comprise tillites, diamictites, mudstones, siltstones and sandstones that were deposited as the basin filled (Johnson et al., 2006).

Overlying the Dwyka Group rocks are rocks of the Ecca Group that are Early Permian in age. There are eleven formations recognised in this group but they do not all extend throughout the Karoo Basin. In the west and central part are the following formations, from base upwards: Prince Albert Formation, Whitehill Formation, Collingham Formation, Laingsburg / Ripon Formations, **Tierberg** / Fort Brown Formations, and Waterford Formation. In the eastern Free State and KwaZulu Natal, from the base upwards are the Pietermaritzburg Formation, Vryheid Formation and the Volksrust Formation. All of these sediments have varying proportions of sandstones, mudstones, shales and siltstones and represent shallow to deep water settings, deltas, rivers, streams and overbank depositional environments.

Overlying the Ecca Group are the rocks of the Beaufort Group that have been divided into the lower Adelaide Subgroup for the Upper Permian strata, and the Tarkastad Subgroup for the Early to Middle Triassic strata. As with the older Karoo sediments, the formations vary across the Karoo Basin.

Large exposures of Jurassic dolerite dykes occur throughout the area. These intruded through the Karoo sediments around 183 million years ago at about the same time as the Drakensberg basaltic eruption.

The Quaternary Kalahari sands form an extensive cover of much younger deposits over much of Botswana, the Northern Cape Province and the Free State Province. Haddon and McCarthy (2005) proposed that the Kalahari basin formed as a response to down-warp of the interior of the southern Africa, probably in the Late Cretaceous. This, along with possible uplift along epeirogenic axes, back-tilted rivers into the newly formed Kalahari basin and deposition of the Kalahari Group sediments began. Sediments included basal gravels in river channels, sand and finer sediments. A period of relative tectonic stability during the mid-Miocene saw the silcretisation and calcretisation of older Kalahari Group lithologies, and this was followed in the Late Miocene by relatively minor uplift of the eastern side of southern Africa and along certain epeirogenic axes in the interior. More uplift during the Pliocene caused erosion of the sand that was then reworked and redeposited by aeolian processes during drier periods, resulting in the extensive dune fields that are preserved today.

There are numerous pans in the Kalahari Group sediments, generally 3–4 km in diameter (Haddon and McCarthy, 2005). According to Goudie and Wells (1995) there are two conditions required for the formation of pans. Firstly, the fluvial processes must not be

integrated, and second, there must be no accumulation of aeolian material that would fill the irregularities or depressions in the land surface. Favoured materials or substrates for the formation of pans in South Africa are Dwyka and Ecca shales and sandstones (ibid).

New cosmogenic burial ages obtained from a 55 m section of Kalahari Group sediments (Matmon et al., 2015) indicate that in the southern Kalahari, the majority of deposition occurred rapidly at 1.0–1.2 Ma. All earlier sediments in this region were eroded during previous sedimentary cycles. In summary, they showed that the stratigraphy, sedimentology, and cosmogenic nuclide data indicate:

- 1) the existence of a stable, shallow and low-energy water body over the southern Kalahari for at least 450 ka prior to 1–1.2 Ma;
- 2) rapid sediment accumulation that filled up the basin at 1–1.2 Ma; and
- 3) the establishment of the Kalahari sand cover shortly thereafter.

The authors acknowledge that this timeframe is far younger than expected from the conventional estimates for the Kalahari Group sediments (Haddon and McCarthy, 2005). The significant hiatus between the Pleistocene sequence and the underlying Archaean basement implies that evidence of earlier cycles of deposition and erosion are no longer preserved in the sedimentary record.

ii. Palaeontological context

The palaeontological sensitivity of the area under consideration is presented in Figure 5. In the westernmost part of the basin the Tierberg Formation is predominantly argillaceous. In the northwest of its occurrence where it is in contact with the Collingham or Whitehill Formations, it grades up into the arenaceous overlying Waterford Formation (Johnson et al., 2006). Trace fossils of *Nereites*, *Planolites* and *Zoophycus* can be found in the fine mudstones (Johnson et al., 2006).

The Tertiary calcretes can trap fossils and artefacts when associated with palaeo-pans and dunes or palaeo-springs (Partridge et al., 2006). Where deflation has occurred, for example along the west coast of South Africa, any trapped materials in the different levels can be concentrated in the depo-centre of the pan or dune and thus it can be challenging to interpret the deposit (Felix-Henningsen et al., 2003).

The aeolian sands of the Gordonia Formation do not preserve fossils because they have been transported and reworked, but in some regions these too may have covered pan or spring deposits and these can trap fossils, and more frequently archaeological artefacts. Usually these geomorphological features can be detected using satellite imagery. Several pans are in the project area so they were surveyed by Dr Jayson Orton.

iii. Site visit observations

The entire study area, including the pans and associated dunes, was surveyed by the project archaeologist for archaeological artefacts and fossils. No fossils of any kind were seen on the surface of the pans and channels (Figures 5-7) or anywhere else on the site. The PV facilities

will not be built close to any pan or watercourse and it is these features that are generally most sensitive from a palaeontological point of view.

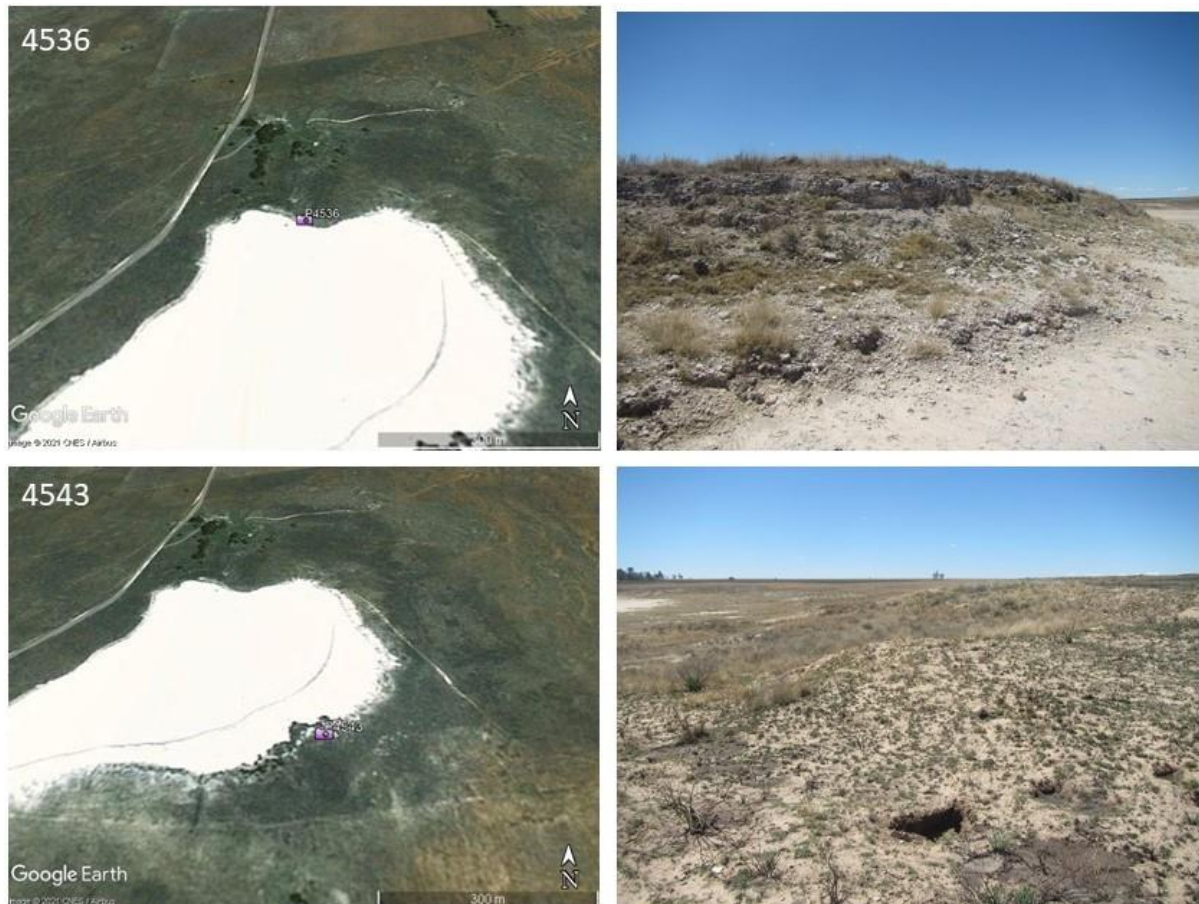


Figure 5: Dealesville Springhaas site photos and the locations shown on the adjacent google earth map. 4536 = northern margin of south central large pan (Farm Sunnyside) and the photo to the right is the view of the pan margin. Calcrete rocks but no fossils. 4543 = southeast corner of same large pan and has a poorly defined margin with aeolian sands and sparse vegetation.



Figure 6: Google Earth map showing the location of photo 4546, between the north-western pan and south central large pan. Exposure of calcrete and sand in photograph but no fossils. 4548 = southern point of large pan and photograph across the pan looking north. No fossils seen.



Figure 7: Photograph from the project border near the northern point of a large pan just outside the project area (northeast margin) to show an exposure of sub-surface dolerite in a borrow pit. No fossils.

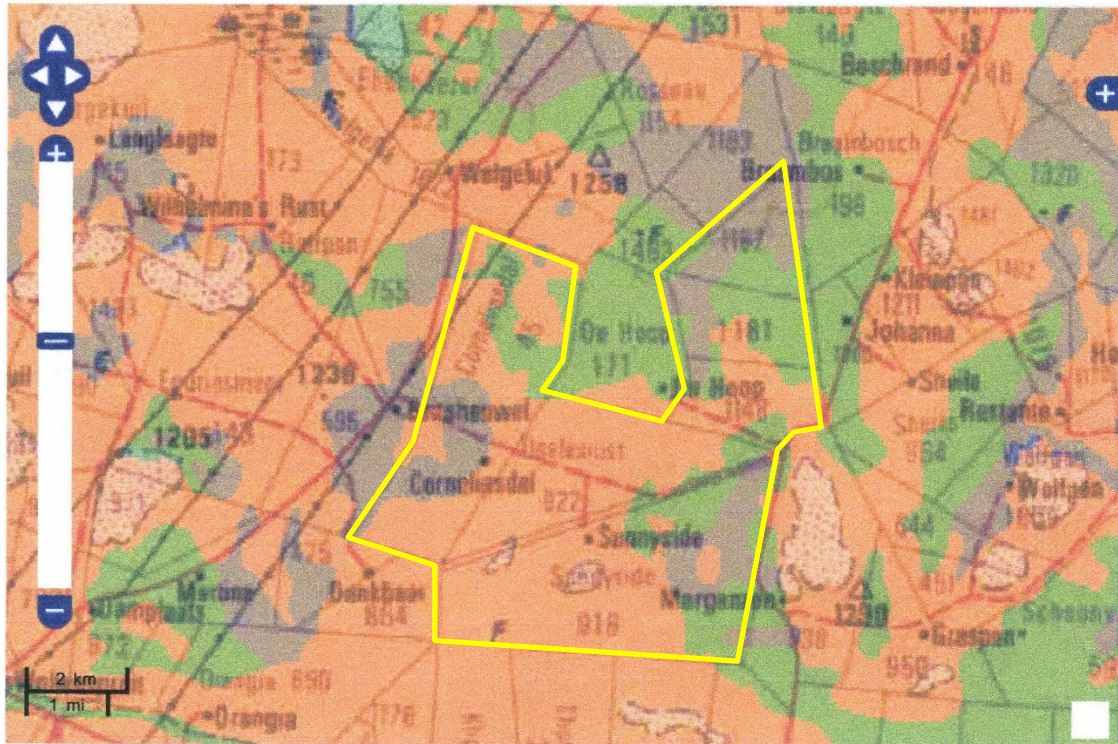


Figure 8: SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map for the site for the proposed Dealesville Springhaas PV project shown within the yellow polygon. Background colours indicate the following degrees of sensitivity: red = very highly sensitive; orange/yellow = high; green = moderate; blue = low; grey = insignificant/zero.

From the SAHRIS map above the area is indicated as highly sensitive (orange) for the Quaternary calcrete, moderately sensitive (green) for the Tierberg Formation and of zero sensitivity (grey) for the Jurassic dolerite dykes. Although these are indicated as sensitive, more detailed site investigation confirms that the site has medium/low sensitivity in this regard. Therefore, the whole study site can be considered to be of low sensitivity.

4. Impact assessment

An assessment of the potential impacts to possible palaeontological resources considers the criteria encapsulated in **Error! Reference source not found.**:

The objective of the assessment of potential impacts is to identify and assess all the significant, potential impacts that may arise as a result of the project.

For each of the main project phases the existing and potential future impacts and benefits (associated only with the project) will be described using the criteria listed below. The assignment of ratings has been undertaken based on past experience of the team, as well as through research. Subsequently, mitigation measures will be identified and considered for each impact and the assessment repeated in order to

determine the significance of the residual impacts (the impact remaining after the mitigation measure has been implemented).

The alternatives being considered are Location alternatives for some of the infrastructure:

Electrical infrastructure compound for SPH1 (2 alternatives)

Temporary laydown area alternative for SPH3

Technology alternative for the BESS (redox flow vs lithium ion batteries)

No-go alternative

Since the potential impact on the palaeontology is on the ground only, i.e. the footprint and not the structure above ground, all the infrastructures can be treated the same in the assessment table. Furthermore, there are no palaeontologically very highly sensitive areas in footprint so there are no no-go areas to be considered.

Table 3A: Impact Assessment Criteria

Criteria	Rating Scales	Notes
Nature	Positive	An evaluation of the effect of the impact related to the proposed development
	Negative	
Extent	Footprint	The extent of the impact is rated as footprint as it only affects the area in which the proposed activity will occur
	Site	The extent of the impact is rated as site as it will affect only the development area
	Local	The extent of the impact is rated as Local as it affects the development area and adjacent properties
	Regional	The extent of the impact is rated as Regional as the effects of the impact extends beyond municipal boundaries
	National	The extent of the impact is rated as National as the effects of the impact extends beyond more than 2 regional/ provincial boundaries
	International	The extent of the impact is rated as International as the effect of the impact extends beyond country borders
Duration	Temporary	The duration of the activity associated with the impact will last 0-6 months and as such is rated as Temporary
	Short term	The duration of the activity associated with the impact will last 6-18 months and as such is rated as Short term
	Medium term	The duration of the activity associated with the impact will last 18 months-5 years and as such is rated as Medium term

Criteria	Rating Scales	Notes
	Long term	The duration of the activity associated with the impact will last more than 5 years and as such is rated as Long Term
Severity	High negative	The severity of the impact is rated as High negative as the natural, cultural or social functions and processes are altered to the extent that the natural process will temporarily or permanently cease; and valued, important, sensitive or vulnerable systems or communities are substantially affected.
	Moderate negative	The severity of the impact is rated as Moderate negative as the affected environment is altered but natural, cultural and social functions and processes continue albeit in a modified way; and valued, important, sensitive or vulnerable systems or communities are negatively affected
	Low negative	The severity of the impact is rated as Low negative as the impact affects the environment in such a way that natural, cultural and social functions and processes are minimally affected
	Low positive	The severity of the impact is rated as Low positive as the impact affects the environment in such a way that natural, cultural and social functions and processes are minimally improved
	Moderate positive	The severity of the impact is rated as Moderate positive as the affected environment is altered but natural, cultural and social functions and processes continue albeit in a modified way; and valued, important, sensitive or vulnerable systems or communities are positively affected
	High positive	The severity of the impact is rated as High positive as the natural, cultural or social functions and processes are altered to the extent that valued, important, sensitive or vulnerable systems or communities are substantially positively affected.
Potential for impact on irreplaceable resources	No	No irreplaceable resources will be impacted.
	Yes	Irreplaceable resources will be impacted.
Consequence	Extremely detrimental	A combination of extent, duration, intensity and the potential for impact on irreplaceable resources
	Highly detrimental	

Criteria	Rating Scales	Notes
	Moderately detrimental	
	Slightly detrimental	
	Negligible	
	Slightly beneficial	
	Moderately beneficial	
	Highly beneficial	
	Extremely beneficial	
Likelihood of the impact occurring	Unlikely	It is highly unlikely or less than 50 % likely that an impact will occur.
	Likely	It is between 50 and 75 % certain that the impact will occur.
	Definite	It is more than 75 % certain that the impact will occur or it is definite that the impact will occur.
Significance	Very high - negative	A function of Consequence and Likelihood
	High - negative	
	Moderate - negative	
	Low - negative	
	Very low	
	Low - positive	
	Moderate - positive	
	High - positive	
	Very high - positive	

		ENTIRE PROJECT AND AREA			
PALAEONTOLOGY IMPACTS					
PROJECT PHASE	Construction, Operational and de commissioning Phases				
DIRECT IMPACT	Destruction of fossils in the footprint				
INDIRECT IMPACT					
CUMULATIVE IMPACT	Loss of fossil heritage and scientific knowledge				
DIMENSION	RATING	MOTIVATION	CONSEQUENCE	LIKELIHOOD	
PRE-MITIGATION					
DURATION	1	The duration of the activity associated with the impact will last 0-6 months and as such is rated as Temporary	-2	3	
EXTENT	1	The extent of the impact is rated as footprint as it only affects the area in which the proposed activity will occur			
SEVERITY	-1	The severity of the impact is rated as Low negative as the impact affects the environment in such a way that natural, cultural and social functions and processes are minimally affected	Negligible	Definite	
IMPACT ON IRREPLACEABLE RESOURCES	0	No irreplaceable resources will be impacted.			
SIGNIFICANCE	-6	Very Low Negative			
PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES					
If fossils are found once excavations for foundations and amenities have commenced then they should be photographed, removed and put in a safe place. Photographs should be sent to a palaeontologist to assess their scientific value.If the fossils are important the palaeontologist must obtain a permit from SAHRA, visit the site and remove the fossils for curation and storage in a recognised facility such as a museum or palaeontology department in a university					
If no fossils are found, no action will be required					
POST-MITIGATION					
DURATION	1	The duration of the activity associated with the impact will	2	3	

		<i>last 0-6 months and as such is rated as Temporary</i>		
EXTENT	1	<i>The extent of the impact is rated as footprint as it only affects the area in which the proposed activity will occur</i>		
SEVERITY	1	<i>The severity of the impact is rated as Low positive as the impact affects the environment in such a way that natural, cultural and social functions and processes are minimally improved</i>	Negligible	Definite
IMPACT ON IRREPLACEABLE RESOURCES	0	<i>No irreplaceable resources will be impacted.</i>		
SIGNIFICANCE	6	Very Low Positive		
CONFIDENCE LEVEL				
<i>High</i>				

Based on the nature of the project, surface activities may impact upon the fossil heritage if preserved in the development footprint. The geological structures suggest that the rocks are either the wrong type to contain fossils (dolerite) or might only trap fossils in palaeo-pans, palaeo-dunes or palaeo-springs. Since there is an extremely small chance that fossils from the pans or the shales of the Tierberg Formation may be disturbed a Fossil Chance Find Protocol has been added to this report. Taking account of the defined criteria, the potential impact to fossil heritage resources is extremely low for the whole study site and there are no no-go areas.

5. Assumptions and uncertainties

Based on the geology of the area and the palaeontological record as we know it, it can be assumed that the formation and layout of the dolorites, sandstones, shales, calcrete and sands are typical for the country and only some do contain fossil traces, plant, insect, invertebrate and vertebrate material. The sands of the Quaternary period would not preserve fossils because they are aerobic and any organic matter would be decomposed. The site inspection by Dr Orton confirms that there were no fossils, therefore, we have a high confidence level in this reporting.

6. Recommendation

Based on experience and the lack of any previously recorded fossils from the area, it is extremely unlikely that any fossils would be preserved in the aeolian sands of the Quaternary but might be trapped in pans or their associated dunes, all of which are avoided by the proposed facilities. There is a very small chance that trace fossils may occur in the shales of the early Permian Tierberg Formation so a Fossil Chance Find Protocol (see Section 8 below) should be added to the EMPr. If fossils are found by the environmental officer, or other responsible person once excavations for foundations and infrastructure have commenced then they should be rescued and a palaeontologist called to assess and collect a representative sample. This is applicable equally to all seven of the SPH PV facilities. There are no no-go areas.

7. References

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- Matmon, A., Hidy, A.J., Vainer, S., Crouvi, O., Fink, D., 2015. New chronology for the southern Kalahari Group sediments with implications for sediment-cycle dynamics and early hominin occupation. *Quaternary Research*. 84 (1), 118–132. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.yqres.2015.04.009>.
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- Plumstead, E.P., 1969. Three thousand million years of plant life in Africa. Geological Society of southern Africa, Annexure to Volume LXXII. 72pp + 25 plates.

8. Chance Find Protocol

Monitoring Programme for Palaeontology – to commence once construction activities begin.

1. The following procedure is only required if fossils are seen on the surface and when drilling/excavations commence.
2. When excavations begin the rocks and must be given a cursory inspection by the environmental officer or designated person. Any fossiliferous material (trace fossils, plants, insects, bone) should be put aside in a suitably protected place. This way the project activities will not be interrupted.
3. Photographs of similar fossils must be provided to the developer to assist in recognizing the fossil plants, vertebrates, invertebrates or trace fossils in the shales and mudstones (for example see Figures 9-10). This information will be built into the EMP's training and awareness plan and procedures.
4. Photographs of the putative fossils can be sent to the palaeontologist for a preliminary assessment.
5. If there is any possible fossil material found by the developer/environmental officer then the qualified palaeontologist sub-contracted for this project, should visit the site to inspect the selected material and check the dumps where feasible.
6. Fossil plants or vertebrates that are considered to be of good quality or scientific interest by the palaeontologist must be removed, catalogued and housed in a suitable institution where they can be made available for further study. Before the fossils are removed from the site a SAHRA permit must be obtained. Annual reports must be submitted to SAHRA as required by the relevant permits.
7. If no good fossil material is recovered then no site inspections by the palaeontologist will be necessary. A final report by the palaeontologist must be sent to SAHRA once the project has been completed and only if there are fossils.
8. If no fossils are found and the excavations have finished then no further monitoring is required.

Appendix A – Examples of fossils from the Tierberg Formation and Quaternary period.

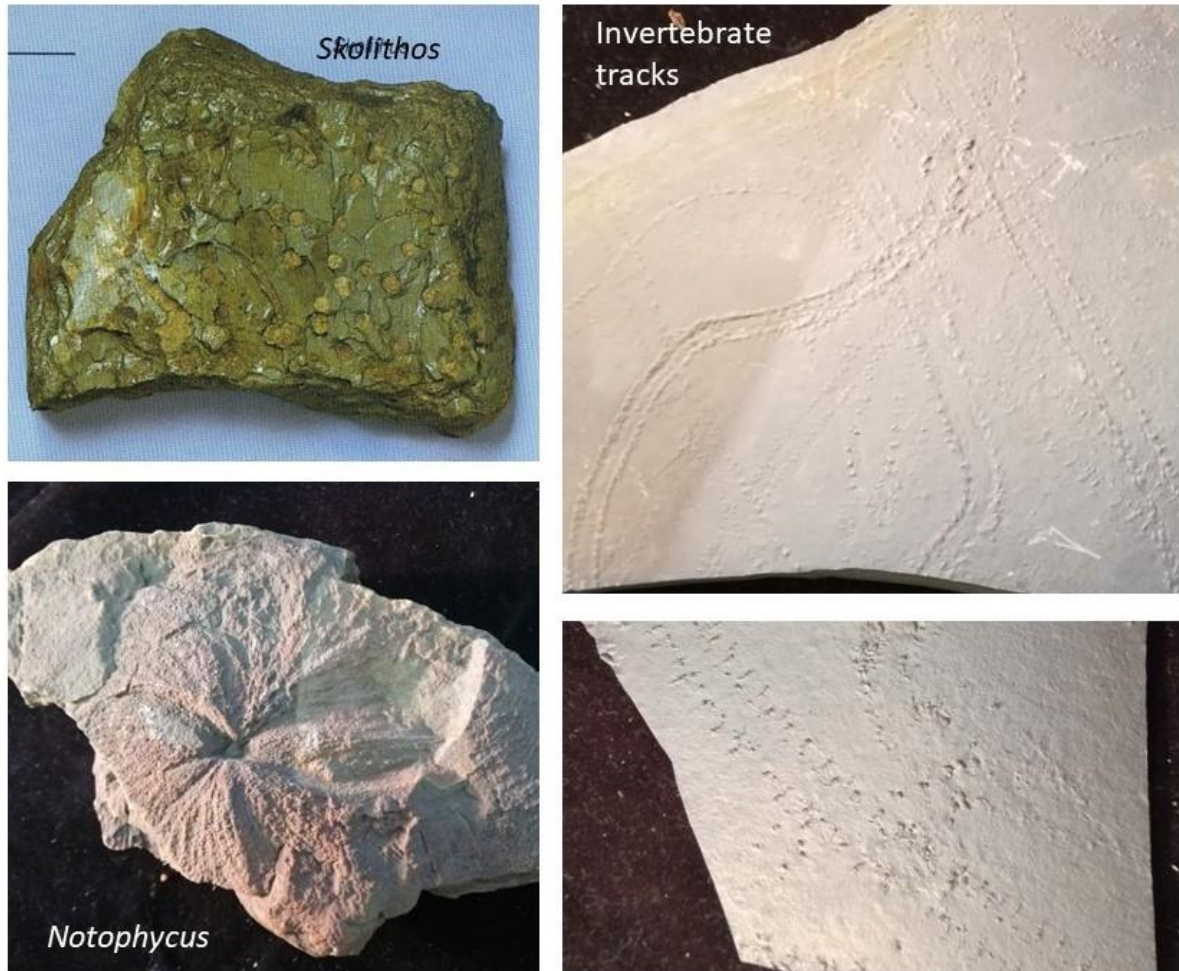


Figure 9: Some trace fossils from the Early Ecca sediments.



Figure 10: examples of robust fossils that could be trapped in Quaternary pans, dunes or springs. Note their fragmentary nature.

Appendix B – Details of specialist

Curriculum vitae (short) - Marion Bamford PhD July 2021

I) Personal details

Surname : **Bamford**
First names : **Marion Kathleen**
Present employment : Professor; Director of the Evolutionary Studies Institute.
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ii) Academic qualifications

Tertiary Education: All at the University of the Witwatersrand:

1980-1982: BSc, majors in Botany and Microbiology. Graduated April 1983.

1983: BSc Honours, Botany and Palaeobotany. Graduated April 1984.

1984-1986: MSc in Palaeobotany. Graduated with Distinction, November 1986.

1986-1989: PhD in Palaeobotany. Graduated in June 1990.

iii) Professional qualifications

Wood Anatomy Training (overseas as nothing was available in South Africa):

1994 - Service d'Anatomie des Bois, Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, Belgium, by Roger Dechamps

1997 - Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, France, by Dr Jean-Claude Koeniguer

1997 - Université Claude Bernard, Lyon, France by Prof Georges Barale, Dr Jean-Pierre Gros, and Dr Marc Philippe

iv) Membership of professional bodies/associations

Palaeontological Society of Southern Africa

Royal Society of Southern Africa - Fellow: 2006 onwards

Academy of Sciences of South Africa - Member: Oct 2014 onwards

International Association of Wood Anatomists - First enrolled: January 1991

International Organization of Palaeobotany – 1993+

Botanical Society of South Africa

South African Committee on Stratigraphy – Biostratigraphy - 1997 - 2016

SASQUA (South African Society for Quaternary Research) – 1997+

PAGES - 2008 –onwards: South African representative
ROCEEH / WAVE – 2008+
INQUA – PALCOMM – 2011+onwards

vii) Supervision of Higher Degrees

All at Wits University

Degree	Graduated/completed	Current
Honours	11	0
Masters	10	4
PhD	11	4
Postdoctoral fellows	10	5

viii) Undergraduate teaching

Geology II – Palaeobotany GEOL2008 – average 65 students per year
Biology III – Palaeobotany APES3029 – average 25 students per year
Honours – Evolution of Terrestrial Ecosystems; African Plio-Pleistocene Palaeoecology;
Micropalaeontology – average 2-8 students per year.

ix) Editing and reviewing

Editor: Palaeontologia africana: 2003 to 2013; 2014 – Assistant editor
Guest Editor: Quaternary International: 2005 volume
Member of Board of Review: Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology: 2010 –

Review of manuscripts for ISI-listed journals: 25 local and international journals

x) Palaeontological Impact Assessments

Selected – list not complete:

- Thukela Biosphere Conservancy 1996; 2002 for DWAF
- Vioolsdrift 2007 for Xibula Exploration
- Rietfontein 2009 for Zitholele Consulting
- Bloeddrift-Baken 2010 for TransHex
- New Kleinfontein Gold Mine 2012 for Prime Resources (Pty) Ltd.
- Thabazimbi Iron Cave 2012 for Professional Grave Solutions (Pty) Ltd
- Delmas 2013 for Jones and Wagener
- Klipfontein 2013 for Jones and Wagener
- Platinum mine 2013 for Lonmin
- Syferfontein 2014 for Digby Wells
- Canyon Springs 2014 for Prime Resources
- Kimberley Eskom 2014 for Landscape Dynamics
- Yzermyne 2014 for Digby Wells
- Matimba 2015 for Royal HaskoningDV
- Commissiekraal 2015 for SLR
- Harmony PV 2015 for Savannah Environmental
- Glencore-Tweefontein 2015 for Digby Wells

- Umkomazi 2015 for JLB Consulting
- Ixia coal 2016 for Digby Wells
- Lambda Eskom for Digby Wells
- Alexander Scoping for SLR
- Perseus-Kronos-Aries Eskom 2016 for NGT
- Mala Mala 2017 for Henwood
- Modimolle 2017 for Green Vision
- Klippoortjie and Finaalspan 2017 for Delta BEC
- Ledjadja borrow pits 2018 for Digby Wells
- Lungile poultry farm 2018 for CTS
- Olienhout Dam 2018 for JP Celliers
- Isondlo and Kwasobabili 2018 for GCS
- Kanakies Gypsum 2018 for Cabanga
- Nababeep Copper mine 2018
- Glencore-Mbali pipeline 2018 for Digby Wells
- Remhoogte PR 2019 for A&HAS
- Bospoort Agriculture 2019 for Kudzala
- Overlooked Quarry 2019 for Cabanga
- Richards Bay Powerline 2019 for NGT
- Eilandia dam 2019 for ACO
- Eastlands Residential 2019 for HCAC
- Fairview MR 2019 for Cabanga
- Graspan project 2019 for HCAC
- Lieliefontein N&D 2019 for EnviroPro
- Skeerpoort Farm Mast 2020 for HCAC
- Vulindlela Eco village 2020 for 1World
- KwaZamakhule Township 2020 for Kudzala
- Sunset Copper 2020 for Digby Wells
- McCarthy-Salene 2020 for Prescali
- VLNR Lodge 2020 for HCAC
- Madadeni mixed use 2020 for EnviroPro
- Frankfort-Windfield Eskom Powerline 2020 for 1World
- Beaufort West PV Facility 2021 for ACO Associates
- Copper Sunset MR 2021 for Digby Wells
- Sannaspos PV facility 2021 for CTS Heritage
- Smithfield-Rouxville-Zastron PL 2021 for TheroServe

xi) Research Output

Publications by M K Bamford up to July 2021 peer-reviewed journals or scholarly books: over 160 articles published; 5 submitted/in press; 10 book chapters.

Scopus h-index = 29; Google scholar h-index = 35; i10-index = 92

Conferences: numerous presentations at local and international conferences.

xii) NRF Rating

NRF Rating: B-2 (2016-2020)

NRF Rating: B-3 (2010-2015)

NRF Rating: B-3 (2005-2009)

NRF Rating: C-2 (1999-2004)