

Annex G

SAHRA Response Letter



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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CaseID: 11579

Date: Monday October 02, 2017
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Final Comment

In terms of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Environmental Resources Management

Postnet Suite 624
Private Bag X29
Gallo Manor
2052

HIA South Deep Solar, Gauteng Province

Van der Walt, J. June 2017. Heritage Impact Assessment For The Proposed South Deep Solar PV Project, Westonaria, Gauteng Province

Rossouw, L. August 2017. Palaeontological Desktop Assessment of a 197ha Solar Photovoltaic Facility located on a Portion of the farm Doornpoort 347, at the South Deep Gold Mine, Westonaria, Gauteng Province

The proposed development entails a photovoltaic facility and associated infrastructure.

In terms of possible archaeological heritage, the author states that no significant archaeological sites were recorded during the survey, although isolated individual Middle Stone Age lithics were noted. These artefacts are not *in-situ* and are scattered too sparsely to be of any significance apart from noting.

In terms of possible palaeontological heritage, the author states that the proposed study area is underlain by potentially fossil-bearing, Transvaal Supergroup sedimentary strata (stromatolites) of the early Proterozoic Timeball Hill Formation (Pretoria Group), that are capped by superficial (Quaternary) deposits of low to very low palaeontological sensitivity, the latter being that the impact area is not situated within or near pan, well-developed alluvial or spring deposits. Impact by development on igneous rock mapped near the north-eastern boundary of the site will not affect palaeontological potential remains. The author recommends that, as part of a follow-up Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment, a professional palaeontologist should monitor fresh exposures should large scale excavations into unweathered sedimentary bedrock be conducted during the construction phase of the development.

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In terms of archaeological and palaeontological heritage, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objections to this proposed development, provided that the recommendations in the specialist reports and this comment are adhered to, and on the following conditions:

- A professional palaeontologist should monitor fresh exposures should large scale excavations into unweathered sedimentary bedrock be conducted during the construction phase of the development.
- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments and charcoal/ash concentrations) or palaeontological remains are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, based on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Salomon
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency



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ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/407367>

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.