



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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Case ID: 22371

Date: Monday, 2 December, 2024

## Interim Comment

### In terms of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Momentous Highveld (RF) (PTY) LTD  
Momentous Energy  
Unit 1, Block A, Upper Grayston Office Park,  
150 Linden Street, Sandton  
Gauteng  
2196

Global Green Environmental Consultants has been appointed by Momentous Highveld (RF) (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed 300 MW PV solar facility, 175 MW / 630 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) plant, connection lines, switching station and supporting infrastructure on various portions of the Farm Varkenslaagte No. 119 and an Overhead Powerline located on various portions of the Farm Doornfontein No. 118 in the Merafong City Local Municipality, West Rand District Municipality, Gauteng Province.

A Background Information Document (BID) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development involves the construction of a 300 MW solar photovoltaic (PV) facility, a 175 MW/630 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), connection lines, a switching station, and supporting infrastructure. The development will occupy approximately 460 ha of the 980 ha property. The project will connect to the Carmel Distribution Centre, and the connection corridor will range between 10m and 150m in width.

Archaeological and Heritage Services Africa (AHSA) and Prof. Marion Bamford have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EIA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

*Bamford, M. 2023. Phase 2 Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed 500 MW Solar Energy Facility on Farm Varkenslaagte 119 IG and Grid on Farm Doornfontein 118 IG, west of Carltonville, Gauteng Province*

The proposed development is underlain by very highly sensitive rocks of the Malmani Subgroup, as per the



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SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. The Malmani Subgroup might preserve trace fossils such as stromatolites, oolites or microbial mats in the dolomites. However, no fossils were seen during the site visit and walk down. Nonetheless, a Fossil Chance Find Protocol is recommended to be followed.

#### **Interim Comment**

The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) notes the submitted PIA study and the BID for the case.

The SAHRA DAU requests that an assessment of the impact to heritage resources that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA must be conducted as part of the EA process. The HIA must include an archaeological component.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested reports.

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

Yours faithfully

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Stephen van der Heever  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency



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

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.org.za/node/349020>