



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Nokusho Ngobeni
Tel:
Email: nngobeni@sahra.org.za
Case ID: 25468

Date: Monday, 21 July, 2025

Interim Comment

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

Phatsima PV (Pty) Ltd
17 Jamieson Street, Gardens
17 Jamieson Street, Gardens
Cape Town
8001

This application has been submitted to SAHRA for commenting in terms of S38 (8) of the NHRA of 1999 no. 25. The applicant is proposing to expand the existing approved 100 MWAC Zondereinde Solar PV Facility (Phase 1) by adding an additional 160MWAC Solar PV facility, 260MWhAC Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure. The Phase 2 Project ("Phatsima PV") is located to the south of the larger Zondereinde Mining Right Area. The main Phatsima PV infrastructure will be located on the Remainder of Portion 1 of the Farm Kopje Alleen 422 KQ (Phatsima PV Site) and the associated Overhead lines and grid connection will traverse on the aforesaid property and Remainder of Portion 2 of the Farm Zondereinde 384 KQ, Remaining Extent of Farm Zondereinde 384 KQ and Remaining Extent (Portion 3) of the Farm Elandsfontein 386 KQ within the jurisdiction of the Thabazimbi Local Municipality, located within the larger Waterberg District Municipality in the Limpopo Province.

This case is linked to Case ID 18407.

In 2023 an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application was approved for the construction of the Zondereinde PV Facility and associated infrastructure (LEDET Ref No: 12/1/9/2-W99) (now on referred to as "Phase 1"). The Phase 1 project comprises of a 100 Megawatt Alternating Current (MWAC) Solar PV facility and associated infrastructure, which included a power line connecting the PV Facility to existing substations at the Zondereinde Mine. The Phase 1 Project is located directly South of the Zondereinde Mine. The Phase 1 facility is currently under construction.

As part of the next Phase, the applicant is proposing to expand the existing approved 100 MWAC Zondereinde Solar PV Facility (Phase 1) by adding an additional 160MWAC Solar PV facility, 260MWhAC Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure. Phase 2, to be known as the Phatsima PV Solar Project, will be located directly South of the Phase 1 project.



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The Phatsima PV Solar project will comprise of 160MWAC Solar PV facility, 260MWhAC Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure. The associated infrastructure will comprise of Battery Energy Storage System (BESS): Batteries; Cables; Inverters and transformers, all situated in climate-controlled containers. Grid connection infrastructure: Up to 132kV on-site substation (Site Substation); Low voltage above ground/underground cabling from the solar PV arrays to the BESS, customer substation and the Site Substation; Up to 132kV Overhead Power Lines (OHL) and transmission towers that will transmit energy from the Main Solar PV Site Substation to the 3 Shaft Complex, Main Shaft Mining Complex and Smelter/BMR Complex. Operational support infrastructure: Buildings / offices for operations, maintenance, control, and storage; Water and sewerage infrastructure (conservancy tanks); and Parking area. Temporary infrastructure during the Construction Phase: Laydown area; Site offices; and Construction yard. Access and security infrastructure: Access / internal gravel roads; Security, access control structure and fencing; and Telecommunications. The combined footprint of the proposed Phatsima PV Project including the associated Overhead (OHD) Powerlines, will be approximately 300 Hectares (Ha).

Lavin, J. May 2021. Heritage Impact Assessment: BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR 100MW NORTHAM ZONDEREINDE SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ENERGY FACILITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The author undertook a field survey of the study area and identified 2 Later Iron Aged stonewalled complexes at Sites 4 and 5. A detailed ground truthing to determine the site extent and demarcate a no go area was undertaken and the area of low to moderate archaeological sensitivity (Fig 5) was identified for the placement of the 10MW solar PV facility as the area between sites 4 and 5 can contain significant archaeological deposit. The author recommends the following:

A conservation management plan for the identified heritage sites, and further recommends that SAHRA enters negotiations with the applicant in terms of section 42 of the NHRA for the long term conservation of these sites due to their high significance.

During construction of the Solar PV facility, the author recommends the proposed PV plant remains within the demarcated area (20ha) and Chance Finds Procedures are included in the EMP for implementation.

Lavin, J. July 2023. KOPJE ALLEEN PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION BY ZONDEREINDE MINE.

The author reviewed available heritage data and maps of the proposed development area and noted that the known heritage within the region and particularly in proposed prospecting right area will not be affected by the



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proposed borehole drilling pads. If the prospecting is restricted to the proposed number of boreholes, then the possibility of damaging heritage according to this assessment is low. However, should a mining right application be investigated, it is strongly recommended that a full HIA be completed at an appropriate time of year to map the significant Iron Age resources evident here.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA notes the submission of the Heritage reports. However, the SAHRA request that an archaeologist draft an addendum to the HIA from the related cases to assess potential impact by the current proposed development on the area.

The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) will provide further comments on the submission of the HIA addendum.

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

Yours faithfully

Nokusho Ngobeni

South African Heritage Resources Agency

PHATSIMA PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SOLAR PROJECT



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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.org.za/node/382638>