

Rhodes 2 Solar Park – Ref No.: 14/12/16/3/3/2/839

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South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)

Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit

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For Attention: Natasha Higgitt

PROPOSED RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION PROJECTS ON THE FARM RHODES 269, KURUMAN RD, JOE MOROLONG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, JOHN TAOLO GAETSEWE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE - Short name: Rhodes and Rhodes 2 Solar Park

Dear Natasha,

With reference to your query regarding the Paleontological Assessment done for the proposed Rhodes 2 Solar Park, please note the following:

During July 2014 Professor Rubidge of the University of the Witwatersrand – Evolutionary Studies Institute – did a desktop Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Rhodes Photovoltaic (PV) Power Plant situated on portion of the farm Rhodes 269, north of Hotazel. The study area included the farm Rhodes 269. At the time the application for Environmental Authorization was submitted, it was only for one PV Power Plant, which was called Rhodes Solar Park. A second application for Environmental Authorization was submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs on the same farm and this application was called Rhodes 2 Solar Park. The development footprint of this solar park is directly adjacent (to the north) to the first development footprint site.

As the original study area for the paleontological study included the development site for Rhodes 2 Solar Park it was considered unnecessary to amend the paleontological report as the following conclusion was included in the report, encompassing the farm Rhodes 269:

Because of the nature of the construction of solar parks it is extremely unlikely that the proposed development will have any effect on paleontological heritage.

In terms of the Solar Parks being planned on the farm East 270, please note that a separate paleontological assessment was done for the applications for solar parks on the farm East 270 and therefore, the East projects have no bearing on the Rhodes projects, although they are in close proximity of each other.

Kindly reconsider the information included in this letter and send us comments from SAHRA for the proposed Rhodes 2 Solar Park.

I trust you find this in order.

Best Regards,



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Ms E Grobler
Environmental Assessment Practitioner