

**PROPOSED KATHU SOLAR PV AUGMENTATION FACILITY ON THE FARM
KATHU NO. 465 WITHIN GAMAGARA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE
PROVINCE**



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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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 202 8660
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Case ID: 22417

Date: Monday, 19 August, 2024

Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Jonathan Brenchley (on behalf of Kathu Solar Park (RF) Pty Ltd)
Kathu Solar Park (RF) Pty Ltd
Building 1 Country Club Estate
21 Woodlands Drive, Woodmead
Johannesburg
2191

Zutari (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Kathu Solar Park (RF) Pty Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Kathu Solar PV Augmentation Facility on the farm Kathu 465, near Kathu, Northern Cape Province.

A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include a solar field, perimeter fencing, Power Transformers Station, on-site inventors, cabling between components, laydown areas, weather station and access roads within a footprint of 28 ha.

Dr David Morris was appointed to provide heritage specialist input into the EA process in terms of section 24(4)(b)(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Morris, D. 2024. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for the Proposed Solar PV facility to be added to the Kathu Solar Project Park (KSP) near Kathu, Northern Cape

In the assessment and site inspection conducted in 2023, it has been established that no heritage resources of high sensitivity will be impacted by the proposed development. The highly significant Kathu Archaeological site is located outside of the development footprint and will not be impacted. A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be implemented.

In an Interim Comment issued on the 06/06/2024, SAHRA requested that a similar letter and assessment, as provided above, be conducted by a palaeontologist for the proposed development as the footprint is located in an area of high palaeontological sensitivity. Since the issuing of the Interim Comment, a letter has been

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submitted for review.

Bamford, M. 2024. Palaeontological Letter of Compliance for the proposed Kathu Solar PV Augmentation Facility on the farm Kathu no.465 within Gamagara Local Municipality, Northern Cape Province

The proposed development footprint is underlain by Tertiary Calcretes and the Gordonina Formation sands. It is unlikely that the development will impact on palaeontological material. A Fossil Chance Finds Protocol is recommended to be implemented.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final BAR and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. No further additional specific conditions are provided for the development;
- 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA [DAU \(Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660 / nhiggitt@sahra.org.za\)](mailto:DAU@Natasha.Higgitt.021.202.8660) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with this section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA DAU (Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660 / nhiggitt@sahra.org.za) must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with this section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)d – See section 51 of the NHRA regarding offences;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
- If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued

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by SAHRA;

- As the Final BAR has been finalised without including SAHRA comments, this comment must be forwarded directly to the competent authority for their consideration as part of the decision making process in terms of section 38(8) of the NHRA;
- The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

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

Yours faithfully

Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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.

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.org.za/node/349194>