

RUSTENBURG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

DIRECTORATE: PLANNING AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT

P O Box 16, Rustenburg, 0300, North West Province, South Africa
Tel: (014) 590 3185 Fax: (014) 590 3070 Email: bsemenya@rustenburg.gov.za



16 August 2011

Enq: Boipuso Semenya

Attn: Tammy Kruger
Savanna Environmental (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 148
Sunninghill
Johannesburg
2157

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) PLANT NEAR RUSTENBURG, NORTH WEST

Your application as referred to above has reference.

The Unit: Integrated Environmental Management acknowledges receipt of the above-mentioned application. The application entails the establishment of a photovoltaic (PV) plant on the remaining extent of portion 24 of the Farm Spruitfontein 341 JQ. The proposed facility will have a maximum generating capacity of 10MW which will be evacuated by a cable that will run underground of RustMo1. The cable will then run overhead across the road and connect to the Spruitfontein substation. The proposed site is currently zoned "Agricultural" and the footprint of the PV plants will cover an area of approximately 18.3 ha.

The Unit: IEM is satisfied with all the application has proposed and supports the establishment of the proposed photovoltaic (PV) plant. The proposed photovoltaic plant and its associated transmission power line will create additional power and connect several distribution substations in the vicinity.

Yours faithfully

.....
TSHEPO LENAKE

UNIT MANAGER: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT



SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY
111 HARRINGTON STREET, CAPE TOWN, 8001
PO BOX 4637, CAPE TOWN, 8000
TEL: 021 462 4502 FAX: 021 462 4509

FOR ATTENTION: **SAHRA NORTH WEST**

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY:

SAHRA File No: **9/2/263/0018**
Date Received: **19 July 2011**
Date of Comment: **16 August 2011**
Sent to Peer Review:
Date to Peer Review:
SAHRA Contact Person: **Mrs Colette Scheermeyer**
DME Ref No:

REVIEW COMMENT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

BY ARCHAEOLOGY/ PALAEOLOGY UNIT OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY

South Africa has a unique and non-renewable archaeological and palaeontological heritage. Archaeological and palaeontological sites are protected in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999) and may not be disturbed without a permit. Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIAs) and Palaeontological Impact Assessments (PIAs) identify and assess the significance of the sites, assess the potential impact of developments upon such sites, and make recommendations concerning mitigation and management of these sites. On the basis of satisfactory specialist reports SAHRA or the relevant heritage resources agency can assess whether or not it has objection to a development and indicate the conditions upon which such development might proceed and assess whether or not to issue permission to destroy such sites. AIAs and PIAs often form part of the heritage component of an Environmental Impact Assessment or Environmental Management Plan. They may also form part of a Heritage Impact Assessment called for in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No. 25, 1999. They may have other origins. In any event they should comply with basic minimum standards of reporting as indicated in SAHRA Regulations and Guidelines.

This form provides review comment from the Archaeologist of the relevant heritage resources authority for use by Heritage Managers, for example, when informing authorities that have applied to SAHRA for comment and for inclusion in documentation sent to environmental authorities. It may be used in conjunction with Form B, which provides relevant peer review comment.

- A. PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY: **North West**
- B. SAHRA PROVINCIAL MANAGER :
- C. AUTHOR(S) OF REPORT: **Dr. J.A. van Schalkwyk**
- D. ARCHAEOLOGY CONTRACT GROUP: **Heritage Consultant**
- E. CONTACT DETAILS: **62 Coetzer Avenue, Monument Park, 0181, Cell: 076 790 6777, Fax: 012 347 7270, Email: jvschalkwyk@mweb.co.za**
- F. DATE OF REPORT: **June 2011**
- G. TITLE OF REPORT: **HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A PHOTO VOLTAIC PLANT ON THE FARM SPRUITFONTEIN 341JQ, RUSTENBURG MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, NORTH WEST PROVINCE**
- H. Please circle as relevant: Archaeological component of EIA / EMP / **HIA** / CMP Other (Specify)
- I. REPORT COMMISSIONED BY (CONSULTANT OR DEVELOPER): **Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd, Mr Bongani Khupe**
- J. CONTACT DETAILS: **P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2151, Tel: 011 234 6621, Email: bongani@savannahsa.com**
- K. COMMENTS: *Please see comment on next page*

REVIEW COMMENT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

J.A. van Schalkwyk
June 2011, Received 20 July 2011

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A PHOTO VOLTAIC PLANT ON THE FARM SPRUITFONTEIN 341JQ, RUSTENBURG MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

This proposed development involves the construction of a photo voltaic plant on Portion 24 of the farm Spruitfontein 341JQ, in the Rustenburg magisterial district, North West Province. The survey revealed the presence of an abandoned farming related structure on the property, which is in a state of disrepair, and based on building materials used, not very old, and therefore of low significance.

Consequently, as there is apparently no evidence of any significant archaeological material on the affected property, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorite Unit has no objection to the development (in terms of the archaeological component of the heritage resources) on condition that, if any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources are found during development, construction or mining, SAHRA or an archaeologist must be alerted immediately.

The developer must ensure that a professional Palaeontological Study is undertaken to assess whether or not the development will impact upon palaeontological resources. If this is deemed unnecessary, a letter of recommendation for exemption from a professional palaeontologist is needed.

Decisions on Built Environment (e.g. structures over 60 years) and Cultural Landscapes and associated Living Heritage (e.g. sacred sites), must be made by the the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority of the North West (***Motlhabane Mosiane*** mosianem@nwpg.gov.za) to whom this Archaeological Review Comment will be copied.

SIGNATURE OF ARCHAEOLOGIST PROCESSING REPORT:.....

EMAIL:

cscheermeyer@sahra.org.za..... 

SIGNATURE OF SAHRA HEAD ARCHAEOLOGIST: 

EMAIL:

nndobochani@sahra.org.za

NAME OF HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY: SAHRA.....

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COMMENT (ABOVE OR APPENDED) CONSTITUTES THE COMMENT OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY ARCHAEOLOGIST AND THAT ANY DEVELOPMENT THAT INVOLVES DESTRUCTION OF ANY ARCHAEOLOGICAL/PALAEONTOLOGICAL SITE IS STILL SUBJECT TO A PERMIT/PERMISSION FOR DESTRUCTION OF SUCH SITE GIVEN TO THE DEVELOPER BY THE RELEVANT HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALAEONTOLOGICAL PERMIT COMMITTEE (THIS WILL BE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE PHASE 2 OR ARCHAEOLOGICAL/ PALAEONTOLOGICAL MITIGATION AS NECESSARY). THIS REPORT MAY BE TAKEN ONLY AS APPROVAL IN TERMS OF SECTION 35 OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT. THE PROVINCIAL MANAGER OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY MUST ADVISE AS TO APPROVAL IN TERMS OF HERITAGE ISSUES ENCOMPASSED BY OTHER ASPECTS OF THE LEGISLATION, SUCH AS ISSUES OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (STRUCTURES (E.G. FARM HOUSES), OVER 60 YEARS), INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS OR OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPES AS THIS IS NOT WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGIST.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SAHRA IS NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR GRADE I HERITAGE RESOURCES (AND EXPORT) AND THE PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR GRADE II AND GRADE III HERITAGE RESOURCES, EXCEPT WHERE THERE IS AN AGENCY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY.



DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTS REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION TO BE GRANTED TO SAVANNAH ENVIRONMENTAL ON BEHALF OF MOMENTUM ENERGY FOR PROPOSED RUSTMO2 PLANT ON A SITE NEAR BUFFELSPORT IN NORTH WEST PROVINCE

1.BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACTIVITY.

Momentum energy, as a potential independent power producer, has identified a viable site for the proposed establishment of a photovoltaic(PV) solar plant in the North West province. The proposed project will be referred as RustMO2 PV Plant and will have a maximum generating capacity of 10MW which will be evacuated into the national electricity as part of a power purchase agreement with Eskom`s single Buyer office, the South African National treasury, and the department of Energy. This proposed PV facility is proposed as the second phase of a broader development which also includes the project referred as RustMOV 1, for which a separate Basic Assessment process has already been undertaken. In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment(EIA) Regulations published in terms of section 24(5) of the National Environmental Act(NEMA, Act No 107 of 1998), authorization is required from the National department of Environmental Affairs in consultation with the North West Department of Economic Development, Environment and tourism, for the establishment of the proposed installation. In terms of sections 24 and 24D of NEMA, as read with the EIA Regulations of GNR543; GNR544; GNR 545; and GNR 546 a Basic Assessment process is required to be undertaken for the construction of the proposed facility. During the consultation process Mr Nevhufumba Lufuno, National Forest Act Administrator from the Department Of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries registered as affected stakeholder. The National Forest Act(NFA), Act 84 of 1998 was passed by parliament in 1998 and is administered by forestry branch of the Department Of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

1.2The Legislative mandate

- ❖ The National Forest Act of 84 of 1998 (as amended) provides the strongest and most comprehensive legislation and mandate for the of trees and all natural forests in South Africa
- ❖ Natural Forests and woodlands form an important part of the environment and need to be conserved and developed according to the principle of sustainable management.
- ❖ The National Forest Act also recognize that the constitutional rights-stipulate that every one has the right to the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations

1.3The purpose of the National Forest Act

- ❖ Sustainable management of forests and woodlands
- ❖ Protection of forests and trees
- ❖ Sustainable use of forests
- ❖ Community participation in all aspects of forestry

It is in the best interest of the Department to participate in the project and make sure the comments are in line with the purpose of the National Forest Act and the principles of sustainable forest management.

2.LOCATION OF THE ACTIVITY.

The site is located very close to marikana platinum mine south east of Rustenburg near Buffelsport in North West Province under Bojanala Platinum District Municipality. The solar PV facility is proposed on the remaining extent of portion 24 of the farm Spruitfontein 341.

3. STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATED IN THE SITE VISIT.

Mr Nevhufumba Lufuno from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in Mmabatho, National Forest Act Regulator made an arrangement with Bongani Khupe regarding site visit and the site was visited on the 11 August 2011. Momentum energy was represented by Mr Gareth P Warner the managing director and Mr Sekhar Subramoney as the program manager.

4.INFORMATION GATHERED

The site investigation revealed the presence of approximately 91 plant species on the site. The diversity of this portion of land, in spite of the moderately degraded status of extensive parts of the site, is regarded diverse, reflecting not only on the species richness of the regional vegetation types, but also the effect of transformation and the influx of the regional vegetation types. This forms part of woodland and according to the legislative mandate woodlands pales an important role in the environment and need to be conserved and managed according to principles of sustainable management.

4.1Protected tree species

A single individual protected tree species (sclerocarya birrea subs, Marula) is present on the site. It is situated in the immediate vicinity of the old homestead and is assumed to have been planted by early inhabitants of the property. An application for permit for removal/damage/cutting or pruning of protected tree species as per National Forest Act, 84 of 1998 as amended need to be submitted to the department Of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries prior to commencements of construction

5. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUION

The tree species that were identified, Sclerocarya birrea, marula appear on the national list of declared protected tree species as promulgated by the National Forest Act, Act 84 of 1998. In terms of the National Forest Act of 1998 forest trees or protected tree species may not be cut, disturbed, damaged, destroyed and their products may not be possessed, collected, removed, transported, exported, donated, purchased or sold, except under the license granted by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries formerly known as the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry. According to the managing director Mr Gareth P Warner they would like to retain the marula tree to be used as shade as they are planning to renovate the homestead to be used as accommodation for people who will be providing security to the area however if they change the mind and intend to cut it an application will be forwarded to the relevant department

5.1 Debushing of the woodland

Before construction commences debushing will be done for removing all the natural vegetation in the area and as such the woodland is disturbed and an application for removal of natural trees will need to be submitted and a license for removal in terms of section 7 of the National Forest Act be granted to the applicant. Both the application form for section 15(1) protected trees and section 7 of the National Forest Act will be forwarded to the applicant.

5.2 Agreement regarding Mitigation measures.

Mr Nevhufumba Lufuno made an agreement with the managing director Mr Gareth Walmer that to maintain the footprint of the ecosystem we need to do mitigation measures, and the program manager mr Sekhar Subramoney will identify schools and clinics or community centre where they will have to plant trees at those identified institution as mitigation measures.

Further advise and information on licensing producers can be obtained from Nevhufumba Lufuno, 018 3813480 cell 0829076118, fax 0866476298 email NevhufumbaL@nda.gov.za , mmabatho nursery, vleiview street, Danville

Compiled by Nevhufumba Lufuno

.....

Date: 18 August 2011

Chief Forester: Forestry Regulation & Oversight: NFA

Bongani Darryl Khupe

From: John Wesson <jwesson@wessanorth.co.za>
Sent: 23 June 2011 02:21 PM
To: 'Bongani Darryl Khupe'
Subject: RE: Notification of the proposed RustMo2 Photovoltaic Solar Energy Plant on a site near Buffelspoort

Thanks Bongani

Grass like *Cynodon dactylon* should be used

All the best

John

From: Bongani Darryl Khupe [mailto:bongani@savannahsa.com]
Sent: 23 June 2011 14:06
To: 'John Wesson'
Subject: RE: Notification of the proposed RustMo2 Photovoltaic Solar Energy Plant on a site near Buffelspoort

Hi John

Thank you very much for the response, you have been registered on the database.

The developer has proposed to plant grass on the first phase of the project (RustMo1) and I believe they will do the same for RustMo2.

I will include this information on the Draft Basic Assessment report that will be released for public review soon.

Regards

Bongani Darryl Khupe (Cert.Sci.Nat)
Environmental Consultant
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: +2711 234-6621
Fax: +2786 684 0547
Cell: 083 353 3341
www.savannahSA.com

From: John Wesson [mailto:jwesson@wessanorth.co.za]
Sent: 23 June 2011 01:57 PM
To: 'Bongani Darryl Khupe'
Subject: RE: Notification of the proposed RustMo2 Photovoltaic Solar Energy Plant on a site near Buffelspoort

Hi Bongani

Please register me as an I&AP

My interest is to keep track of these developments and look at their footprints
Not much of a problem with PV systems

Will you be planting grass below the panels ?

Thanks

All the best

John

John Wesson

Region Manager North West

Wildlife & Environment Society of SA - Northern Areas

ADD YOUR VOICE TO CONSERVATION. SEND A R20 SMS TO 40706 WITH THE KEYWORD " WESSA "

Terms and conditions apply. See www.thumbtribe.co.za



Tel:

Fax: 0866142338

Cell: 083 444 7649

Email: jwesson@wessanorth.co.za

janejohn@mweb.co.za

Skype: john.wesson2

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From: Bongani Darryl Khupe [mailto:bongani@savannahsa.com]

Sent: 23 June 2011 13:24

To: Bongani Darryl Khupe

Subject: Notification of the proposed RustMo2 Photovoltaic Solar Energy Plant on a site near Buffelspoort

Dear Stakeholder

Momentous Energy is proposing to establish a commercial photovoltaic solar energy facility and associated infrastructure on a site located adjacent to the Marikana Platinum Mine, approximately 20 km east of Rustenburg (see attached letter for more details). The proposed project will be referred to as **RustMo2** and is proposed as the **second phase** of a broader development which also includes the project referred to as RustMo1, for which a separate Basic Assessment process has already been undertaken.

Momentous Energy has appointed **Savannah Environmental**, as independent consultants, to undertake a Basic Assessment to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project for the area as identified, and propose appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Plan (EMP). As part of these environmental studies, I&APs will be actively involved through the public involvement process.

You and/or the organisation/department which you represent have been identified as a stakeholder. Should you have an interest in this project, please register yourself as an I&AP and note your formal comments by sending written correspondence in this regard (also find attached reply form).

Kind Regards

*Bongani Darryl Khupe (Cert.Sci.Nat)
Environmental Consultant*



agriculture,
forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Directorate Land Use & Soil Management,
P.O. Box 2557, Potchefstroom, 2520 • Tel: (018) 294 3343
Fax: (018) 297 4642 email: AntonMa@daff.gov.za
Enquiries: A.P. Maluka

Bongani Darryl Khupe
Environmental Consultant
Savannah Environmental (Pty)Ltd
P.O. Box 148
Sunninghill
2157

Dear Sir

**APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION OF THE REMAINING
EXTENT OF PORTION 24 OF THE FARM SPRUITFONTEIN 341 JQ FROM
AGRICULTURE TO AGRICULTURE FOR THE PURPOSE OF SOLAR FARM,
SITUATED WITHIN THE RUSTENBURG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AREA OF
JURISDICTION.**

Municipal letter 14/4/1/1301 (34208) dated 25 July 2011 refers:

With the above-mentioned matter I wish to inform you that the proposed development is recommended to this office from Resource Auditor's point of view.

It is important also to take into account the fact that declared weeds and invader plants around the area in terms of Conservation of Agricultural Resource Act (Act 43 of 1983), must be controlled and erosion prevention measures be implemented.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A.P. Maluka', written over a horizontal line.

p.p. Executive Officer

29/08/2011

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS:
PROPOSED RUSTMO2 PV PLANT ON A SITE NEAR RUSTENBURG
NORTH WEST PROVINCE
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS REPLY FORM**

Return completed reply form to: Bongani Khupe of Savannah Environmental
 Fax: **086 684 0547** Phone: **011 234 6621**
 E-mail: **bongani@savannahsa.com**
 Postal address: **P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, Johannesburg, 2157**

Please provide your complete contact details:

Name & Surname: **ITHELENDI MONEI**
 Organisation & Designation: **GRADUATE TRAINEE FORESTER**
 Postal address: **DEPT AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & FISHERIES : PRIVATE BAG 82098 RUSTENBURG 0800**
 Telephone: **014 5355901** Cellphone: **014 5355901**
 Fax: **014 535 6012** E-mail: **Itumeleng.Monda@gnl.co.za**

Would you like to register as an interested and affected party (IABAP)? YES NO
 (please tick the relevant box)
 Note: You are required to register as an IABAP to receive further correspondence regarding the EIA process for the project.

Please state your interest in the project (add additional pages if necessary):

ISSUES RELATING TO PROTECTION OF TREES NATIONAL FOREST ACT, 1998 (ACT 84 OF 1998)

Please list your questions, views or concerns regarding the project (add additional pages if necessary):

Please provide contact details of other persons who you regard as a potential interested or affected party:

Name & Surname: _____
 Organisation & Designation: _____
 Postal Address: _____
 Telephone: _____
 Fax: _____

Cellphone: _____
 E-mail: _____

What is your preferred language of correspondence? (please tick the relevant box)

English
 Afrikaans

**This assessment is being conducted
on behalf of Momentous Energy**



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS:
PROPOSED RUSTMO2 PV PLANT ON A SITE NEAR RUSTENBURG
NORTH WEST PROVINCE
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS REPLY FORM

Return completed reply form to: **Bongani Khupe** of **Savannah Environmental**

Fax: **086 684 0547**

Phone: **011 234 6621**

E-mail: **bongani@savannahsa.com**

Postal Address: **P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, Johannesburg, 2157**

Please provide your complete contact details:

Name & Surname:

R. Jwa-Bobola

Organisation & Designation:

ADD - MARIKANA MINE : ENG. TFAJAL

Postal Address:

P O Box 795

MARIKANA VILLAGE 0285

Telephone:

014 572 1553

Cellphone:

082 633 2665

Fax:

E-mail:

Would you like to register as an interested and affected party (I&AP)? YES

(please tick the relevant box)

NO

Note: You are required to register as an I&AP to receive further correspondence regarding the EIA process for the project.

Please state your interest in the project (add additional pages if necessary):

- Review of layouts (Electrical Reconfiguration)
 - Review of services (Power & Water)
 - Environmental Impact of Panels.

Please list your questions, views or concerns regarding the project (add additional pages if necessary):

Please provide contact details of other persons who you regard as a potential interested or affected party:

Name & Surname:

Organisation & Designation:

Postal Address:

Telephone:

Cellphone:

Fax:

E-mail:

What is your preferred language of correspondence? (please tick the relevant box)

English

Afrikaans



This assessment is being conducted on behalf of Momentous Energy



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Directorate Land Use & Soil Management,

P.O. Box 2557, Potchefstroom 2520 • Tel: (018) 294 3343

Fax : (018) 297 4642 email : AntonMa@daff.gov.za

Enquiry : Mr. A.P. Maluka

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: 29/08/2010

TO:	Bongani Darryl Khupe		
ORGANISATION:	Savannah Environmental (Pty)Ltd		
FAX:	086-684 0547		
FROM:	A.P. MALUKA		
TEL:	018-294 3343	ROOM NO:	318
FAX:	018-297 4642		
NO. PAGES:	1 + cover page		

SUBJECT: Comments for Rezoning.

Find attached please our comments in terms of Conservation of Agricultural Resource Act (Act 43 of 1983) and Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act (Act 70 of 1970).

Regards

A.P. Maluka



**agriculture,
forestry & fisheries**

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Directorate Land Use & Soil Management,
P.O. Box 2557, Potchefstroom, 2520 • Tel: (018) 294 3343
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p.p. Executive Officer

29/08/2011